

Season's Greetings!

from the staff, linemen and board of trustees at Continental Divide Electric Cooperative

Fundraiser nets schools \$6,200

Students throughout Continental Divide Electric's service area earned about \$6,200 for their schools and school-related functions by selling more than 3,100 compact fluorescent light bulbs.

The fundraiser was part of "Operation EffCon," the co-op's campaign designed to raise awareness about energy efficiency and conservation. CDEC's management and board of trustees decided to offer service-area schools a chance to make money for school projects and activities. Thirteen schools – some 750 students – chose to participate. Students earned \$2 for each bulb sold – \$1 from the consumer and \$1 from the co-op.

How did some fare?

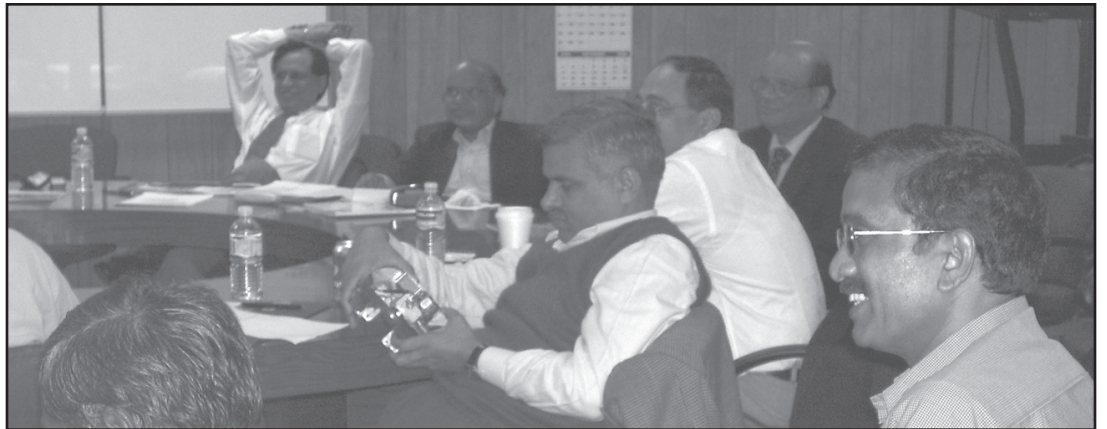
- The top selling schools were **Grants High School** (469 bulbs), **St. Anthony Mission School** in Zuni (430), and **Cubero Elementary School** (408).

- Individuals who sold more than 50 bulbs included **Veronica Chavez**, of **Mesa View Elementary School** (100), **Kimberly Day**, of **Laguna Middle School** (86), **Megan Stephens**, of **Los Alamos Middle School** (70), **Jason Romancito**, of **St. Anthony** (65), **Anella Beverage**, of **Ramah High School** (53), and **Krystal Garcia** and **Stephanie Habiger**, of **Grants High** (51 bulbs each).

Other schools that participated were **Wildcat Christian Academy** in Gallup, **San Rafael Elementary School**, **St. Teresa School**, **Laguna Elementary School**, **Seboyeta Elementary School** and **Milan Elementary School**.

Continental Divide would like to thank all the students and schools that participated in this worthwhile endeavor to help our service-area residents and their homes become more energy efficient. Great job!

India delegation visits co-op



In November, a delegation from India visited Continental Divide as part of the group's study abroad of U.S. electric cooperatives.

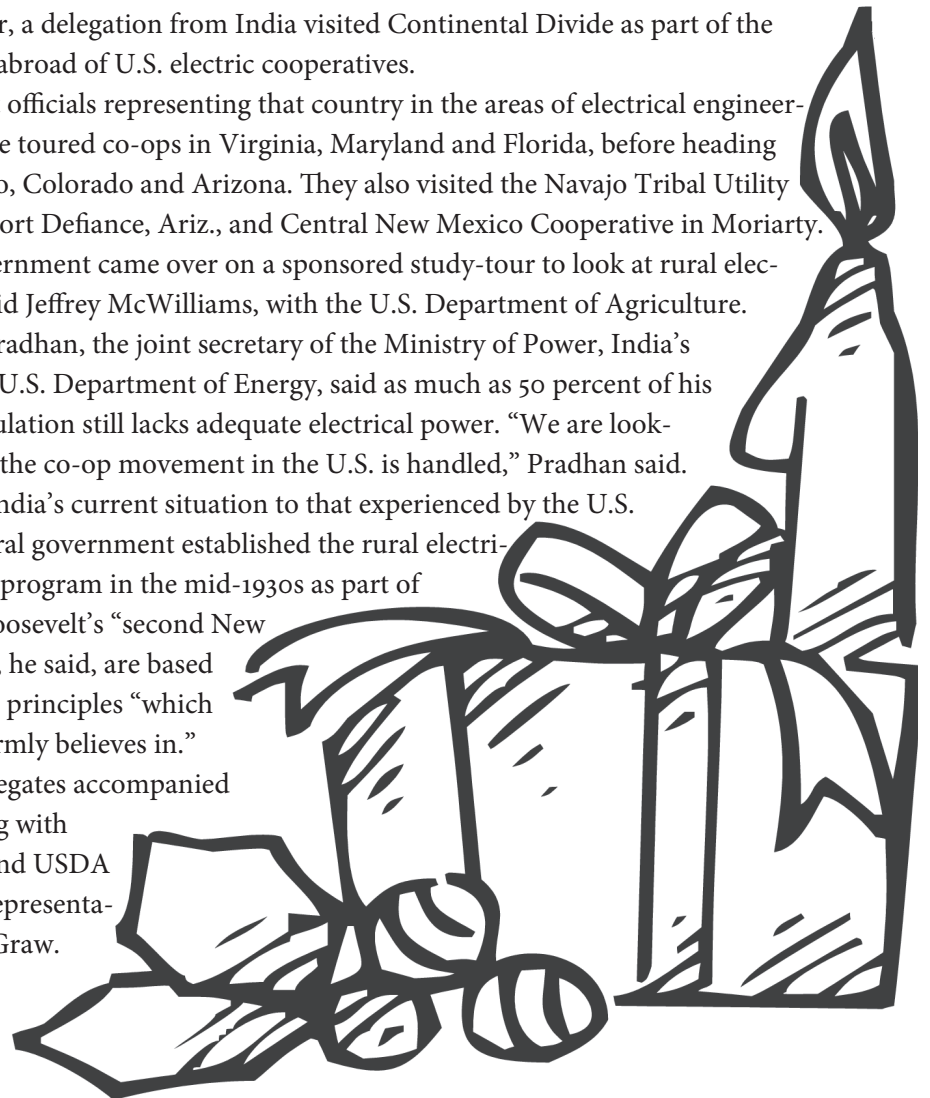
Government officials representing that country in the areas of electrical engineering and finance toured co-ops in Virginia, Maryland and Florida, before heading to New Mexico, Colorado and Arizona. They also visited the Navajo Tribal Utility Authority in Fort Defiance, Ariz., and Central New Mexico Cooperative in Moriarty.

"India's government came over on a sponsored study-tour to look at rural electrification," said Jeffrey McWilliams, with the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

Gireesh B. Pradhan, the joint secretary of the Ministry of Power, India's version of the U.S. Department of Energy, said as much as 50 percent of his country's population still lacks adequate electrical power. "We are looking at the way the co-op movement in the U.S. is handled," Pradhan said.

He likened India's current situation to that experienced by the U.S. when the federal government established the rural electrification co-op program in the mid-1930s as part of Franklin D. Roosevelt's "second New Deal." Co-ops, he said, are based on democratic principles "which our country firmly believes in."

About 15 delegates accompanied Pradhan, along with McWilliams and USDA general field representative Larry McGraw.



Continental Divide Electric will be closed Dec. 25, 26 and Jan. 1 to observe Christmas and New Year's Day.



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