

Power of the People

By W. Marc Farmer,
General Manager,
West Oregon Electric Cooperative



WOEC 63rd Annual Meeting

It is time once again for the Annual Membership Meeting for West Oregon Electric Cooperative. This is our 63rd Annual Meeting and we welcome the opportunity to spend some time with our members, conduct business, and elect directors. Top it all off with a great meal and door prizes and we have a lot of great reasons for our members to come out and join us.

This meeting is an important event for our members to attend. As an electric cooperative, we are owned by our members and have a Board of Directors that are elected by and represent the members. This year Directors will be elected for Districts 2 and 5. The Directors serve for three year terms. It is a mail-in ballot, but ballots will be available at the meeting for those who misplaced theirs or forgot to send them back.

The annual meeting provides our members an opportunity to hear reports from our Board of Directors, the General Manager, Operations Manager, and Manager of Finance and Administration. They will report on the past year, present, and future state of the cooperative and provide

information important for the members to know about their utility. There is also an opportunity for the members to ask questions of the Board and Staff.

Registration will be open at 10:00 a.m. and the business meeting will begin at 11:00 a.m., at which time the ballot box will officially be closed. During the meeting we will be making a special presentation to two of our honored guests who have done a great deal for our membership. There are a lot of great reasons to attend, from the door prizes to the information about your utility, to the chance to be a part of the cooperative process or have a great meal, we would like to see you there.

Speaking of the meal part, if you are planning to attend, you need to contact Sarah Rossi at 503-429-3021 by 3:00 p.m. on Friday, August 24, so we have an accurate count on the number of meals.

The meeting will be held at the Scout Cabin in Hawkins Park on Saturday, August 25. I have always looked forward to the Annual Meetings as we get a chance to interact with our members for the common good of our cooperative. We work hard to provide good electric service for your homes and businesses throughout the year, and this is our chance to share with you how the past year has gone, what we are doing currently, and what the future looks like as we move into the next year. So come be a part of your electric cooperative's annual meeting. I hope to see you all there.

Vote for your 10 favorite dinosaurs



A ferociously lifelike tyrannosaurus encourages people to "Vote Rex!" The Oregon Zoo is seeking the public's help in choosing which prehistoric beasts to feature in a new animatronic dino exhibit, set to open in May 2008.

Towering dinosaurs surround you. One of them, a tyrannosaurus rex, greets you with a ferocious roar. No, he won't eat you. These fearsome creatures are part of the Oregon Zoo's new dinosaur exhib-

it, scheduled to open in May 2008.

More than 20 animatronic dinosaurs are set to arrive next summer, and the zoo is asking the public to help choose which prehistoric beasts should be featured in the exhibit. Visitors to the zoo's Web site can vote for their favorites among a variety of dinosaurs, from the flesh-eating tyrannosaurus to the plant-eating stegosaurus and the fish-eating baryonyx.

To vote and check out the possibilities, visit www.oregonzoo.org/dinos and take the online survey.

Each dinosaur is built on a steel frame and covered with intricately painted foam-rubber skin. State-of-the-art electronics and air pistons power the dinosaurs' movements, making them remarkably lifelike.

"These realistic dinosaurs will send chills down your spine," said Tony Vecchio, zoo director. "When people hear the roar of a T. rex or allosaurus, they'll be searching for a place to hide."

The exhibit trail will be located in a lush, tropical setting, similar to the ones dinosaurs once inhabited.

The zoo opens at 9:00 a.m. daily and is located just off Highway 26. General admission is \$9.75 (12-64), seniors \$8.25 (65+), children \$6.75 (3-11), and infants 2 and under are free. Additional information is available at www.oregonzoo.org or by calling 503-226-1561.

Meeting in Astoria on salmon/steelhead recovery

The Lower Columbia Recovery Stakeholder Team will meet tomorrow, August 17, in Astoria, to discuss and review the draft plan for recovery of threatened and endangered salmon and steelhead in the Lower Columbia River basin.

The meeting is scheduled from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at

the Judge Guy Boyington Building, 857 Commercial St, Astoria. The public is invited to attend and time will be scheduled for public comments.

The stakeholder team will discuss the current situation of chinook salmon, chum salmon, coho salmon and steelhead in the Lower Columbia River

basin and work toward agreement on recovery goals and how to achieve those goals.

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's (NOAA) Fisheries Science Center and Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife released an assessment of the current status of salmon and steelhead populations in the Willamette and Lower Columbia basins for public review. The Viability Status of Oregon Salmon and Steelhead Populations in the Willamette and Lower Columbia Basins can be found at www.nwfsc.noaa.gov/trt/trt_wlc_psr2007.cfm.

Stakeholder team members represent watershed councils,

agriculture, forestry, conservation, recreation, fishing, commerce, and utility interests and local and federal governments.

Input from the stakeholder team is helping the State of Oregon and NOAA Fisheries in developing a recovery plan for the region of the Lower Columbia River that extends from Hood River to Astoria, upstream to Willamette Falls.

The mission of the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife is to protect and enhance Oregon fish and wildlife and their habitats for use and enjoyment by present and future generations. For additional information, visit www.dfw.state.or.



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