



## **OG&E crews compete in annual Lineman's Expo**

***Winning teams will represent the electric company at international competition***



***(Left to right) Jeff Stith, Cheyenne Lankford and Todd Munson proudly display their trophies after their team won OG&E's Annual Lineman's Expo. The top three overall winning teams will go on to represent OG&E in the International Lineman's Rodeo and Expo competition in October in Overland Park, Kansas.***

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**OKLAHOMA CITY (Aug. 9, 2023)** – This past Saturday, linemen teams from across OG&E's service area gathered to compete in the electric company's 32<sup>nd</sup> Annual Lineman's Expo. The yearly event serves as a friendly competition among the linemen and offers OG&E team members the opportunity to celebrate and cheer on the hardworking crews who work tirelessly to provide reliable power to Oklahomans and Arkansans, often in some of the toughest weather conditions.

After kicking off the day with a moving salute to the American flag, the competition began. OG&E crews from across the service area showcased their technical skills and commitment to safe work practices by competing in timed events on traditional line skills. The events included:

- Hurtman rescue, where crews simulated the rescue of an injured worker atop a power line;
- Speed pole climb, a timed event where individual linemen scale a power pole to swap out a tool bag, then descend the pole;
- Transformer swap out, where a three-person line crew is timed on how fast they can replace a transformer on a power pole;
- The hot stick, where a lineman on the ground uses an extending tool to change out a piece of equipment at the top of a power pole.

The linemen's prioritization of safety, embodiment of teamwork and extensive industry knowledge during the competition were on full display, demonstrating the national reputation that OG&E linemen are among the best in the business.

"These are the skills we use day-in and day-out, in the cold and in the heat, to restore customers' power after storms. The competition is a great chance to practice and perfect our skills," said Gerardo Soto, a line crew foreman in the North District in Oklahoma City. "We're all one big family and support one another, but we take the competition seriously as there are bragging rights on the line. And for those of us who go on to the international competition, it's a great thrill and honor to represent our company and the Big Orange team."

Hundreds of the electric company's employees and family members attended the event and enjoyed a variety of activities including a car show, grill master contest, a dunk tank raising money for the United way, tours of a company museum, kids rides and games, and a 5k Run & Fun Walk, in addition to the competition.

"The annual Linemen's Expo is a favorite event for many of us at OG&E," said Andrea Dennis, vice president of transmission and distribution operations at OG&E. "It's incredible to see all of us come together as a company to celebrate our line crews whose skills and expertise make a real difference for our customers and in the communities we serve."

The top three overall winning teams will go on to represent OG&E in the International Lineman's Rodeo and Expo competition in October in Overland Park, Kansas.

### **Overall Team Competition Winners:**

1<sup>st</sup> place: Todd Munson from the Seminole Service Center, Jeff Stith of the Shawnee Service Center, and Cheyenne Lankford of the Seminole Service Center.

2<sup>nd</sup> place: Steve Highfill from the Central Service Center in Oklahoma City, Matt Stanley of the Shawnee Service Center, and Brent Downes of the Shawnee Service Center.

3<sup>rd</sup> place: Kyle Pitman, Dylan Parker, and Lane Miller all from the Ardmore Service Center.

The top three teams from the Over 45 competition and Apprentice competition will also represent OG&E at the International Lineman's Rodeo.

#### **Over 45 Winners:**

1<sup>st</sup> place: Shawn Hill from the North Service Center in Oklahoma City.

2<sup>nd</sup> place: Rocky Dutton from the Enid Service Center.

3<sup>rd</sup> place: Tommy Finch from the Kellyville Service Center.

#### **Apprentice Winners:**

1<sup>st</sup> place: Drake Hirst from the West Service Center in Oklahoma City.

2<sup>nd</sup> place: Dakota Pierce from the Durant Service Center.

3<sup>rd</sup> place: Tad Holt from the Durant Service Center.

"Our linemen work day and night, through all kinds of severe weather conditions, to provide life-enhancing and sustaining services to keep all our customers safe and comfortable," said Dennis. "It's an honor to devote an entire day to watching these folks in action and celebrating these undisputed community heroes."

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#### **About OG&E**

*Oklahoma Gas and Electric Company, a subsidiary of OGE Energy Corp. (NYSE: OGE), is Oklahoma's largest electric company. For 121 years, we have provided customers in Oklahoma and western Arkansas with the safe, reliable electricity needed to power their businesses and homes with some of the nation's lowest electric rates, according to S&P Global Market Intelligence. Our employees are committed to generating and delivering electricity, protecting the environment, and providing excellent service to approximately 889,000 customers. OG&E's 7,240 MW of electric generation capacity is fueled by natural gas, wind, low-sulfur coal, and solar. OG&E employees live, work, and volunteer in the communities we serve. For more information about OG&E, visit us at [OGE.com](http://OGE.com) or follow us on [Facebook](#), [LinkedIn](#) and [Instagram](#).*

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