



Improving Quality Of Life

In Our Communities Since 1937

Electricity and Telecommunication Services



PSREC eNewsletter

May 2017

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Manager's Message

Dear Members:

Your data is safe with Plumas-Sierra! Recently, S.J.34, a joint resolution from Congress, was signed into law allowing telecommunications companies to sell your internet browsing data.

That will not happen here because PSREC is a member-owned cooperative. It is etched in stone that our members' electric use and even their identities are protected. This policy covers all of our telecommunications services for members and nonmembers. Please let us know if you would like more information on our privacy policies.

PST/PSREC Anniversaries

2017 marks the 80th anniversary of the founding of Plumas-Sierra Rural Electric Cooperative and the 30th of our subsidiary Plumas-Sierra Telecommunications. Both entities were founded for the same purpose—to improve the quality of life of our member-owners and our region.

In the next few issues, we will look back at the history of both entities, and review where the cooperative and its subsidiary are going in the future.

Our electric utility performed well in the strong storms of early 2017, even though we know it was not flawless. Owning our own utility has allowed us to put the time, energy and money into keeping your lights on.

Additionally, we are able to make our own decisions about where and how to buy power. All across California, communities are setting up community choice aggregations, which allow communities—usually counties—to make their own power purchasing decisions, while leaving investor owned utilities (such as PG&E) to run the poles and wires. These CCAs are an attempt to model cooperative and municipal types of utilities, but key parts of the business—including service and reliability—are still left to decision makers far removed from the regions they serve.

Plumas-Sierra REC already handles both sides of the business—power supply and local control of our grid. Because we have local control, we were able to groom our rights-of-way, change out our poles and build the backup power line to Nevada. This saved us weeks of power outages across the last 25 years.

Our goal is not to suck money out of our region and give it to investors. Our goal is to build a reliable and cost-effective system and keep money in your pocket. That's the cooperative model.

Our telecommunications subsidiary is owned by the cooperative and generally operates on cooperative principles. Profits are put back into expanding and improving service to the region. Supporting Plumas-Sierra Telecommunications by buying its services ensures the money stays local to build better networks, which will improve service to our schools, hospitals and homes, and improve cellphone service.

Director Elections

In the cooperative world, we have a truism that goes, "Good cooperatives have great boards."

This year, Districts 6 and 7 are up for election. District 6 (North Doyle, Milford and Herlong areas) is served by Tom Hammond, and District 7 (Edgemont and Levitt areas) is served by Nancy Miller. The boundaries of each district are on the PSREC website.

See page 28 for board of director qualification and nomination information.

Please call me for more information if you live in one of these districts and are interested in running for the board. The board meets once a month, usually on the fourth Wednesday of the month. Directors must attend significant training to stay current on issues and become certificated as a director.

Look up and Live

Irrigation season approaches and is a great time to remind members to look up and live.

Whether cutting trees, working with irrigation pipe or any long objects, make sure you look up for power lines!

Telecommunications

We continue to upgrade and repair the coax systems in Quincy, Portola and Mohawk Valley. If you have not contacted us to be put on the interest list, call us today at (800) 221-3474, or visit our website at www.pst.coop. We are upgrading the system in sections and will contact those on our interest lists first to offer services.

With plans offering download speeds up to 20Mbps, multiple-device households finally can stop fighting over bandwidth. To sign up, give us a call at (800) 221-3474 or visit our website at www.pst.coop.

If you have any questions, please contact me at (800) 555-2207 ext. 6076 or email me at bmarshall@psrec.coop.

Sincerely,

Bob Marshall
General Manager

Electric News

Board Districts 6 and 7 up for Election in 2017

If you are interested in running for the Plumas-Sierra Rural Electric Cooperative Board of Directors, please contact General Manager Bob Marshall at (800) 555-2207 ext. 6076 or by email at bmarshall@psrec.coop. [Read the PSREC Qualifications and Nomination Procedures.](#)

Energy Services News

Tired of Utility Bills That Fluctuate From Month to Month?

Get control, with our tailor-made Budget Billing plan. With Budget Billing, your bill will stay roughly the same every month year-round despite changes in the weather.

Your monthly Budget Billing plan is based on your past energy use. At the end of each year's Budget Billing plan, we balance your account. If you used more energy than you paid for, we'll add the amount to your bill. If you overpaid us, we'll credit your bill.

To participate in our Budget Billing plan, your account must be active for a minimum of one year, and you must have a good credit rating with Plumas-Sierra Rural Electric Cooperative.

To sign up for Budget Billing, please call our office at (800) 555-2207.

The screenshot shows the PSREC website interface. At the top left is the PSREC logo. Next to it is a yellow circular badge that says "SAVE UP TO 50% Reliable Low-Cost Home Energy Savers". To the right are navigation links: "HOME | CONTACT & STORE INFO | VIEW CART" and a search bar. Below the navigation is the "FilterChange.coop" logo. The main content area is titled "Lighting" and features three images of light bulbs: a standard incandescent, a compact fluorescent (CFL), and an LED bulb. Below the images, text states: "Compared to traditional incandescents, energy-efficient light bulbs typically use about 25-80% less energy and can last up to 3-25 times longer." On the left side of the page, there are two green-bordered boxes. The first is "Product Categories" with links for Energy Management, Lighting, Specialty Items, Water Savers, and Weatherization. The second is "Energy Education" with text: "Want to educate yourself on Energy Efficiency? Please use some of our useful Energy Resources to help you!". At the bottom left, it says "Featured Energy Saving Items:".

Efficiency Products:

PSREC is pleased to offer members best-quality energy efficiency products at discounted prices for home, business and personal use.

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Quote of the Month

Every human heart is human.

-Henry Wadsworth Longfellow

Upcoming Events

May 3, 10 and 17, Community Art Class. The Gallery, 807 Cottage St. 1 to 2:30 p.m. with Michael Giamplaole. Bring your own supplies. For more information, call (530) 257-5222, or visit www.lassencountyartscouncil.org.

May 5, Cinco de Mayo Celebration. Graeagle Fire Hall, 7620 Highway 89. Doors open 4:30 p.m.; Dinner 6 p.m. Mohawk Community Resource Center fundraiser, featuring an authentic Mexican feast, cervezas and margaritas. Family friendly event. For more information, call (530) 836-0446, or email mcrc@plumasruralservices.org.

May 5, Soroptimist Margarita Fest. Veterans Memorial Hall, 1205 Main St., Susanville. 6 to 9 p.m. For more information, call (530) 257-4382, or email kerri.cobb@usbank.com.

May 6, Quincy Rotary Golf Tournament. Plumas Pines Golf Resort, 402 Poplar Valley Road, Blairsden. 10 a.m. Shotgun 11 a.m. \$100 per person; 4-person scramble, includes golf, cart, lunch and hors d'oeuvres. Proceeds benefit local scholarships and youth programs. For more information, call (530) 283-0800.

May 6, Children's Fair. Lassen County Fairgrounds, 195 Russel Avenue, Susanville. 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Free admission. For more information, call (530) 257-2196 or visit www.lassencoe.org.

May 11, Words & Music Quincy. Patti's Thunder Café, 557 Lawrence St. 7 pm. A monthly series of acoustic music and the spoken word. Sign up for open mic at the door. \$3. For more information, call (530) 283-3402.

May 13, Sierra Valley Friends of the NRA. Graeagle Corner Barn, 8989 Highway 89. 5 p.m. Dinner, no-host bar, auctions, raffles and special drawings. Purchase tickets online, starting at \$50. For more information, call (530) 249-2848. For tickets, visit www.friendsofnra.org.

May 13, Paiute Meadows Trail Run. Susanville Ranch Park. 6 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sponsored by Lassen Land & Trails Trust and Bizz Johnson Running Company. 50K, half marathon, 4.5 mile, 1 mile, and free kid's run. For more info and to register visit www.paiutemeadowstrailrun.com.

May 14, Muffins & Mimosa's. Every Bloomin Thing, 705-670 Highway 395 E. 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. For more information, call (530) 251-2330.

May 19, The Susanville Pops Concert. Susanville Assembly of God Church, 473-465 Richmond Road. 7 p.m. Sponsored by the Susanville Symphony Society. For more information, call (530) 310-8111, or visit www.SusanvilleSymphony.com.

May 19 & 20, Lassen Humane Society Spring Yard Sale. Lassen County Fairgrounds, 195 Russel Avenue, Susanville. Proceeds benefit Pups on Parole, and low-income spay and neuter programs. For more information, call (530) 257-4555, or visit www.lassenhumanesociety.org.

May 19-21, SIR Powwow. Lassen County Fairgrounds, 195 Russel Avenue, Susanville. Hand drum and dance competitions, arts, crafts and food. Free admission; open to the public. For more information, call (530) 249-7192, or visit www.sir-powwow.com.

May 27, Dutch Oven Cook Off & Customer Appreciation Day. Greenhorn Creek Guest Ranch, 2116 Greenhorn Ranch Rd., Quincy. Larry Maurice cowboy poetry, free fishing, swimming, horseshoes, wagon rides, music and more! For more information, call (530) 283-0930, email ride@greenhornranch.com, or visit www.greenhornranch.com.

June 2, Romano's Farmer's Market. Sierra Valley Farms, 1329 County Road A23 Beckwourth. 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Every Friday starting June 2 through September 8. For more information, call (530) 832-0114 or visit www.sierravalleyfarms.com.

June 2 & 3, Sierra Cascade Street Rodders Show & Shine. Plumas-Sierra Fairgrounds, 204 Fairground Road, Quincy. 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Show and shine is in conjunction with the Old Fashion County Picnic. Free admission to all. Featuring over 150 custom and modified show cars along with music, food, Hole Shot Drags and trophy presentations. All show proceeds support local fire departments, EPCAN, animal shelters and high school Sober Grad Night. Pre-registration is \$35.00 by May 7. On-site registration \$40.00. Registration includes a tee-shirt, goodie bag and a friendly smile. For more information, call (530) 836-2200, visit www.sierracascadestreetrodders.com, or email pyramidbuilders.clio@gmail.com.

See a full list of events at our website, www.psrec.coop.