New District 4 Trustee
Board appoints replacement for retiring co-op trustee. PAGE 2

Meeting Highlights
Large crowd turns out for prizes and voting at Annual Mtg. PAGE 3

Squash Casserole
Fresh yellow squash takes center stage in a delicious side dish. PAGE 4

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Members Approve Bylaw Changes

Lengthy process culminates in "yes" vote at Annual Meeting

After 18 months of review, debate and discussion among co-op trustees and legal counsel, it took members mere minutes to cast their ballot on changes to the East Central Electric Cooperative(ECE) bylaws. Members approved the changes by a vote of 764 to 279 at the ECE Annual Meeting on July 23.

General Manager Tim Smith said the board wanted to clarify certain sections to bring them up to date with state and federal laws, as well as co-op policies and practices. Changes included amending eligibility requirements for board members to include a board nepotism policy established in 1979 that prevents an individual from serving as trustee if a close relative has worked at the co-op within the past five years.

Other changes included broadening terms to allow multiple individuals living in the same household to apply for joint membership. The old language only specified husband and wife. "We serve areas near several college campuses, and there may be three or more students living in one house," Smith pointed out. "Because of the new federal privacy laws, they all need to be listed on the account before we can discuss account details with them."

Of the multiple amendments considered by members, Smith said the section on joint membership generated the most questions. "Some members seemed to confuse the issue with same sex marriage," he said. "The reality is we are simply trying to accommodate the college students who live and work in our area."

For more details on the ECE Annual Meeting, see page 3.

CROWD FLOW

Co-op members are directed toward the information and voting tent at the ECE Annual Meeting on July 23. The tent provided an area for members to review bylaw amendments in printed form, or on a large overhead screen, prior to casting their ballot. Co-op trustees and employees were readily available to answer questions about the changes or other issues.

operation roundup
update

Operation Roundup funds support local charitable organizations, civic groups, youth programs, community services, and needy families and individuals. For more information on this voluntary bill roundup program, please visit **www.ecoec.com.**

Figures to date:

Applications reviewed	720
Applications granted	512
Applications denied	198
Applications tabled	13
Scholarships awarded	$149,000
Total Disbursements	**$1,214,219.15**
Average member contribution	44¢

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