

the Kilowatt

JUNE 2011

published monthly for members of
Kiwash Electric Cooperative, Inc.

A SUPPLEMENT TO OKLAHOMA LIVING

Save the date!

The Kiwash Electric Cooperative Annual Meeting will take place on **Thursday, August 18** at the Cordell High School auditorium. Plan on attending this special meeting. Please watch your newsletter for more details!



ENERGY EFFICIENCY

Tip of the Month

Does your home have a window air conditioner? Make sure that your window unit is properly weather stripped, and clean the filter monthly. Keep "fresh air" vents on window A/C units closed.

—TOUCHSTONE ENERGY COOPERATIVES



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

Students tour Blue Canyon Wind Farm

Earth Day Celebration teaches kids about wind power

Over 400 area students and teachers visited and toured the Blue Canyon Wind Farm on April 20 in recognition of Earth Day. Students had a chance to see the majestic wind turbines near Lawton and they participated in numerous hands on activities. These included an electrical safety demonstration, a hands-on anemometer project, a recycling relay and a coloring contest.

First through fifth graders attended this year's activities, marking the seventh time that events have been hosted at the Blue Canyon Wind Farm in commemoration of Earth Day. Schools attending included: Cordell, Binger-Oney, Carnegie, Navajo and Walters.

Kiwash Electric hosted approximately 50 Cordell 1st Graders this year.

Western Farmers Electric



Cordell first graders Blaine Larsen, Dawson Willard and Rylee Taylor hold the anemometers they created during their visit to Blue Canyon Wind Farm. Over 400 students from area schools toured the farm on April 20 in recognition of Earth Day. PHOTO/LISA WILLARD.

Cooperative (WFEC), who is purchasing the wind energy produced by Phase 1 of this project, and Horizon Wind Energy, the project developer, hosted the annual event. Five of the 19 distribution cooperatives served by WFEC selected and invited schools from their service area to take part in the event. Participating cooperatives

included Caddo Electric Cooperative, Binger; Cotton Electric Cooperative, Walters; Kiwash Electric Cooperative, Cordell and Southwest Rural Electric Cooperative, Tipton.

Blue Canyon Wind Farm (Phase 1) has a capacity of 74.25 megawatts, which is received from 45 of the 129 turbines

that span the ridge line along the Slick Hills area. The annual electricity production from Phase 1 provides enough power for the electrical needs of over 20,000 Oklahoma homes.

WFEC does not retain or retire all of the environmental attributes from energy generated by wind facilities.

Support Oklahoma's clean, green wind power industry by signing up for WindWorks, a program offered by your electric cooperative. When you sign up, you are ensuring that a portion of your energy usage is supplied from a wind generated source.



To sign up, please call:
888-832-3362



A Touchstone Energy
Cooperative

KIWASH ELECTRIC
COOPERATIVE, INC.

*Providing the service
that lights up your life.*

Office Location

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INSIDE YOUR CO-OP



By Dennis Krueger
GENERAL MANAGER

Capital Credits: Notice of Allocation

This month you will receive a "Notice of Capital Credit Allocation" on your monthly bill. This represents your share of Kiwash Electric Cooperative as a member-owner. It shows your 2010 capital credit allocation and the total unretired balance of your capital account.

Kiwash Electric Cooperative is a member-owned electric utility organized as a cooperative business to operate on a non-profit basis for the mutual benefit of its members. The cooperative allocates as capital credits all operating margins as shown on the year-end financial statement. The amount shown on your personal notice represents your share of the operating margins realized by your cooperative for the year indicated.

Your share is calculated by your individual energy usage/sales in that year compared to the total energy sales of the cooperative.

You are the stakeholders or the stockholders of Kiwash Electric Cooperative and your voice is represented by your locally elected

board member. The money represented by members' capital credits is used by your cooperative

Kiwash Electric will distribute \$143,771.12 in capital credits to members this year. The amount allocated to a member depends on your electricity usage. The amount of your allocation will appear as a "Notice of Capital Credit Allocation" on your monthly electric bill.

to maintain reserves for financing plant expansion and replacements, storm damage recovery, and other unforeseen contingencies.

The decision to refund capital credits rests solely with the board of directors and is dependent on the financial condition of the cooperative and the provisions of its bylaws.

In 2011, Kiwash Electric Cooperative

will pay out a total of \$143,771.12 in capital credits based on a 50/50, first in/first out and last in/first out formula.

Therefore, fifty percent of the amount paid out will be based on the fiscal year 2010 and fifty percent based from the oldest fiscal years still on record.

The board will determine the date and method of this refund in the next few months.

Kiwash Electric Cooperative has issued over \$1 million dollars to our member-owners via capital credits since its inception in 1938.

Remember, the notice you will receive will be on your current monthly bill. We want you, the member-owners and stockholders, to be aware that it is "good business to do business with your business, and Kiwash Electric Cooperative is your business!"

Note: This article concludes our series on capital credits. Part one of the series appeared in the May issue of the *Kilowatt*. View your newsletter online at www.kiwash.coop.

Kiwash Kilowatt gets COLORFUL

Your eyes aren't playing tricks on you: The Kiwash Electric *Kilowatt* is a lot more colorful this month. The recent switch to a different printer means your newsletter is now printed on a better quality of paper in full color—at no additional cost. The improvements should improve the looks of your monthly newsletter, and make it easier to read. We hope you enjoy it.



KEEPING your COOL...

Tips for beating high summer bills

Saving energy doesn't mean sacrificing comfort. Here are nine ways you can reduce your energy consumption this summer *without* feeling uncomfortable:

1. Replace your manual thermostat with an electronic model.

New thermostats have automatic settings that can change indoor temperatures at strategic times of the day. For example, you can program your thermostat to move the temperature a little higher after the family leaves in the morning, and to lower it before everyone gets home

2. Tune-up your air conditioning system.

A licensed a/c tech will check the levels of refrigerant in the system and determine whether any parts are wearing out or running inefficiently. The better you maintain your system, the less it will cost you to operate it.

3. Close the blinds when direct sunlight hits your house.

The less sun shining into your home, the cooler it will stay, which means your air conditioning won't need to kick on as often.

4. Run your dishwasher, washing machine and clothes dryer after



dark. Most people do these chores after they return from work in the late afternoon, causing the demand for electricity to soar. 5. *Turn off the lights, computer, TV and battery chargers.* Don't waste electricity by allowing your appliances to use it when you're not using your appliances.

6. *Replace incandescent light bulbs with compact fluorescent light bulbs,* which use less energy, last longer and emit less heat.

7. *Air-dry your laundry.* Hang clothes outside on a clothesline when the weather is nice.

8. *Microwave your dinner.* A microwave oven uses less energy to cook the same food as the cook top or the oven.

9. *Shop smart.* If you're replacing any of your home's appliances this summer, choose Energy Star-rated models. They're guaranteed to be more energy-efficient than appliances that don't qualify for the label.

RECIPE BOX

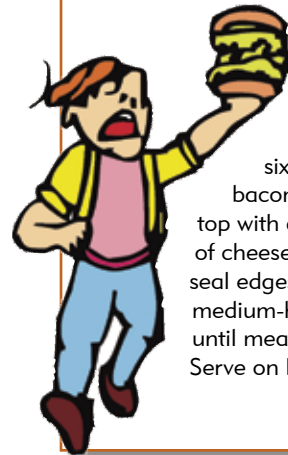
Paul Bunyan Burger

INGREDIENTS

- 6 bacon strips, diced
- 1 cup sliced fresh mushrooms
- 3 thin slices onion
- 1 egg, beaten
- 1 tablespoon Worcestershire sauce
- 1/2 teaspoon seasoned salt
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 1/2 teaspoon pepper
- 1/2 teaspoon prepared horseradish
- 1 pound ground beef
- 3 slices processed American cheese
- 3 hamburger buns, split

DIRECTIONS

In a skillet, cook bacon until crisp. Remove with a slotted spoon to paper towels. In the drippings, saute mushrooms and onion until tender. Transfer to a bowl with a slotted spoon; add bacon. In another bowl, combine the egg, Worcestershire sauce, seasoned salt, salt, pepper and horseradish; add beef and mix well. Shape into six 1/4-in.-thick patties. Divide bacon mixture among three patties. Top with a cheese slice; fold in corners of cheese. Top with remaining patties; seal edges. Grill, uncovered, over medium-hot heat for 10-12 minutes or until meat juices run clear, turning once. Serve on buns.



RECYCLE YOUR OLD FRIDGE—AND SAVE!

When you bought your new refrigerator, did you put the old one in your basement or garage to use for overflow items and during parties? You're paying dearly for it if you did.

Older refrigerators and freezers use up to twice the energy of new, energy-efficient models, especially if the new one has an Energy Star label. In fact, it could cost you up to \$100 a year on your electric bill to run that old energy hog.

Plus, using a refrigerator in a garage is even more inefficient. When it's hot outside, it gets really hot in the garage, which probably is not insulated or air conditioned. So your refrigerator has to work overtime to keep cool inside.

The solution: Have your refrigerator hauled away to a place that recycles older models. Buying a small, new unit to handle your overflow will be worth it as it saves money on your electric bill over its life.

PLAY IT SAFE

How to survive a tornado

Know when and where to hide

Strong thunderstorms and tornadoes are simply a part of life in Oklahoma, but that doesn't mean we should take them for granted. With the storm season upon us, please take a moment to review these storm safety tips from the Federal Emergency Management Association (FEMA). Knowing what to do when a storm approaches can mean the difference between life and death.

Where to seek shelter

If you don't have a storm shelter nearby, basements and interior rooms are the safest places to be during a tornado.

Put as many walls and floors as possible between you and the tornado. If there is no basement, go to an interior room on the lowest floor, such as a bathroom or closet. The bathtub and toilet are anchored directly into the ground, and sometimes they are the only thing left in place after the tornado.

Getting into the bathtub with a couch cushion or mattress over you provides protection on all sides, plus an extra anchor to the foundation. Plumbing pipes may or may not help hold the walls together, but all the extra framing that it takes to put a bathroom together may make a big difference.

If there's no downstairs bathroom and your closets are all packed, a hall or stairwell may be the next best thing. Remember to stay away from windows.

If possible, crawl under a sturdy bench or table. Crouch down and place your head between your knees,

using your arms to cover your head. For added protection, cover yourself with a blanket or mattress. If you have a motorcycle helmet or some other type of head protection, wear it. You may feel silly doing it, but it will protect you from flying debris.

Most tornado deaths occur in cars. If you're in a car, abandon it immediately and find a ditch to lie in. Never try to outrun a tornado; it may be moving faster than you think!

If you live in a mobile home, get out immediately and go to the lowest floor of a sturdy, nearby building or storm shelter. Mobile homes, even if tied down, offer little protection from tornadoes.

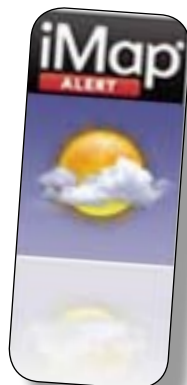
Wherever you live, a weather radio is wise investment. It will alert you when bad weather approaches your area, and buys you the time you need to take shelter.

For more storm safety advice, visit www.fema.gov.

Free weather alerts via cell phone or email!

Free IMapAlert delivers emergency weather bulletins via email or text message, plus updates from your co-op during emergency situations. Service includes seven day forecasts to your email box and more. Get it FREE!

Visit www.kiwash.coop for details.



COMING UP in Kiwash Country

■ JUNE

- 1 SWOSU summer session begins
- 4 Clinton Art in the Park, Acme Brick Park, Clinton
- 14 Flag Day
- 17-18 Heartland Car Cruise and Poker Run Main Street and Rader Park Weatherford
- 18 Hobart Chamber of Commerce Golf Tournament, Hobart Municipal Golf Course
- 19 Father's Day
- 27-29 Stafford Air and Space Museum Summer Camp, 580-772-5871

■ JULY

- 4 Independence Day. Kiwash Electric office closed for the holiday.
- 8-9 Okie Dust Devil Aerobatic Competition Stafford Air and Space Museum, Weatherford
- 14 Flag Day
- 23-31 Quartz Mountain Music Festival, Quartz Mountain Resort, Lone Wolf

■ AUGUST

- 20 Quartz Mountain Flyer Excursion Train, Lone Wolf, 580-846-9078
- 18 Kiwash Electric Cooperative Annual Meeting, Cordell High School Auditorium
- 19-21 Townwide Garage Sale, 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.

If you have questions about submitting an event, or need to speak with a Kiwash representative about other matters, please call **888-832-3362**, or visit www.kiwash.coop.