



**Improving Quality Of Life  
In Our Communities Since 1937**

Electricity and Telecommunication Services



## PSREC eNewsletter

**December 2017**

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## **Manager's Message**

### **Dear Members:**

Merry Christmas and happy holidays! We hope you have a happy and safe holiday season. If you or your family are going all out with holiday decorations, please remember to not overload outlets and circuits, and always look up before you install any tall features or exhibits.

### **Capital Credits**

One of the ways electric cooperatives are different from investor-owned utilities is that each cooperative depends on its members to provide the necessary funding, or equity, for operation. Inspired by the idea that people can pool their resources to get things done—a fact that hasn't changed since Plumas-Sierra REC was formed in 1937 by a group of people who banded together to bring electricity to the countryside—your membership ensures access to reliable resources and services, a cornerstone of economic opportunity.

The mechanism by which members contribute equity is known as capital credits. Capital credits are determined at the close of each business year, by allocating the net profits of PSREC to each member based upon the amount of electricity they purchased.

Whether or not your capital credits are returned to you, and how much is returned, is evaluated annually by PSREC's board of directors.

The board of directors has determined that PSREC will distribute a capital credit refund to its members in 2017. Each member in good standing will receive a capital credit refund on their December bill, received in January. This refund, if less than \$100, will appear as a credit on your bill. If your refund is \$100 or more, you will be mailed a check later in January.

Thank you for your stake in supporting Plumas-Sierra Rural Electric Cooperative and the common needs of our community!

### **After-hours Call Center**

We have received information from members about our afterhours call center not being able to find them in the system. If this ever happens to you, please let us know by emailing us at [billing@psrec.coop](mailto:billing@psrec.coop), or calling us during business hours at (800) 555-2207 with your name, address, phone number and account number so we can ensure our after-hours customer service representatives can access your information. We strive to provide excellent customer service and want to hear from you on anything we can improve.

You can receive major, systemwide power outage updates via text message. To sign up, text "PSREC" to 95577.

### **Telecommunications News**

Progress on expanding broadband services in Graeagle and Quincy on the coax system is going well. We have a target date of late-December to begin installations in Graeagle and a target date of late-January for Quincy.

PST's Internet services are unlimited, so you don't have to worry about data caps. Speeds go up to 20 Mbps download.

To learn more about our services, please visit [www.psrec.coop](http://www.psrec.coop).

## Credentials Committee

Please review the following letter to members from Bill Keese, PSREC 2017 Credentials and Election Committee chairman.

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

Sincerely,

Bob Marshall  
General Manager

## Message to Members from PSREC Credentials Chairman

### Dear fellow Members:

I am writing to you as the chairman of the cooperative's Credentials and Election Committee.

At the 2017 PSREC Annual Meeting, the members overwhelmingly approved a modification to the PSREC bylaws, Section 4.10, concerning the daily board fee for the cooperative's board of directors.

The fee was set at \$80 and had not changed since 1982.

The approved bylaws commissioned the Credentials and Election Committee to review data from the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association and set the daily board fee at the average for our region, including most of the states in the Western U.S.

Our committee met on October 24, 2017, and reviewed the data. The average daily fee for our region, as of 2014, was \$341 per day of service. 2014 was the most recent data available. Our committee unanimously approved the daily board fee at \$341.

I wanted to mention a few things to reassure the membership that we are still getting a bargain.

The \$341 is from 2014, and was not adjusted for inflation. Other cooperatives provide a retainer, and some provide medical benefits. Our cooperative will be providing neither. The board fee will automatically adjust each year based on the published Consumer Price Index.

Plumas-Sierra Rural Electric is a complex, small utility and our board works hard to guide the cooperative through the interesting regulatory structure of the federal government and the state of California.

The Credentials and Election Committee would like to thank our board of directors for their contribution to keeping PSREC a strong, viable company today and into the future.

Sincerely,

Bill Keese  
Credentials and Election Committee Chairman

## Electric News



Don't forget about PSREC's WRAP Program! This program is available to qualifying members who would receive a monthly discount on winter electric bills, as well as educational material to help members understand and realize the benefits of energy conservation.

Call 530-832-4261 or visit [www.psrec.coop](http://www.psrec.coop) for an application today; once approved you can receive a discount on your kilowatt-hour rate during the heating season!

**WINTER RATE  
ASSISTANCE  
PROGRAM (WRAP)**

## Energy Services News

### Save Energy and Money this Holiday Season!

Light up your holidays with LED (Light Emitting Diode) holiday light strands! You'll save energy and money on your electric bill this holiday season by replacing your old incandescent light strands with ENERGY STAR LED light strands.

Purchase LED holiday light strands and receive a rebate of \$3 per strand! Strands must be ENERGY STAR rated to receive a rebate. For more information and a rebate application, please visit our website at [www.psrec.coop](http://www.psrec.coop).



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A black and white photograph of a woman and a child tubing down a snowy slope. The woman is in the foreground, smiling broadly, wearing a knit hat and a winter jacket. The child is in the background, also tubing and smiling. The image is framed by a thin black border.

**ENJOY A JOLLY GOOD** ● ★  
★ ● **INTERNET UPGRADE**

## Quote of the Month

No act of kindness, no matter how small is ever wasted.

- Aesop, Greek fabulist

## Upcoming Events

**December 2,** Graeagle Holiday Festival and Tree Lighting. Downtown Graeagle. 1 to 5 p.m. Open houses, refreshments and unique offerings at participating businesses. Enter to win the Graeagle Bucks by visiting each participating merchant. Must be present to win. Winners will be announced after the 5 p.m. tree lighting. Horse-drawn trolley/sleigh rides, pictures with Santa, carolers and a bonfire complete the event. For more information, follow us on Instagram and Facebook @graeaglemerchants.

**December 2,** Magical Country Christmas. Historic Uptown Susanville. 5 to 7 p.m. Sponsored by the Lassen County Chamber of Commerce and Historical Uptown Susanville Association. The celebration features live entertainment, a Christmas parade, food, a Toys-for-Tots drive and fireworks to ring in the Christmas season. Main Street will be closed to through traffic during the celebration. For information on the parade and vendor applications, call (530) 257-4323, or visit [www.lassencountychamber.org](http://www.lassencountychamber.org).

**December 2, 8-9 & 15-16,** Santa Trains. Western Pacific Railroad Museum, 700 Western Pacific Way, Portola. Museum gates open at 4 p.m. Trains run 5 to 8 p.m., or until everyone has had a ride. Admission is \$10 per carload, or \$5 per carload with donation of three non-perishable food items, which will be forwarded to EPCAN.

**December 7,** Lassen County Chamber of Commerce Mixer. Every Blooming Thing, 705-670 US 395, Susanville. 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. Hosted by Every Bloomin' Thing and Susanville Auto Center. For more information, call (530) 251-2330.

**December 8,** Legends of the Celtic Harp present A Winter Gift. Town Hall Theatre, 469 Main St., Quincy. 7 to 9 p.m. Plumas Arts is delighted to bring storyteller and Celtic harpist Patrick Ball back to the stage with Lisa Lynne and Aryeh Frankfurter (and their Celtic harps) to serenade, beguile, and enchant you with myth and music to celebrate the season. Details to be announced. For more information, call (530) 283-3402.

**December 13,** Portola Community Supper. Father Burns Social Hall, 108 Taylor Ave., Portola. 6 p.m.

**December 14,** Words & Music. Patti's Thunder Cafe, 557 Lawrence St., Quincy. 7 to 9 p.m. A monthly series of acoustic music and the spoken word. Sign up for open mic at the door. \$3. Sponsored by Plumas Arts. For more information, call (530) 283-3402.

**December 15 & 16,** Susanville Symphony Christmas Around the World. Susanville Assembly of God Church, 473-465 Richmond Road, Susanville. 7 to 10 p.m. Music for everybody. \$22 general seating; \$30 premium seating. For more information, call (530) 310-8111.

**December 16,** Third Saturday Breakfast. Masonic Lodge No. 149, 84 N. Lassen St., Susanville. Hosted by Friends of the Lassen-Janesville Masonic Lodge No.149. 8 to 11 a.m. \$6. For more information, call (530) 310-6097.

**December 30,** Happy Happy Joy Joy Family Band. Town Hall Theatre, 469 Main St., Quincy. 7 to 9:30 p.m. Quincy's home-grown musicians return to the stage in this annual event.

See a full list of events at our website, [www.psrec.coop](http://www.psrec.coop).