

# KILOWATT

An Oklahoma Living Supplement

Published monthly for the Members of Kiwash Electric Cooperative, Inc. Cordell, Oklahoma • www.kiwash.coop

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**HAPPY VALENTINE'S DAY**



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Published Monthly for the members of  
 Kiwash Electric Cooperative, Inc.  
 P.O. Box 100  
 Cordell, Oklahoma  
 www.kiwash.coop  
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## Youth Power Energy Camp

Heads up Eighth Graders!! !! You and an eighth grade buddy could win a trip to Youth Power Energy Camp this summer.



KEC is joining forces with The Oklahoma Association of Electric Cooperatives and electric cooperatives from across the state in sponsoring the Youth Power Energy Camp at Camp Canyon near Hinton, OK. The camp, slated for May 29th - June 1st, 2007, is designed to help students develop leadership skills while having lots of fun.

By forming their own cooperative business, students learn about leadership and business while interacting with other eighth graders from across the state. Campers also have the opportunity to learn about generating and distributing electricity by touring the electric generation facilities at Western Farmers Electric Cooperative in Anadarko and the offices of Caddo Electric Cooperative in Binger. Safety demonstrations are put on by linemen and students even get a chance to try their hand at riding bucket trucks and climbing poles.

And that's not all - campers start the summer out right by making new friends and taking part in a variety of activities including volleyball, swimming, ping pong, hiking, and a special "Surprise" outing.

This year the essay topic, "What I would miss the most without electricity and why", must be submitted by a team of eighth grade students attending school within KEC's service territory. The essay must be at least 100 words in length. Essays will be judged on content, style and accuracy. A team of students will be selected from the submitted essays to represent KEC at Energy Camp.

**Contest Rules**

1. The team of students must currently be classified as eighth grade students attending a school in KEC's service territory.
2. The students will be required to write an essay of at least 100 words in length on the topic. "What I would miss the most without electricity and why."
3. Essays are to be written legibly or typed, double spaced on only one side of the paper.
4. Attach a cover page which includes, name, parent's name, address, phone number, school and shirt size.
5. Essays will be judged on the basis of knowledge of subject, 40%; originality, 30%; composition, 15%; grammar, spelling and punctuation, 15%.
6. Deadline for essays is March 15, 2007.

**Dates for the 2007 Youth Power Energy Camp are May 29-June 1, 2007.**



Manager's Monologue  
By Dennis Krueger



## Franchising – Thinking Outside the Box

We are your employees and we work for you! You, the electric consumers, own this organization. Management and staff is constantly searching for new ways to assist you while growing this cooperative.

Our electric prices are rising and you need to understand these facts. The reasons rates are increasing is multi-faceted, including but not limited to: **1.** Our generation company, WFEC, has a greater mix of natural gas fired generation than it does coal-fired generation in a market place where natural gas prices have been on an increasing roller coaster ride for several years and coal is now a much cheaper fuel source. **2.** Kiwash's meter growth has been minimal over the last 10 years. In 1997, the average number of meter served was 5,837 and today that number has only increased by 140 meters or 1.4 meters per year. **3.** The electric transmission grid in our region of the U.S. including Oklahoma is reaching capacity, which limits our ability to purchase cheaper power from other sources, and, **4.** WFEC is operating at near generation capacity and is planning a new coal-fired plant for completion in 2012.

Generally, in any business, the more you sell the cheaper the price; in part, because higher sales volume means there is more profit to pay for basic overhead costs. The reverse is also true. If sales slip or decline, than there is less money for overhead meaning prices will raise. Kiwash Electric Cooperative is striving to do everything possible to place more electric consumers (members) on the lines, increase electric sales, and drive down the overhead costs. To do this, we are attempting to think outside the box and we need your help.

On April 3<sup>rd</sup>, an election will be held in Thomas, Oklahoma, which will ask the basic question; "do the citizens want to allow a second electric provider, Kiwash Electric Cooperative, to serve the future electric needs of Thomas?" It's called an electric franchise election and, we hope, it is the first of many such votes in our region. You will be reading and hearing more on this matter as the election date approaches.

Our hope is that when communities grow there will be a choice between the existing electric supplier and Kiwash. This is one way we can increase the number of meters, grow electrical sales and keep our costs down resulting in lower electrical rates.

We are asking cities, towns, and communities for an electric franchise election. If you believe in the cooperative way – you can help by supporting Kiwash in communities that are contemplating franchise elections, we will all benefit! Talk to your friends and neighbors and tell them the Kiwash story; tell them about the benefit of member ownership and locally elected Trustees. You can count on Kiwash, can Kiwash count on you?

## Kiwash Electric Cooperative recognizes employees for their years of service.



**Roy Dewees**  
15 years of service



**Jerry Black**  
30 years of service



**Mike Miller**  
15 years of service

( not pictured is Brad Jones – 25 years of service)

# Hugo Maintenance Project to Increase Reliability for WFEC Member-Owners

Rapid economic expansion within Oklahoma, combined with extreme summer temperatures, has resulted in much greater than planned growth of demand and energy on Western Farmers Electric Cooperative's (WFEC) system. As a matter of fact, the 2006 demand requirements across WFEC's system grew six times that normally planned for a year with continued growth also projected for 2007, explains WFEC CEO Gary Roulet.

The above circumstances and industry changes, combined with a major upcoming maintenance project, will all have an impact on fuel costs over the next few months. In the immediate future (March to April, 2007), WFEC is planning a two-month outage at its Hugo Plant, which will improve dependability of its most cost-efficient base load resource. WFEC is investing over \$18 million dollars to perform crucial maintenance to improve reliability of the plant. Each day that the plant is down, WFEC will purchase comparatively higher priced replacement gas-fired generation to offset the energy normally provided by the plant, Roulet notes.

WFEC has opted to spread the impact on member-owners over a four-month window beginning with the January, 2007 invoices for December kWh usage, in an effort to control the two-month impact of purchasing replacement energy that will cost 400% or more compared to the cost of Hugo coal-fired energy. **(This paragraph will need to be edited to include what your respective cooperative is doing for its members to help in offsetting this increased cost.)**

Currently, 43 percent of the annual energy delivered to WFEC's members is generated with coal, which is by far WFEC's cheapest generation resource. Actually, the cost to generate with coal is about one-fourth of the cost of generating or purchasing power generated with natural gas. WFEC's coal plant, located in Hugo, Okla. is scheduled to operate 24 hours a day, 365 days per year, except when the plant is down for repairs or maintenance.

## Rate Changes – All Electric (effective March 1, 2007)

	Old Rate	New Rate
<b>Customer Charge</b>	\$12.50	\$15.00
Summer Rate (June-Aug.)	\$0.0325 per kWh	\$0.0325 per kWh
<b>Winter Rate (Dec-Feb)</b>		
First 1,000 kWh	\$0.0325 per kWh	\$0.0325 per kWh
Over 1,000 kWh	\$0.0110 per kWh	\$0.0110 per kWh
<b>Shoulder Months (March-May and Sept.-Nov.)</b>		
First 1,000 kWh	\$0.0325 per kWh	\$0.0325 per kWh
Over 1,000 kWh	\$0.0190 per kWh	\$0.0190 per kWh
<b>Wholesale Power Charge</b>		
All kWh	\$0.0480 per kWh	\$0.0600 per kWh

## Rate Changes – Residential and Farm & Home Service

<b>Customer Charge</b>	\$12.50	\$15.00
Summer Rate (June-Aug.)	\$0.0325 per kWh	\$0.0325/kWh
<b>Winter Rate (Dec.-Feb.)</b>		
First 1,000 kWh	\$0.0325 per kWh	\$0.0325 per kWh
Over 1,000 kWh	\$0.0200 per kWh	\$0.0200 per kWh
<b>Shoulder Months (March-May and Sept.-Nov.)</b>		
First 1,000 kWh	\$0.0325 per kWh	\$0.0325 per kWh
Over 1,000 kWh	\$0.0250 per kWh	\$0.0250 per kWh
<b>Wholesale Power Charge</b>	\$0.0480 per kWh	\$0.0600 per kWh

## Jack Sawatzky receives Credentialed Cooperative Director Certificate

### The Credentialed Cooperative Director Certificate

Cooperatives believe it is more important for directors to understand their roles and responsibilities and to have the knowledge and skills to govern today's cooperatives.

NRECA's Director Education program is specifically designed to address the learning needs of electric cooperative directors. Training courses offered address board governance, financial decision-making, strategic planning, and current and emerging issues. The Credentialed Cooperative Director (CCD) curriculum consists of five courses designed to provide the minimum knowledge and skills required of cooperative directors. The CCD is earned by attending and completing five required courses and successfully completing a learning assessment for each.



General Manager Dennis Krueger  
and Board of Director Jack Sawatzky



## Weber Retires

Jim Weber retired on January 1, 2007 after 22 years and 8 months of employment at Kiwash Electric Cooperative. Jim began his career with Kiwash on June 5, 1948. He began his career as a Lineman and in July of 1989 was promoted to Construction Foreman.

Jim will be greatly missed. Jim and his wife Myrtle will keep busy fishing and enjoying the outdoors and keeping track of those grandchildren. All of us at Kiwash will miss Jim, but we wish him the best as he enjoys his retirement.

## Bundle of Joy.....

Kirk and Lisa Dailey announce the birth of their son, Hayden Raymond Dailey. Hayden was born November 13 at Lakeside Womens Hospital in Oklahoma City. Hayden weighed 6 lbs 12 oz. and was 21 inches long.

Hayden's mommy, Lisa, is an accountant and billing specialist for KEC. Proud grandparents are Larry and Shirley Goss of Sentinel and Mike and Lynee Innis of Woodward. Raymond and Shirley Hoskins of Arnett and Pauline Pollard of Sentinel are the proud great grandparents.

