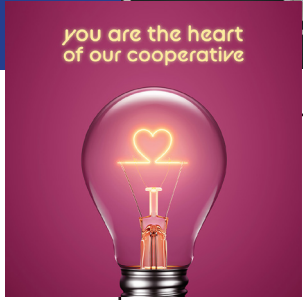


# PARK SPARKS

February 2024



## LIBRARY FUND DONATION



When capital credits go unclaimed, Park Electric has a special use for them. They are retained in an account that funds educational opportunities in our rural communities. Last year, Park Electric was able to make two donations to school libraries for the purchase of new books to update their aging collections. One of the donations was to the Shields Valley School District. In December the second donation was made to Winans Primary School. Winans serves nearly 300 children in grades Pre-Kindergarten through Second grade in the Livingston area. General Manager Matt Haggerty was pleased to present a check on behalf of the board of trustees, for \$2,000 to the librarian and the principal. This check, combined with a matching donation check from Basin Electric Power Cooperative, made a total of \$4,000 to the school for the purchase of new books. The school librarian was very excited to be able to purchase library-quality books to update the collection and continue to promote reading to this important age group.

Examples of old books from the library

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Matt Haggerty, far right, presents checks to the Winans school Librarian and Principal

## NEW REBATES AVAILABLE

Have you made upgrades to your major appliances recently? How about investing in a programmable thermostat to save energy? If so, we have rebates available!

Park Electric offers Energy Star appliance rebates for:

- washers
- dryers
- refrigerators
- freezers
- electric hot water heaters
- dishwashers



New for 2024 - Thermostat/Timer rebates; We have combined our programmable thermostat rebate with rebates for electric hot water heater and engine block timers. Using timers for electric hot water heaters and heating trucks and heavy equipment can save electricity and demand if they are programmed to run during times when you are not using as much electricity. Remember, the highest demand times usually occur between 6-9 am and 5-8:30 pm on our lines.

All qualifying purchases must be Energy Star rated, with the exception of the timers/thermostats. Applications are available on our website and must be completed within 60 days of purchase.

By Matt Haggerty

Park Electric Cooperative provides a range of valuable benefits to its members. Here are just a few:

- *Capital Credits* - Unlike investor-owned utilities, a cooperative like Park Electric is owned by the members it serves. As a member-owner, you have a stake in the cooperative's profits. As a nonprofit electric cooperative, Park Electric allocates annual operating margins or profits to members who receive services throughout the year. At the end of each fiscal year, these margins are distributed back to the membership as capital credits. The allocation is based on the dollar amount of electric service each member paid compared to the total electric service paid by all members.
- *Education Fund* - Capital credit funds that go unclaimed by members who move off of our lines and don't keep updated contact information on file with us go into an education fund. Annually, during our late October Annual Meeting, Park Electric awards a portion of these funds as scholarships to the children of our members. These scholarships are intended for those enrolled in an accredited undergraduate or graduate degree program or vocational school. In 2023, we awarded 15 scholarships, each valued at \$2,000, totaling \$30,000.
- *Energy Efficiency* - For those interested in energy efficiency, we encourage you to explore our website (<https://www.parkelectric.coop/energy-star-rebates>). Park Electric provides a range of rebates aimed at helping members save energy and money, particularly for residential members building new homes or replacing existing appliances. These rebates are for Energy Star-rated appliances and are credited to

your bill. They are applicable when the purchased appliances are installed in a member-owned home on Park Electric lines.

- *Energy Programs* - Our commitment to environmental responsibility is evident through Park Electric's energy programs. In partnership with Basin Electric Power Cooperative since 2006, we offer green power options through Basin Electric Power Cooperative's Prairie Winds – Energy in Motion Green Tag Program. This initiative allows members to voluntarily contribute to the development of renewable energy facilities, such as wind energy, by purchasing Green Tags. Additionally, we buy Green Tags for 10% of our residential, small commercial, and irrigation loads annually. For those interested in generating their own renewable energy, we offer a Net Metering program.
- *Billing Options* - Park Electric offers the ability for your bill to be paid automatically from your checking or savings account every month. With this service set up by the office staff, we offer a \$1.50 bill credit and we will automatically deduct the balance due on or near the 15th of every month. The bill credit is extended to members who use the ACH form and send it to the office with a copy of a voided check. You can also go paperless; Park Electric offers the ability to receive your bills via email as well.

These benefits not only emphasize the cooperative's commitment to providing reliable and affordable electricity but also to showcase its dedication to community support, education, and environmental responsibility. For more information and additional benefits, please visit our website at [www.parkelectric.coop](http://www.parkelectric.coop).

## Park Electric Board of Trustees

District 1 - Alan Johnstone 406-220-2186  
District 2 - Dan Skattum 406-223-0545  
District 3 - Craig Yost 406-223-3008  
District 4 - Matt Jesson 406-939-2306  
District 5 - Bert Otis 406-333-4802  
District 6 - William Brownlee 406-932-6210  
District 7 - Perry Anderson 406-537-4546  
General Manager - Matt Haggerty 406-222-3100

## Connect with Park Electric

Billing and general information: 406-222-3100  
Outage and project information: 406-222-7778

Online: [www.parkelectric.coop](http://www.parkelectric.coop)  
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