



Central Electric Power Association

A tradition of dependable, hometown service since 1937

Central EPA Annual Meeting

Over 500 people attended the 82nd Annual Meeting of the Membership of Central Electric Power Association on March 19 at the coliseum in Carthage.

The crowd was entertained by 2nd Mile, a southern gospel quartet based out of Neshoba County. Members enjoyed the old convention-style singing.

General Manager Brian Long opened the meeting followed by the invocation given by Phillip Crosby, a member of the board of directors. Mayor Mary Ann Vivians of Carthage welcomed the crowd and complimented Manager Long and the board of directors for the wonderful job they do for the community.

Wallace Bass, Mississippi's National Youth Leadership Council Spokesperson for 2018, addressed the membership and showed his appreciation to Central Electric Power Association for the opportunity of the Youth Leadership Program.

John Malone and Josh Wooten with the Tennessee Valley Authority were guests at the meeting. TVA values their part-

nership with Central Electric Power Association and the hard work that has been accomplished through the years.

Manager Long reported that by the end of 2018, the association had 36,582 members in central Mississippi and 4,288 miles of underground and overhead distribution and transmission lines. Long also praised his staff for working hard, being safe and keeping the lights on.

To conclude the meeting, a raffle took place. Dozens of prizes, including an electric grill, were given to away to lucky members. The grand prize given away was a 2008 Ford F-150 extended cab pickup to Patricia Boyd of Leake County.

The elected board of directors are: Joe Sanders, Leake County; Max Loper, Neshoba County; Don Howington, Newton County; and Phillip Crosby, Minority Member at Large.

2nd Mile provided musical entertainment.



A crowd of more than 500 people attended the 2019 Annual Meeting



2019 Youth Leadership participant and NRECA National Spokesperson Wallace Bass spoke at the Annual Meeting about his involvement in the Youth Program and how it has impacted his life.



Retired Central employee Foch Dickens and Electrical Engineer Chance Sistrunk talk to a member about energy efficient light bulbs.



A commitment to community is a tradition at Central Electric including a health fair held at the annual meeting.



GRAND PRIZE WINNER
Patricia Boyd, of Carthage, was the winner of a 2008 Ford F-150 extended cab pickup.



Above: Tim Stewart, Sebastopol district manager presents Patricia Boyd from Carthage the keys to this 2008 Ford F-150 extended cab pickup.

Left: Deborah Martin from Ludlow was the winner of an Old Smokey electric smoker.



Board member Phillip Crosby delivered the invocation.



Mayor Mary Ann Vivians welcomed the crowd to Carthage while complementing Central Electric on community involvement.



Board member Danny Thornton reports the minutes of the 2018 annual meeting.



Brian Long delivers the annual report and praises Central Electric staff on a job well done.

YOUTH LEADERSHIP WORKSHOP 2019



WORKSHOP SPEAKERS



"It's our goal to encourage and challenge students to be active leaders at home, school and in their communities."
— Ron Stewart, Electric Cooperatives of Mississippi



During the workshop, the students participated in team-building activities designed to enhance leadership skills.



Students from around the state once again assembled in Jackson, Miss., for a leadership conference sponsored by 20 of Mississippi's electric cooperatives. It is a beloved time of year for many cooperative youth advisors. For months prior to the conference, cooperative employees work with many school districts across the state and assist each other in interviewing and selecting the students who will represent each of the participating cooperatives. Each year during the conference, the students participate in leadership and networking activities over the course of three days and leave with new friendships and leadership skills that will last throughout their lives.

This year marks the 33rd year for the Youth Leadership Program, which has grown significantly over the years from approximately 10 students to this year's 87, making 2019's class the largest group to date. This esteemed program instills leadership qualities, inspires creative thinking, encourages community service and introduces

students to the legislators who are today's leaders in Mississippi.

The conference was held at the Marriott in downtown Jackson from Wednesday, Feb. 28, through Friday, Mar. 1. James Carpenter, John Carpenter and Callum Mann from Leake Central High School, Savanna Greer, Brooks McDill and Brack Rudolph from Leake Academy and Kathryn Moss from Hartfield Academy were selected among the schools in Central Electric's service area to represent the electric cooperative at this event.

When the students arrived on Wednesday, they instantly began networking with their peers through a "get acquainted" session led by Eddie Tanner of Madison County where they were asked to participate in a Town Hall meeting.

"We are proud to have these outstanding students representing Central Electric."
— Brian Long
General Manager

Divided into groups, the exercise encouraged them to talk about obstacles they face in their everyday lives. Then, they were challenged with developing solutions to these issues to take back to their schools and positively impact the lives of their peers and community members.

Thursday morning, the students shared breakfast with senators and representatives from their districts, who are always very supportive of this program. This year, approximately 55 legislators were in attendance. After breakfast, Lt. Gov. Tate Reeves spoke to the students and discussed a broad range of topics, such as taking charge when there is a need in the community or state as well as working together to reach common goals. "Through the years as lieutenant governor, my goals have evolved and have significantly increased," Reeves said. "We have to work together in order to accomplish

goals."

Next, and before visiting the Mississippi State Capitol, the students learned about the legislative process from Paul Purnell, vice president of government relations for Electric Cooperatives of Mississippi. After visiting the Senate and House galleries, many students were able to have group visits with their legislators, and some had the opportunity to sit in on committee meetings. The program coordinators continue to be grateful for the commitment and hands-on education from state legislators.

Gov. Phil Bryant also continues to proudly support this program. This year, he spoke to the students during a luncheon program hosted at the Old Capitol Inn on leadership, the importance of being a servant in the community and the great opportunities for leadership in Mississippi. "Learn all you can about leadership skills and do that by helping in your communities," he said. "Leaders must take a bold step, and then convince enough others to help in completing a vision."

Thursday afternoon, the students participated in team-building exercises led by Elyon Outreach Ministries that were designed to encourage leadership and teamwork as necessary components to successfully completing a set of challenging activities. Afterwards, the students enjoyed an exciting evening with local magician and comedian Dorian LaChance, who thrilled

them with his illusions.

Concluding the event Friday morning, the students attended a recognition and awards ceremony, which was followed by a motivational speech from Bro. Terry Rhodes of Van Vleet, Miss., who shared with them his extraordinary story of courage and determination.

Central Electric hopes to prepare these young people for a bright future through the Youth Leadership Program. The experience has proven over the years to encourage students to reach far and wide to realize their goals and dreams.

Central Electric is a proud sponsor of the program. "We are proud to have these seven outstanding students represent Central Electric," said Brian Long, general manager. "They are our future leaders, and we look forward to seeing all that they accomplish."

In June, the students will travel to Washington, D.C. The seven-day trip will include visits to popular monuments and memorials, as well as meetings with Mississippi's congressional delegation during a visit to Capitol Hill.



Gov. Phil Bryant



Lt. Gov. Tate Reeves



Above, left to right: Rep. Kenneth Walker, Savannah Greer, Brack Rudolph, Callum Mann, James Carpenter, Kathryn Moss, Brooks McDill, Sen. Jenifer Branning and John Carpenter.



Left: The students also met with Rep. Jason White (left), and Rep. Scott Bounds (right).

"They are our future leaders, and we look forward to seeing all that they accomplish."
— Brian Long
General Manager

The commitment of an electric lineworker

Lineworker Appreciation Day is April 8.

National studies consistently rank power line installers and repairers among the most dangerous jobs in the country, and for good reason. Laboring high in the air wearing heavy equipment and working directly with high voltage creates the perfect storm of a dangerous and unforgiving profession. But electric lineworkers are up to the task. These brave men and women are committed to safety, as well as the challenges of the job.

Central Electric Power Association's lineworkers are responsible for keeping power flowing day and night, regardless of national holidays, vacations, birthdays, weddings or other important family milestones. Beyond the years of specialized training and apprenticeships, it takes internal fortitude and a mission-oriented outlook to be a good lineworker. In fact, this service-oriented mentality is a hallmark characteristic of lineworkers. The job requires lineworkers to set aside their personal priorities to better serve their local community.

Family Support System

To perform their jobs successfully, lineworkers depend on their years of training, experience and each other to get the job done safely.

Equally important is their reliance on a strong support system at home. A lineworker's family understands and supports their loved one's commitment to

the greater community during severe storms and power outages.

This means in times of prolonged outages, the family and their lineworker may have minimal communication and not see each other for several days. Without strong family support and understanding, this challenging job would be all the more difficult.

Community Commitment

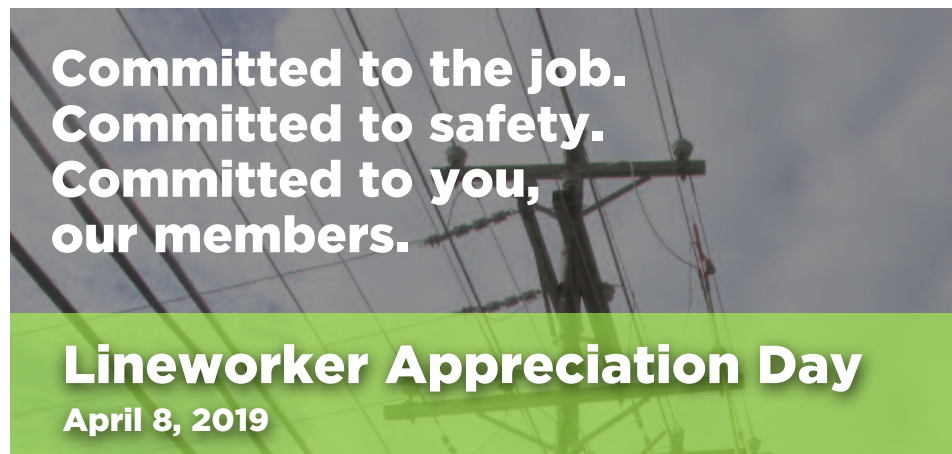
In our service area and across the country, electric co-op lineworkers' mission-focused mentality of helping others often extends beyond their commitment to their work at the co-op. Lineworkers are often familiar figures in the community. They can be found coaching youth sports teams, volunteering for local charities and serving on local advisory boards.

Thank You

Monday, April 8 is Lineworker Appreciation Day. Given the dedication of Central Electric's lineworkers, both on and off the job, I encourage you to take a moment and acknowledge the many contributions they make to our local community. And if you see their family members in the grocery store or out and about in the town, please offer them a thank you as well.

**Committed to the job.
Committed to safety.
Committed to you,
our members.**

Lineworker Appreciation Day
April 8, 2019





**MID-MISSISSIPPI AREA
JOB FAIR**

Silver Star Convention Center
Pearl River Resort
Choctaw, MS

NO ADMISSION FEE

9AM - 1PM • TUES • APRIL 30, 2019

Many employment opportunities available!

Visit jobfairs.ms.gov for listings. Contact your local WIN Job Center for resume help. For locations, visit us online at mdes.ms.gov.



GOVERNOR'S JOB FAIR NETWORK OF MISSISSIPPI

MDES MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF EMPLOYMENT SECURITY

WIN Job Center American Job Center

An equal opportunity employer and program. MDES has auxiliary aids and services available upon request to those with disabilities. Those needing TTY assistance may call 800-582-2233. Funded by the U.S. Department of Labor through the Mississippi Department of Employment Security.

What's on that utility pole?

Overhead gizmos keep you electrified.

Have you ever wondered what's on an electric utility pole? Let's go over the basics.

Utility poles are packed with electrical devices, so it's best to stay away from them. You should never nail posters of political candidates or lost pets to utility poles. Nailing or attaching things to utility poles can tear a lineworker's protective equipment, interfering with their safety while on the job.

The equipment and devices up there vary from pole to pole, but think of a utility pole as a layer cake, with the electric equipment at the top. Most noticeable of course are the wires, supported by the crossarms and/or insulators. At the highest levels, they could be high-voltage transmission wires carrying power long distances. More often what you're looking at are medium-voltage distribution lines carrying power into neighborhoods. Beneath those may be service wires with stepped-down power ready to be used in a home or business.

It's important to remember that those are bare wires, which is why you hear regular warnings to stay away if a storm knocks power lines to the ground. That's also why the wires are attached to insulators that keep them from being in contact with the wood, steel or other supporting materials.

Just below the electric lines hangs a variety of electric equipment. The big metal cans are transformers that convert high voltages to low voltages. Devices

that look like stacks of big gray donuts could be protective lightning arrestors (or "reclosers") that act like a fuse or circuit breaker, shutting down the line when they detect a problem. Collections of what look like metal cereal boxes are "capacitors" that help improve the efficiency of power flow and regulate voltage. Other switches and regulators monitor and adjust the flow of electricity as energy use changes throughout the day.

Some of the lines you see might be ground wires that carry static electricity (such as lightning) into the

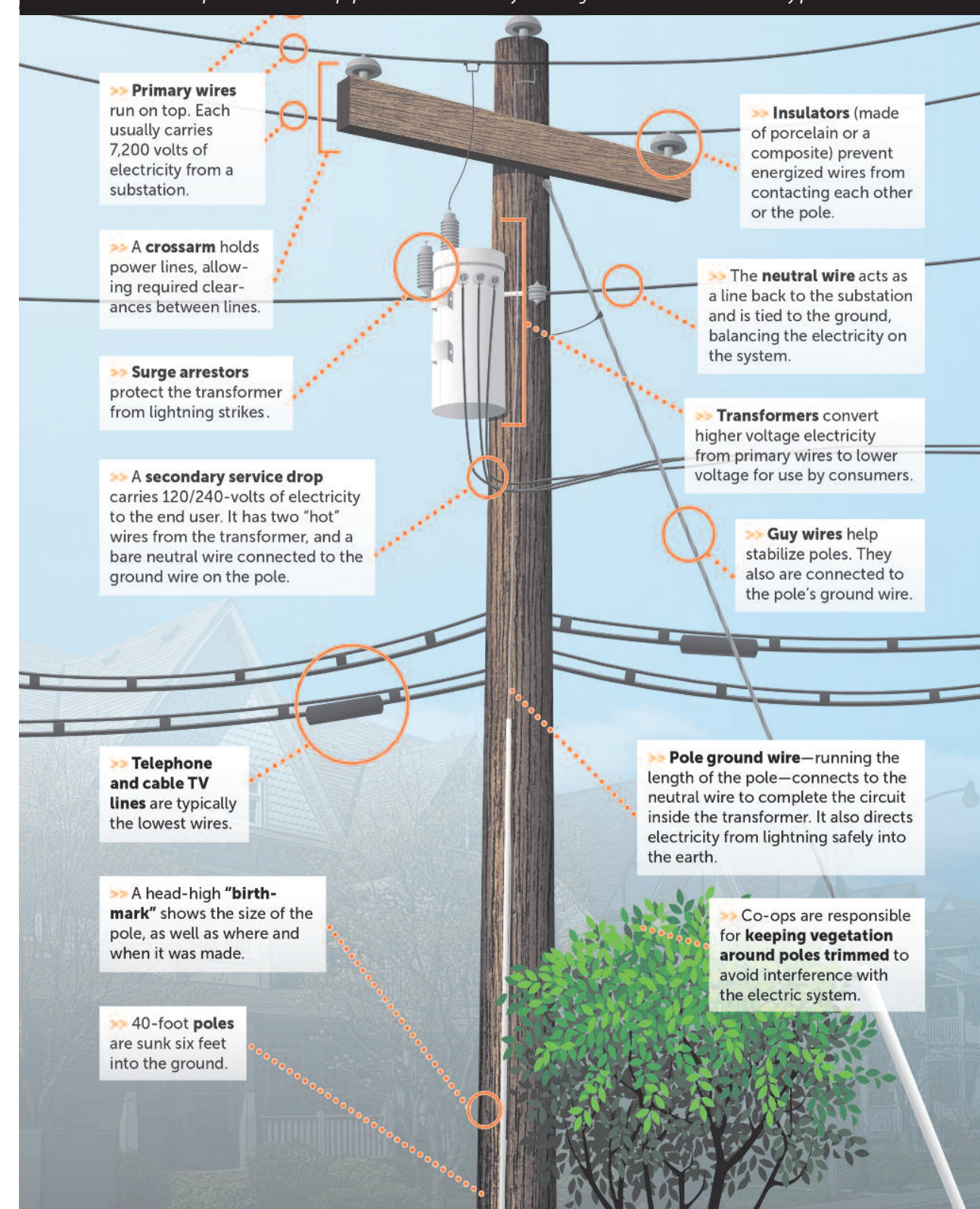
earth or balance the flow of power and help ensure safe operation of the system, or they could be guy wires to keep the pole straight.

The lowest layer carries non-electric lines: cable TV, telephone, internet and traffic light controllers. There's one more layer—any of those lines might go under the ground to get to a house or meet up with other underground lines.

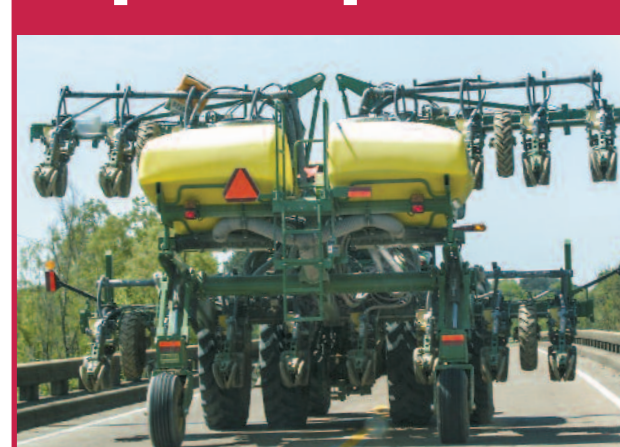
These are the basic parts of an electric utility pole, and now you know how poles get power to the people!

This illustration shows basic equipment found on electric power distribution poles.

Not all poles have all this equipment on them. They vary according to location and the service they provide.



Watch out for power poles!



Farm equipment's a lot taller and wider than it used to be. That's why you should use extreme caution when operating equipment near power poles and lines, leaving a clearance of at least 10 feet.

Knocking over a power pole or getting tangled up in the lines can be dangerous — even deadly.

Think Safety around power poles!