

## **Press Release**

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### **KEC's Annual Meeting reports on the "State of the Cooperative"**

Kootenai Electric Cooperative (KEC) held its 71<sup>st</sup> Annual Meeting of the membership at Lake City Community Church on Saturday, March 21, 2009. The annual meeting reported on the "State of the Cooperative" and elected members to the KEC Board of Directors. The Touchstone Energy hot air balloon was also at the meeting and KEC members were able to take tethered rides.

At the meeting KEC Board President Ed Gossett introduced the new KEC General Manager Doug Elliot to the membership. He reported on how future Bonneville Power Administration (BPA) rate increases will impact future KEC rates. He also discussed key activities of the Cooperative and the Board, as well as future power supply concerns that affect the Northwest.

General Manager Doug Elliott shared his background with the membership and reported on the many energy efficiency rebates offered to KEC members and the importance of conservation. He also reminded attendees about KEC's Co-Op Connections Card Program and the savings available to them. This program gives KEC members discounts at more than 100 local businesses and 50 national businesses.

Board Member Donna Boekel, Rathdrum, retained her board position for District 2 and Wally Jacobson, Hayden, retained his board position for District At-Large. Bill Swick, Worley, was

elected by the membership to serve as District 4 director. He replaces Dale Pierce, who served as a director for nine years.

Kootenai Electric Trust Board President Joan Halverson reported on the success of the Operation Round Up® program. Since the program's beginning in November 2002, more than \$350,000 has been awarded in grants to worthy charitable projects in our area and KEC individuals in need.