



the Kilowatt

JULY 2009

published monthly for members of
Kiwash Electric Cooperative, Inc.



A SUPPLEMENT TO OKLAHOMA LIVING

70th
Annual Meeting
of **KIWASH ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE**

August 20 • 7 pm
Cordell High School
Auditorium

SEE PAGE 4 FOR MORE DETAILS.



**ENERGY
EFFICIENCY**

*Tip of
the Month*

During late afternoon and early evening, turn off unnecessary lights and wait to use heat-producing appliances. It's also a good idea to shade south- and west-facing windows during the hottest part of the day.

—US DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

District meeting time!

Members cast votes for trustees

Kiwash Electric Cooperative members in districts 3, 8 and 9 will meet this month to elect cooperative trustees. If you live in one of the districts, you will receive an official meeting notice in the mail.

Any member living within these designated districts may run for the position of trustee. If you are interested in running, please request a bylaw booklet from Kiwash Electric prior to your district meeting date, and be sure to attend the meeting.

A quorum must be present to hold an election. If not, the board of directors will complete the process.

■ **DISTRICT 3**
July 23 • 7 pm
Senior Citizens Center, Corn

The district 3 meeting will be held on July 23 at 7 pm at the Senior Citizens Center in Corn. This is a unique year for members living within district 3. Jonathan Bartel, district 3 trustee for over 21 years, submitted his resignation earlier this year. "It's a challenging position to keep district members informed on matters in the quickly changing electric industry," said Dennis Krueger, KEC manager. "Mr. Bartel retired with great expertise of this industry."

good things to know



The Kiwash Electric Cooperative system is divided into nine districts. Each district is represented by a locally elected trustee. Kiwash Electric and other Touchstone Energy electric cooperatives are locally owned and controlled by their membership. This ensures your co-op offers the programs and services that best meet your needs.

For details on Kiwash Electric elections and trustee qualifications, please see page 4.



Virginia Walker
DISTRICT 8

■ **DISTRICT 8**
July 30 • 7 pm
Kiwash Electric Cooperative
Cordell

District 8 will meet at 7 pm on July 30 at Kiwash Electric Cooperative, 120 W. 1st Street in Cordell. Virginia Walker represents members in district 8. Appointed trustee in May of 2000, Virginia and her husband Paul live northeast of Cordell.



John Schaufele
DISTRICT 9

■ **DISTRICT 9**
July 28 • 7 pm
St John's Lutheran Church
Lone Wolf

Members in district 9 will meet at 7 pm on July 28 at St. John's Lutheran Church in Lone Wolf. John Schaufele, trustee since September of 2008, represents members in district 9. John and his wife Beverly live east of Hobart.



BILL PAYMENT LOCATIONS

Kiwash Electric
120 W. 1st Street
Cordell, Oklahoma

Pay online:
www.kiwash.coop

Custer City Hall
Custer City, Oklahoma

First National Bank
Thomas, Oklahoma



A Touchstone Energy
Cooperative

KIWASH ELECTRIC
COOPERATIVE, INC.

*Providing the service
that lights up your life.*

Office Location

PO Box 100
120 W. 1st Street
Cordell, Oklahoma

(888) 832-3362
www.kiwash.coop

STAFF

Dennis Krueger
MANAGER

Gene Smith
DIRECTOR OF
FINANCE

Lisa Willard
DIRECTOR OF
COMMUNICATIONS

Roy Dewees
DIRECTOR OF
OPERATIONS

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

OFFICERS

Jack Sawatzky
PRESIDENT

Virginia Walker
VICE PRESIDENT

Rex Eagan
SEC. TREASURER

Robert Travis
ASST. SEC. TREASURER

DIRECTORS

Ralph Cunningham
Leslie Hinds
Louis Fariss
John Schaufele

INSIDE YOUR CO-OP



By Dennis Krueger
GENERAL MANAGER

KEC board proposes changes to bylaws

The board of directors at Kiwash Electric Cooperative has been informally chatting with the membership on different issues, discussing ways to keep electricity affordable to all.

President Obama's proposed "cap and trade" program on carbon forces us to discuss affordable electricity. Cap and trade is a direct tax on carbon emissions that will effect every consumer.

Keeping rates low is difficult enough when Kiwash Electric has miles of distribution lines that need to be updated, and material costs escalate after natural disasters such as hurricanes and ice storms.

Following these types of discussions, the Kiwash Electric board of directors is offering the membership a proposed bylaw change which, through attrition, will reduce the number of board members from nine members to seven members. Attrition is defined in this manner: Anyone who steps off the board because of retirement or personal reasons will not be replaced until the board reaches the required seven member board. District boundaries will be continually re-divided until the seven districts are firmed up.

The reasoning for the reduction in board members revolves around many issues. These issues are:

1. Keeping costs lower to the cooperative membership. This can be achieved by reducing monthly board member per diem and annual educational costs. Due to the rapidly evolving electric industry, a typical Kiwash Electric board member will average from one to three days on cooperative education programs, along with attending a monthly board meeting.
2. Fewer districts will result in a reduction in costs for district meetings.
3. Fewer people are willing to give up their own time to serve on any governing board, including the Kiwash Electric board of trustees.
4. In 2008, 63 percent of our kilowatt hour (kwh) energy sales went to commercial and industrial customers versus 37 percent to residential members. Kiwash Electric

bylaws still indicate that a board member must reside within the district they represent, and that limits the number of qualified candidates.

Board member's responsibilities include, but are not limited to, meeting every month on weekday mornings; attending state, regional and national conferences, and educating themselves on electric industry issues as well as board issues. Also, board members must stay abreast of the political issues that affect the way we conduct business. For example, fighting against unfair taxes assessed against the industry, or expressing opinions on new legislation that might adversely affect our organization.

Let's review an excerpt of these proposed bylaw changes with modifications underlined and in bold lettering.

"ARTICLE IV, Section 1. General Powers. The business and affairs of the Cooperative shall be managed by a board of nine trustees which shall exercise all of the powers of the Cooperative except such as are by law, the articles of incorporation or these by-laws conferred upon or reserved to the members. **The current number of Trustees is nine (9) which number will be reduced to seven (7) by attrition. Upon the death, resignation, retirement, removal or current vacancy of a Trustee the first two vacancies shall not be filled. Once the number of Trustees is reduced to seven (7) any further vacancies will be governed by the provision of Article IV, Section 4.**"

Next month you will be able to read the entire written version of the proposed bylaw changes as they are being offered for your consideration within the Articles.

I'm writing today to prepare you for these proposed changes so that you have time to carefully consider this very important business item. Members will vote on these items at the Kiwash Electric Cooperative Annual Meeting on August 20, 2009.

CO-OP VALUES

Enter today. Save money tomorrow. Win a Home Energy Makeover from Kiwash Electric!

Could your home benefit from a few energy saving improvements? Enter the Home Energy Makeover contest from Kiwash Electric and Touchstone Energy, and you could win up to \$3,000 in efficiency upgrades.

The Home Energy Makeover shows how a reasonably small investment can make a big difference in your electric bill. Home Energy Makeover improvements may include heating and air conditioning, insulation, lighting, programmable thermostats, water heaters, windows and appliances, energy efficient landscaping and more.

Enter the contest today, so you can save energy and money tomorrow! To enter, simply fill out the application below and mail it to: Kiwash Electric Cooperative/Attn: Home Energy Makeover, PO Box 100, Cordell, OK 73632, or download the application at www.kiwash.coop and email it to Kiwash@kiwash.coop. In the subject line, please write *Home Energy Makeover*.

The deadline to enter the contest is Monday, August 10, 2009 at 5 p.m. The lucky winner will be announced at KEC's Annual Meeting on Thursday, August 20, 2009.

HOME ENERGY MAKEOVER APPLICATION

(Please see official selection rules for qualifying details)

Name: _____

Co-op Account# _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Email: _____

Telephone#: _____

When was your home built? _____

Livable square footage of home: _____

Is this your primary residence (occupied year round):

Yes No

Submit application form to:

Kiwash Electric Cooperative
Attn: Home Energy Makeover
P.O. Box 100, Cordell, OK 73632

Apply online: www.kiwash.coop.



OFFICIAL SELECTION RULES

1. Subject to the additional restrictions below, the Home Energy Makeover is open to any member of Kiwash Electric Cooperative that meets the following criteria:

- Applicant must be a 18 years of age or older.
- Applicant must be a home owner and said home must serve as the applicants primary residence.
- Applicants home must sit on a permanent foundation and be of conventional construction.
- Applicants home cannot be leased, rented or under contract to be sold.
- Applicants must use approximately 1,000 kwh per month.
- Each household is allowed only one entry.
- Employees of Kiwash Electric Cooperative and its affiliated companies, and advertising agencies, and the immediate family members of, and any persons domiciled with any such employees, are not eligible to enter or to win. The term "immediate family members" includes spouses, parents, grandparents, siblings, children and grandchildren.

2. Selection of the Home Energy Makeover winner will be determined by a drawing of qualified applicants. The winner will be announced Thursday, August 20, 2009 at KEC's Annual Meeting. The winner will be notified by certified mail. The member selected to participate has two weeks from the point of notification to accept the offer. After this time frame has elapsed another qualified member will be selected and such will continue until a member agrees to participate. The participant agrees to be bound by these Official Rules and the decisions of Kiwash Electric.

3. Member selected to participate in the Home Energy Makeover may waive their right to participate in the demonstration project. The opportunity to participate is not assignable and is nontransferable. The member that is selected to participate in the demonstration project is solely responsible for reporting and payment of any and all applicable taxes. Member selected to participate understands that they will be issued a 1099 for the products and services received as a participant in this demonstration project. Kiwash Electric Cooperative reserves the right to disqualify persons found tampering with or otherwise abusing any aspect of the selection process used to determine the member to participate in this demonstration project.

4. By participating, applicant authorizes the use, without additional compensation, of his or her name and/or likeness and/or voice/photograph and municipality of residence for promotion and/or advertising purposes in any manner and in any medium which may be deemed appropriate by Kiwash Electric for a maximum period of 24 months from the end of the contest.

5. All participants acknowledge that Kiwash Electric and/or any individuals or businesses associated with Kiwash Electric in this project may not be held liable for any loss, damages or injury associated with this demonstration project.

6. Member selected to participate in the demonstration project must sign a release form as prepared and accepted by Kiwash Electric, acknowledging their acceptance and understanding of the complete contest rules.

7. Kiwash Electric Cooperative retains the right, in its absolute and sole discretion, to make substitutions of equivalent kind or approximate value in the event of the unavailability of any prize(s) or component of the prize(s) for any reason whatsoever.

8. This demonstration project is subject to all federal, state and municipal laws.

9. Kiwash Electric Cooperative reserves the right to withdraw or terminate this demonstration project at any time without prior notice.

10. In the event the selection process is compromised by a virus, non-authorized human intervention, tampering or other causes beyond the reasonable control of Kiwash Electric Cooperative which corrupts or impairs the administration, security, fairness or proper operation of the selection process, Kiwash Electric Cooperative reserves the right in its sole discretion to suspend, modify or terminate the selection process. Should the selection process be terminated prior to the stated expiration date, Kiwash Electric Cooperative reserves the right to select a participant based on the entries received before the termination date.

11. By entering the Home Energy Makeover, you agree to be bound by all of the terms and conditions of these Official Rules. If you do not agree with these terms and conditions, do not submit an application.

12. With respect to any disputes regarding the Home Energy Makeover or the selection process, the decision of Kiwash Electric Cooperative is final.

13. These rules are subject to change without notice.

For more details on the Home Energy Makeover, call 888-832-3362.

KEC bylaws list trustee qualifications

Qualifications of a trustee, as listed in the bylaws, Article IV, section 2, states that no person shall be eligible to become or remain a trustee or to hold any position of trust in the Cooperative who: (a) is not a member of the Cooperative and bonafide resident of the particular district which he is to represent; or (b) is in any way employed by or financially interested in a competing enterprise or a business selling electric energy or supplies to the Cooperative or a business primarily engaged in selling electrical or plumbing appliances, fixtures or supplies to the members of the Cooperative; or (c) is the incumbent of or candidate for an elective public office in connection with which a salary or compensation in excess of one hundred dollars per annum is paid; or (d) is an employee of the Cooperative, or has been employed by the Cooperative and termination of his employment has been less than five years; or (e) is a close relative of an incumbent Trustee or an employee of the Cooperative. As used in these bylaws, "close relative" is defined as a person who is related to the principal person by consanguinity or affinity within the third degree, including but not

necessarily limited to a person who is either a spouse, child, grandchild, great grandchild, parent, grandparent, great grandparent, brother, sister, aunt, uncle, nephew, or niece, by blood or in-law of the principal; or (f) has been convicted or pled guilty or nolo contendere to a felony.

The procedure for nominating and electing trustees is outlined in Article III, Section 7, of the by-aws and states as follows: At a meeting of the Board of Trustees, not less than sixty days preceding each annual meeting of the members, the trustees shall fix a date which shall not be less than fourteen or more than thirty days preceding the annual meeting of the members for the holding of a district meeting for the members residing therein in each of the nine districts for the purpose of electing by ballot by and from the members of each district a trustee to serve as a trustee of the Cooperative. The Board of Trustees shall call the meetings and cause notice of each district meeting to be mailed by the secretary to each member not less than ten days before the meeting, which call and notice shall indicate the district, which

each member belongs. Each district meeting shall be called to order by the trustee, or in his absence, by any member residing within the District. The members shall then proceed to elect a chairman, who shall be someone other than a trustee, and a secretary, each to act for the duration of the meeting.

Each trustee shall serve for the period of time for which he is elected or until a successor shall have been elected and shall have qualified.

A quorum is five percent (5%) of fifteen members, whichever is the greater, of the members residing in the district present at such duly called district meetings. Members of other districts at the meeting may be heard, but shall have no vote.

Voting by Proxy shall not be permitted at such district meetings. The member in each voting district receiving the highest number of votes at the election held at such district meeting shall be elected a trustee of the Cooperative to take office immediately following the ensuing annual meeting of the members.

COMING UP in *Kiwash Country*

■ JULY

- 4 Independence Day and Krazy Days Hobart
- 4 Saturday Night Cruise, Weatherford
- 10-11 Christmas in July, Foss
- 10-11 Okie Dust Devil Aerobatics Competition, Weatherford
- 24-29 Quartz Mountain Music Festival Lone Wolf
- 31 Clinton Rodeo

■ AUGUST

- 1 Saturday Night Cruise, Weatherford
- 6-8 Mountain View Free Fair
- 7-8 Tax-Free Weekend, Weatherford

SUBMISSION DETAILS:

Kiwash Electric Cooperative promotes local festivals, rodeos, fairs and other events in our monthly newsletter, *the Kilowatt*. Calendar listings are free.



Please send details to: Lisa Willard, Kiwash Electric, PO Box 100, Cordell, OK 73632, or send e-mail to: lwillard@kiwash.coop. Please send event listings by the 10th of the month prior to publication.

70th Annual Meeting of KIWASH ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE

Thursday, August 20, 2009
7 pm
Cordell High School Auditorium



- CASH PRIZES • \$500, \$250
- REGISTRATION PRIZES
- \$10 CREDIT ON ELECTRIC BILL
- ENTERTAINMENT

Come early and enjoy the Washita County Fair, taking place next door!