

the Kilowatt

OCTOBER 2011

published monthly for members of
Kiwash Electric Cooperative, Inc.

A SUPPLEMENT TO OKLAHOMA LIVING

Run the Blue Streak!

Run or jog your way to the finish line during Cordell's Running the Blue Streak 5k run and Kid's Fun Run. The event takes place on Saturday, October 15. Registration begins at 7 am at the Cordell High School. Race begins at 9 am. For more details, please visit www.signmeup.com/site/online-event-registration/77987.



ENERGY EFFICIENCY

Tip of the Month

When buying a new appliance, check the black and yellow EnergyGuide label. This label provides an estimate of the product's energy consumption and efficiency. It also shows the highest and lowest energy efficiency estimates of similar models. Most appliances are required to carry these labels.

—US DEPT. OF ENERGY



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

Electric cooperatives and other members of the co-op family take center stage globally in 2012, designated the International Year of Cooperatives.

The celebration begins in October when U.S. cooperatives traditionally celebrate National Cooperative Month.

The International Year of Cooperatives' theme, "Cooperative Enterprises Build a Better World," resonates with co-ops in the electric, banking, food, retail, housing, and marketing arenas.

"We're surrounded by a diverse mix of cooperatives," states Glenn English, CEO of the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NRECA), the national service organization for more than 900 not-for-profit electric cooperatives and public power districts. "No matter what kind of co-op you belong to, two things are clear: we put people first, and we are innovators. By getting neighbors and communities to work together, co-op members build a better world."



A COOPERATIVE CELEBRATION

2012 declared "International Year of Cooperatives"

Electric cooperatives like Kiwash Electric Cooperative are leaders, delivering power and light to 42 million consumers in 47 states covering more than 75 percent of the nation's landmass. Kiwash Electric founded by members of our community in 1938, serves 6,200 members in portions of Washita, Kiowa, Custer, Dewey, Roger Mills and Blaine Counties.

Not only does 2012 mark a global celebration of the cooperative business model, it also marks the 50th anniversary of NRECA

International Programs, a division of NRECA. The theme, "Cooperative Enterprises Build a Better World," shines in the work NRECA International Programs does every day.

Working together, more than 300 U.S. electric cooperatives have delivered the benefits of safe and reliable electric service to more than 100 million people in 40-plus countries since November 1962.

"Building a better world takes experience, and no group has

more experience in bringing low-cost power to remote areas than electric co-ops," explains Glenn English. In the United States, co-ops helped electricity evolve from a luxury to an essential part of daily life. Yet more than 2 billion people around the globe still live without power—64 million in Latin America, 500 million in Africa, and more than 1 billion in Asia.

Learn more about how you can help electric co-ops build a better world at www.NRECAFoundation.org.



GET CASH BACK!

Replace your old gas or propane furnace with an energy efficient heat pump and we'll give you cash rebate: \$125/ton on new ground or air source units (13-16 SEER), or \$175/ton on units over 16 SEER. Replace an older electric system with a new ground or air source heat pump and earn \$50/ton (13-16 SEER); or \$75/ton for 16 SEER or above.

We also offer rebates on new electric water heaters. For complete details, please give us a call at **888-832-3362**, or visit us online at www.kiwash.coop.



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

FDR's legacy continues

Electric co-ops boast a 70 year success rate

I often heard my parents say, "Those were the good old days" when referring to their childhood or early adult life. Today, with a study of history and statistics, we might question if in fact those were "the good old days." Indeed, life has changed dramatically since the 30s.

My parents lived through the Great Depression. The Great Depression began with the Wall Street Crash of October, 1929, and rapidly spread worldwide. The market crash marked the beginning of a decade of high unemployment, poverty, low profits, deflation, plunging farm incomes, and lost opportunities for economic growth and personal advancement.

Industries that suffered the most included construction, agriculture as Dust-Bowl conditions persisted in the agricultural heartland, shipping, mining, and logging, as well as durable goods like automobiles and appliances that could be postponed. The economy reached bottom in the winter of 1932-33; then came four years of very rapid growth until 1937, when the Recession of 1937 brought back 1934 levels of unemployment.

The Depression caused major political changes in America. Three years into the Depression, Herbert Hoover lost the 1932 presidential election to Franklin Delano Roosevelt (FDR) in a sweeping landslide. Roosevelt's economic recovery plan, the New Deal, instituted unprecedented programs for relief, recovery and reform, and brought

about a major realignment of American politics. The New Deal did include the Rural Electrification Act (REA) that allowed for the creation of Kiwash Electric Cooperative in 1938.

While cleaning out some old files Gene Smith, a Kiwash Electric employee, uncovered some old USDA articles that addressed family farms and electricity. The USDA statistics within these articles emphasized family farms and electricity. In 1935, there were 213,325 farms in Oklahoma with only 2.6 percent having electricity. In 1956, there were 118,979 farms in Oklahoma with 90.9 percent having electricity. In 1956, U.S. farms with electric power were approaching 95 percent as compared to 10.9 percent in 1935. A quick glance at 2007 statistics indicates Oklahoma has 82,500 farms and all have access to electricity.

I have two quick observations: The first interesting fact is the decline in the number of family farms from 1935 (213,325) and 2007 (82,500). The Great Depression did take a toll on farms; however, the decline is still continuing. For Kiwash Electric Cooperative, our mission has changed from providing electricity strictly to farms in 1938, to providing electricity to residential and commercial accounts in our service territory. Today, Kiwash sells roughly 66 percent of our electricity to commercial accounts and the balance to residential and farm accounts.

The second observation: In twenty-one years (1935 – 1956) our electric founding fathers quickly expanded into rural areas to reduce the percentages of non-electric farms to full power. Many miles of lines were installed to increase electricity usage from 2.6 percent to 90.9 percent in Oklahoma alone. It must have been a boom for the rural Oklahoma economy to see such activity. The efficiency and productivity of farms should have increased fourfold in this same short twenty-one year span. Thus, bringing greater prosperity to the rural sectors of the economy.

FDR summed it up nicely in a speech in Warm Springs, Georgia on August 11, 1938 when he said: "Electricity is a modern necessity of life and ought to be found in every village, every home, and every farm in every part of the United States. The dedication of this REA project in Georgia is a symbol of the progress we are making—and we are not going to stop."

FDR's legacy continues through Kiwash Electric and over 900 other electric cooperatives across this great country. This is a rural economic development plan that has lasted over 70 years, and we continue to thank the FDR administration for their foresight. To me, we are living in the good old days and may God continue to bless us!

PLAY IT SAFE

DON'T LET ELECTRICAL HAZARDS Haunt your Halloween!

Halloween is the most festively frightening night of the year. But don't make yours fraught with danger. Here are some safety reminders:

- ◆ As you're decorating, make sure you and your parents check for cracked sockets, frayed, loose or bare wires, and loose connections.
- ◆ Fasten all outdoor lights securely to trees and other firm supports. Do not use nails or tacks that could puncture insulating cords and damage wires.
- ◆ Make sure decorative lighting is well-ventilated, protected from weather, and remains a safe distance from anything flammable like dry leaves and shrubs. Do not coil extension cords while in use or tuck under rugs or drapes.
- ◆ Make sure all outdoor electrical lights and decorations are plugged into an outlet protected with a ground fault circuit interrupter (GFCI). If your outlets aren't equipped with GFCIs, have an electrician install them or buy a GFCI adapter plug.



Don't overload outlets with too many extension cords and strands of lights.

- ◆ Keep power cords off walkways and porches that trick-or-treaters may use. You don't want them to trip.
- ◆ Have mom or dad leave the porch light on for trick-or-treaters, and be sure to turn out all spooky lights and decorations before leaving home or going to bed. This will also save energy.

For more tips, please visit www.SafeElectricity.org or www.kiwash.coop.

COOLER WEATHER IS ON THE WAY...

It's time to inspect your heating system



The best time to have your heat inspected is after the warm summer air is long gone but before the winter chill sets in.

It's important to have your heating system inspected every year before heating season kicks in. A licensed service technician can warn you about problems—and fix them—before they become so big that your system shuts down during the dead of winter, leaving your house uncomfortably cold for a day or more, or causes you to pay more than necessary for energy wasted.

Of course, if you put off your inspection until November or later, you can still get one any time. The important thing is to have a pair of professional eyes on your system at least once a year. For more energy saving advice, please visit

www.kiwash.coop.

Spooky Witches Fingers

INGREDIENTS

- 1 cup butter, softened
- 1 cup sugar
- 1 egg
- 1 tsp almond extract
- 1 tsp vanilla extract
- 2 2/3 cups flour
- 1 tsp baking powder
- 1 tsp salt
- 3/4 cup whole almonds
- 1 (.75 ounce) tube red decorating gel



DIRECTIONS

Combine the butter, sugar, egg, almond extract, and vanilla extract in a mixing bowl. Beat together with an electric mixer; gradually add the flour, baking powder, and salt, continually beating; refrigerate 20 to 30 minutes.

Preheat oven to 325° F. Lightly grease baking sheets.

Remove dough from refrigerator in small amounts. Scoop 1 heaping teaspoon at a time onto a piece of waxed paper. Use the waxed paper to roll the dough into a thin finger-shaped cookie. Press one almond into one end of each cookie to give the appearance of a long fingernail. Squeeze cookie near the tip and again near the center of each to give the impression of knuckles. You can also cut into the dough with a sharp knife at the same points to help give a more finger-like appearance. Arrange the shaped cookies on the baking sheets.

Bake in the preheated oven until the cookies are slightly golden in color, 20 to 25 minutes.

Remove the almond from the end of each cookie; squeeze a small amount of red decorating gel into the cavity; replace the almond to cause the gel to ooze out around the tip of the cookie.

HAVE YOU MOVED?

If you've recently married, changed your name, or moved to a new location, please let Kiwash Electric know. Accurate member records help us contact you for planned outages and other routine maintenance. We appreciate your cooperation!

LEEDEY TURNS 100

Centennial salutes town's pioneer history

The town of Leedey celebrates its 100th birthday on October 15, but its colorful past actually began much earlier. The California Road crossed north of Leedey in 1849. Here, a large party of "gold seekers" camped en route to California. The party traveled under military escort under the command of Captain R. B. Marcy. Travelers used the California Road for over 50 years. Located east of town are traces of the western cattle trails to Dodge City, Kansas, from Texas ranches.

Amos Leedey built Leedey's first building in 1899, and as a result, the town was named after him. Between 1900 and 1909, the buildings and residence were moved and the actual thriving country town settled in its new location. In 1911, the completion of the MKT Railroad caused business to boom and it was the beginning of the present Leedey.

The first schoolhouse was one-half mile south of town, where the cotton gin was later located. In 1974, Leedey operated the only cotton gin in Dewey County.

Over the years, Leedey withstood many hardships — the Dust Bowl, the school building burning in 1935, and a tornado on May 31, 1947 that claimed the lives of six Leedey residents. Two World Wars took a toll on the lives and families of the area. In 1972, the



Save the date!

LEEDEY CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION

On October 15, residents of Leedey will recognize the town's unique history during the Leedey Centennial Celebration. Events kick off with a Celebration Parade at 10 am, followed by the official opening of the Leedey time capsule, which was dedicated in 1961 with instructions to open in 2011. Other events during the weekend include an Alumni Banquet on Friday night, a 5k Run, an antique car show, a trade/crafts fair, games, karaoke and entertainment, plus food, fireworks and much more. Come join us!

Call the Leedey City Hall for more details 580-488-3616.

railroad abandoned the community. Despite the travails, Leedey, population 345, remains a great little town.

Today Leedey's claim to fame is the birthplace of Darla Hood, of "Little Rascals." The community supports 29 retail establishments. The public school system serves pre-K through 12th grade with a current enrollment of 205 students.

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COMING UP

in Kiwash Country

■ OCTOBER

- 1 Pumpkin Palooza on Courthouse Square, 10 am, Hobart,
- 1 Pumpkin Chunkin', 3 pm, Hobart Municipal Airport
- 1 Wellness Expo, SWOSU Wellness Center, 10 am - 1 pm
- Nov 12 P Bar Farms Corn Maze & Pumpkin Patch, 10108 N 2440 Rd, Weatherford, 405-556-1069
- 8 Fall Townwide Garage Sale, Hobart
- 12 SWOSU Panorama Event, "The Buried Life," 7:30 - 9:30 pm, SWOSU Fine Arts Center, Weatherford
- 15-16 Centennial Celebration of Leedey 580-488-3616
- 15 Cordell Pumpkin Festival
- 15 Running a Blue Streak 5K run and Kid's Run, Cordell High School. Registration opens at 7 am. Run begins at 9 am. 580-832-1096
- 15 SWOSU Homecoming
- 20-21 SWOSU Fall Break
- 27 Hobart Chamber of Commerce Ambassadors Women's Friendship Dinner, 6 pm doors open to view tables, 6:30 pm dinner. 580-726-2553
- 29 Quartz Mountain Flyer 2 hour train trip boarding @ 9:30 am. Tickets \$18 for adults & \$12 for children 4-12. Contact 580.846.9078

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.