

FEBRUARY 2010

the Kilowatt

published monthly for members of
Kiwash Electric Cooperative, Inc.



A SUPPLEMENT TO OKLAHOMA LIVING

Rate reminder:

Kiwash Electric members will pay slightly more for electricity when the new rate goes into effect this month. **Please see page 2 for more info or call your co-op at 888-832-3362.**



ENERGY EFFICIENCY

Tip of the Month

Remember to switch your computers off or use the computer's power management settings to allow standby mode when it's not needed. A computer can use as much electricity as a new refrigerator.

—TOUCHSTONE ENERGY COOPERATIVES

WWW.touchstoneenergysavers.com

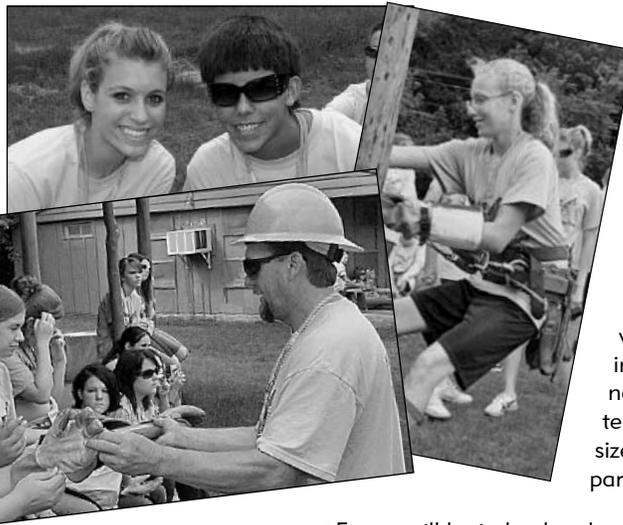
100 WINNING WORDS

That's all it takes to win an adventure at Energy Camp

Two eighth graders attending school in Kiwash Electric service territory could win a four-day fun stay at Oklahoma YouthPower Energy Camp. All it takes is 100 winning words.

Sponsored by Oklahoma's electric cooperatives, Energy Camp will take place June 1 - June 4, 2010 at Red Rock Canyon near Hinton, Okla. The camp helps teens understand cooperative principles and encourages leadership skills through fun games and activities.

Interested teens are encouraged to form a two-person team with a classmate. Each team must submit a short essay by April 1, 2010 on the topic "What would I miss without electricity and why?" The following guidelines apply:



- Essays must be at least 100 words in length.
- Entries may be handwritten legibly or typed and double space on one side of the paper.
- Attach a cover page with the entry that includes each student's name, address and telephone number, T-shirt size, name of school, and parent's names.

• Essays will be judged on knowledge of subject, originality, composition, grammar, spelling and punctuation.

Find more details on Energy Camp at www.kiwash.coop, or contact Lisa Willard at Kiwash Electric, **888-832-3362**.



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

CFLs offer savings

Kiwash Electric members Nellrita and Steward Barrick could lower their electricity bill by a cool grand this year, thanks to a recent switch to compact fluorescent lights (CFLs). Winners of the Kiwash Electric (KEC) Home Energy Makeover, the Barricks received 28 CFL bulbs free of charge. After an evaluation of the home, Kiwash Electric replaced incandescent light bulbs in the Barrick's living room, kitchen, bathroom, bedroom and porch with energy saving CFLs. KEC estimates a saving of around \$40 per CFL bulb, which could amount to a savings of \$1,020 for the Barricks.

Efficient lighting is one of several Energy Makeover improvements planned for the Barrick's home. Watch your newsletter for more details.



Kiwash Electric's Seth Jones installs CFL bulbs at the home of Nellrita and Steward Barrick.

Home Energy
MAKEOVER



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

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INSIDE YOUR CO-OP



By Dennis Krueger
GENERAL MANAGER

Old rates versus new

Change is necessary to provide quality service

Members are asking about our new electric rate format and the reason for the rate increase, which goes into effect this month. In 2009, Kiwash Electric did not make financial margins by selling electricity. We attribute this to the cooler than normal summer and the warmer than normal winter last year. With this fact in-hand, we determined a change was required to minimize our reliance on weather.

Our new electric rate is consistent with the national trend of thinking "green," as well as urging members not to waste energy. Kiwash structured its new electric rate to promote energy conservation and energy efficiency for the benefit of our members and the cooperative. Basically, Kiwash increased its customer charge and decreased the kilowatt-hour (*kwh*) charge to create a better retail rate for the environment.

Why the sudden change in electric rate design?

The old rate structure consisted of a low customer charge and higher energy rates per *kwh*. This encouraged customers to use more electricity by rewarding consumers with lower *kwh* rates as they used more electricity. This worked great when the generation capacity of this nation exceeded the consumption of electricity, but today the generation capacity and the consumption of electricity are close to being equal. There are more consumers, and consumption per consumer is greater than ever before. The historic rate structure is counter-productive to

the national debate on climate issues. Meanwhile, as government officials debate the type of fuel to be used for future generation plants, the construction of lower cost generation facilities is delayed.

The new \$30 customer charge allows Kiwash Electric to collect fixed costs without subsidizing any class of

customers. Over our 70-year life span, Kiwash Electric has experienced a dramatic decline in the rural population. Today, Kiwash has more non-resident accounts for fence chargers and livestock water wells than rural residential homes. The new electric rate structure removes any subsidizing of one class by another class.

For the past three years, Kiwash has promoted energy efficiency as a way for consumers to improve their homes or businesses by using less electricity. Like it or not, energy conservation is necessary. The new rate structure—one that is promoted by the electric industry—is necessary to protect the soundness of Kiwash Electric Cooperative.

New rate effective Feb. 1: What's the difference?

Note: Individual rates may vary based on consumption. Rates also vary slightly depending on the rate period (June-August; September-November; December - February; March-May).



Residential consumers averaging 1,160 *kwh* per month will notice an increase of \$3.37 to \$5.99 per month.



Residential all electric consumers averaging 1,163 *kwh* to 1,845 *kwh* will see an increase of \$2.53 to \$3.82 per month.



Non residential rates with an average usage of 600 *kwh*/month will increase by \$7.07 per month.

The cornerstone of the new rate structure recovers fixed costs through the customer charges and recovers variable costs through the electric energy rates, or *kwh* charges. This assures all Kiwash member-owners are treated fairly. This is a fundamental principle of sound rate design and one the Kiwash Electric board of directors believes is vital to the co-op. The rate may not look like the electric rate of old, however, it should prove beneficial for the future.

New Co-op Connections discount!



Half price tickets to PBR Built Ford Tough Series

Kiwash Electric Cooperative announces a very exciting Co-op Connection card discount provided by Touchstone Energy Cooperatives of Oklahoma and the Professional Bull Riders (PBR) Built Ford Tough Series.

Through their sponsorship, the Touchstone Energy Cooperatives of Oklahoma have made possible "Oklahoma Youth Expo Night" at the upcoming Built Ford Tough Series event.

Youth Expo Night will take place at the Ford Center in Oklahoma City on Saturday, February 13 at 6:50 pm.

Show your Co-op Connections Card and purchase half price tickets in Section 300 for only \$10 for this performance.

All proceeds from this special event will go to benefit the Justin Whitefield Junior Livestock Memorial Fund. Justin Whitefield grew the Oklahoma Youth Expo from a single, \$1,000 scholarship in 2002 to an event that now awards over \$1.5 million dollars in awards and scholarships to Oklahoma young people

In order to get your special \$10 tickets—and contribute to this worthy cause— simply go to the Co-op Connections card Web site at: <http://www.connections.coop/index.php?coopID=40> and click on *View All Regional Discounts*. Click on the PBR discount and click on the ticket link. Follow the instructions on the right side of the page, click on *Find Tickets*, fill in number of tickets you wish to purchase, and enter *whitey* in the description box, then click on *Find Tickets*.

We here at Kiwash Electric hope you and your family will consider taking part in this special event and contribute to a fund that supports the Oklahoma Youth Expo Scholarship Program.



Our Energy, Our Future™

A Dialogue With America

Climate change legislation is now moving through the U.S. Congress. Urge your elected officials to work with electric cooperatives to find a fair, workable solution by keeping future carbon taxes:

- FAIR**
- AFFORDABLE**
- ACHIEVABLE**

Visit www.ourenergy.coop and join the campaign!

RECIPE BOX

Hot Date with a Chicken

INGREDIENTS

1/4 cup dates, pitted and chopped
 1 small apple, peeled, cored and chopped
 2 tablespoons chopped dried apricots
 2 tablespoons raisins
 1 tablespoon grated orange zest
 1 tablespoon orange juice
 1/4 teaspoon cayenne pepper
 1/4 teaspoon ground cardamom
 1/4 teaspoon ground mace
 2 (6 oz.) skinless, boneless chicken breast halves
 2 tablespoons vegetable oil

DIRECTIONS

Preheat an oven to 350 °F.

Combine the dates, apple, apricots, raisins, orange zest, and orange juice in a small bowl. Season with cayenne pepper, cardamom, and mace; mix well.

Place the chicken breasts between two sheets of heavy plastic (re-sealable freezer bags work well) on a solid, level surface. Firmly pound the chicken with the smooth side of a meat mallet to a thickness of about 1/4 inch. Mound the fruit filling on the flattened breasts and roll up, tucking in the ends. Secure the chicken with toothpicks.

Heat the vegetable oil in an oven proof skillet over medium-high heat. Add the chicken breasts, and cook until browned on all sides, about 5 minutes. Place in the preheated oven, and continue cooking the chicken breasts until the filling is hot and the juices run clear, 20 to 25 minutes. An instant-read thermometer inserted into the center should read at least 165°F.

YIELD: 2 stuffed breasts.



Love your appliances

They'll thank you with savings

This Valentine's Day, show your trusty household appliances a little love—and you'll keep them humming all year long. These simple maintenance tips can extend the life of your largest electric appliances and help them operate more efficiently, saving you money on your monthly energy bill.

Once a year, shut off the water to your water heater and drain the tank completely. Then turn the incoming water on and off alternatively for 20 seconds to flush minerals and sediment that collect at the bottom of the tank and cause it to operate inefficiently.

If you have an older refrigerator with condenser coils at the back or bottom, vacuum them to remove dust that impairs the efficiency of the unit. To ensure the refrigerator and freezer doors seal tightly, place a dollar bill between the door frame and the gasket. If the dollar bill pulls out easily or falls out, the gasket needs replacing.

Find more energy saving ideas and tips at www.touchstoneenergysaver.com, your cooperative's online energy resource.



Pull your clothes dryer out from the wall and remove the vent tube from the back of the dryer. Using your hand and a vacuum, remove built-up lint from the back of the dryer and inside the vent tubing.

Remove plant overgrowth and debris from around the air conditioner's outdoor compressor unit or your heat pump to prevent the system from working harder than necessary to heat and cool your home.

COMING UP in Kiwash Country

■ FEBRUARY

- 5 Rotary Chili Supper, Frisco Center Clinton
- 6 Corn Bible Academy German Feast and Benefit Auction
- 12 SWOSU Jazz Festival, SWOSU Fine Arts Center, Weatherford
- 23 Good Morning Mixer
Good Neighbor Care of Clinton
- 19-21 SWOSU Playhouse presents "Seussical the Musical," 7:30 pm, Clinton
- 25-27 SWOSU Playhouse presents "Seussical the Musical," 7:30 pm, Clinton

■ MARCH

- 4-9 SWOSU Theatre presents "Grease," Hilltop Theatre, SWOSU Campus, Weatherford
- 27-28 Home & Garden Expo, Clinton

SUBMISSION DETAILS:



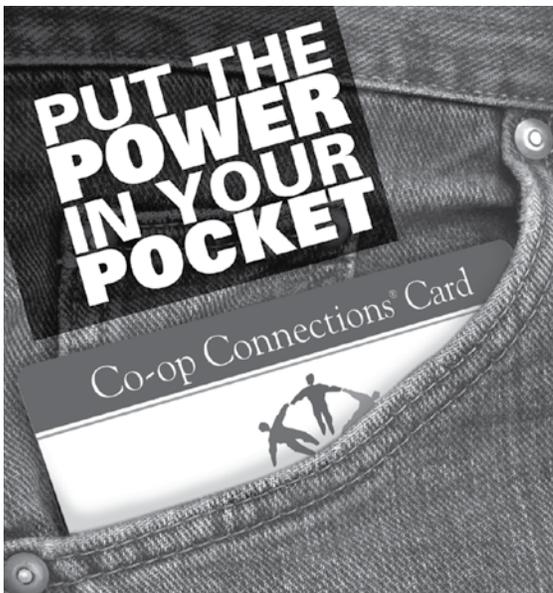
Kiwash Electric Cooperative promotes local festivals, rodeos, fairs and other events in our monthly newsletter, *the Kilowatt*. Calendar listings are free and it's easy to submit your information.

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 12th of the month prior to publication.

TO REPORT AN OUTAGE:

888-832-3362 • 580-832-3361

Please have your account number handy when you call. If possible, please tell the dispatcher the time your power went off.



- More than \$1 million saved by Oklahomans every year.
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- Save on travel, dining, entertainment, and more in your hometown and across the nation.



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to see where you can save