

Youth Deadlines

The deadline for Kiwash Electric's Scholarship Contest entries and Energy Camp applications is April 15. For more details, please turn to page 3.



ENERGY EFFICIENCY

Tip of the Month

Keep energy efficiency in mind as you plan spring landscaping. Properly selected and planted trees, shrubs, and bushes can create a windbreak that lowers home heating bills in the winter and insulates your home year-round. Before you start, check proper plants and techniques at EnergySavers.gov.

—US DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Two teens win free trip to Washington DC

Banquet honors Kiwash Electric Youth Tour winners and finalists

A banquet honoring finalists in the Kiwash Electric Youth Tour Contest concluded March 14 with the announcement of the 2013 Youth Tour winners.

Two teens will fly to Washington D.C. on June 14 to participate in the week-long, all expenses paid trip. Winners are Name Here, What School, and Name Here, What School.

Kiwash selects Youth Tour finalists by giving students a test over cooperative-oriented subject matter. The highest test scores determines the finalists. At the banquet, all finalists are interview by contest



Kiwash Electric 2013 Youth Tour winners are (l-r) Tyler Lucas, Arapaho Butler High School; and Elise Cornell, Thomas Fay Custer High School. Also pictured are Jack Sawatzky, president of the Kiwash Electric board of trustees, and Youth Tour finalists Chandler Smith, Hobart High School; and Dayana Barrios, Clinton High School.

judges who announce the two winners at the end of the evening.

"We consider every finalist to be a winner because they are all outstanding

kids. Each one deserves our thanks and congratulations," said Dennis Krueger, Kiwash Electric general manager.



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



Safety First, Then and Now

Kiwash Electric employees admire the co-op's safety record in this photo dated March 15, 1959. (L-r) Jim Allen, director of operations, and Clyde Brunner, line superintendent.





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

 Find us
on Facebook

STAFF

Dennis Krueger
MANAGER

Wendy Putman
DIRECTOR OF
FINANCE

Lisa Willard
DIRECTOR OF
COMMUNICATIONS

Roy Dewees
DIRECTOR OF
OPERATIONS

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

OFFICERS

Jack Sawatzky
PRESIDENT

Robert Travis
VICE PRESIDENT

Virginia Walker
SEC.-TREASURER

John Schaufele
ASST. SEC.-TREASURER

DIRECTORS

Ralph Cunningham
Leslie Hinds
Rex Eagan

INSIDE YOUR CO-OP



By Dennis Krueger
GENERAL MANAGER

Blizzard Can't Freeze Facebook

Social media keeps members connected during snowstorm

What a sign of the times: The late winter snowstorm on February 25 left 75 percent of Kiwash Electric members in the dark, but thanks to Facebook (and battery backup) the lines of communication stayed open. By using email and Facebook to communicate with Kiwash Electric, many of our members were able to bypass busy phone lines to report power outages, receive outage updates, and basically 'stay in the loop' until the weather cleared and power was restored.

Throughout the situation our members exhibited graciousness and understanding toward one another and our crews. This is evident from the many comments on our Facebook page. Some members even passed along concerns about elderly neighbors and others trapped by the storm, so that our crews would know to check on them. We want you to know how much we appreciate these alerts, and thank you all for your kindness and cooperation.

It was quite a snowstorm! The wet, heavy snow coupled with 50 mph winds caused lines to "gallop" together, snapping them in many places throughout our service area. At one time, over 3,000 members were without power.

Since 2001, Kiwash Electric has upgraded over 700 miles of poles and wires. Decreasing the span between poles from 500 feet to 260 feet serves to "harden" lines, making

them more resistant to ice damage. Because of these improvements, fewer poles were damaged in the recent storm; however the high winds did buck wires together, break insulators, and burn wires in half.

High drifts and true 'white out' conditions created extremely difficult working conditions for our crews, which hindered our repair time. Our thanks goes out to public bodies and contractors such as Kauk Construction; Merkey Dozer; Custer and Washita County Emergency Managers; Washita, Custer and Dewey

County Commissioners; City of Clinton; and a host of farmers and ranchers who worked with us to pull our trucks through impassable roads and even open the roads for our crews.

At the height of the storm, one Kiwash lineman found himself trapped in his truck after getting stuck in snow drifts along an isolated highway. County emergency crews attempted rescue him, but they got stuck, too. Fortunately, our lineman had enough fuel to safely weather the storm in his vehicle until crews could reach him the next morning. It was that kind of storm.

With that in mind, we also want to acknowledge the great repair work offered by Caddo Electric Cooperative; Southwest Rural Electric Association; Calvary Construction; Davis Construction; and our own Kiwash Electric crews. The work was hard and the hours were long—thank you!



A co-op lineman works to restore service following the February 25 blizzard. PHOTO/LISA WILLARD.



A FEW THINGS YOU
SHOULD KNOW ABOUT

Apply for Energy Camp by April 15. Eighth graders interested in attending YouthPower Energy Camp should turn in their entries and applications by April 15, 2013. Teens are asked to partner with a friend to write a brief essay (100 words or more) on the topic "Kiwash Electric Cooperative Celebrates 75 Years: 1938-2013." Kiwash Electric will select one team (two teens) to attend Energy Camp. Energy Camp will be held on May 28-31, 2013 at Camp Hinton. For more details, please contact Lisa Willard at **888-832-3362** or visit www.kiwash.coop.

Video/Essay Contest ends April 15.

Entries for Kiwash Electric's \$500 college scholarship competition must be turned in by April 15, 2013. The coop will award four scholarships to graduating seniors. Scholarship funds may be used at any two- or four-year college or technical school. To be considered, applicants must produce a short video or write an essay on the theme "Kiwash Electric Cooperative Celebrates 75 Years: 1938-2013." For applications and consent forms, please visit www.kiwash.coop, or contact Lisa Willard at **888-832-3362**.

Celebrate Earth Day by saving energy.

Earth Day 2013 is April 22. Why not celebrate the day by making a single, earth-friendly change in your home? You'll most likely save more than energy. You'll also reduce your energy bill over time.

Perhaps the simplest change you can make is to replace your incandescent light bulbs with energy-efficient compact fluorescent lights (CFLs).

Just because you can no longer buy the same light bulbs you've used all of your life doesn't mean you don't have a few inefficient extras around the house, either in lamps or waiting to replace the ones that haven't burned out yet.

Do your energy bill a favor and switch to CFLs anyway—and toss those old bulbs in the trash. The energy you'll save by using long-lasting CFLs will more than compensate for the few cents each old, incandescent bulb is worth.

If you break a CFL bulb, please don't toss it in the trash—bring it to Kiwash Electric instead. CFLs contain trace amounts of mercury and should be disposed of properly and recycled. Simply sweep up the pieces and place them in a plastic bag and seal it. (Be careful not to handle pieces with your bare hands.) Deliver the bag to Kiwash Electric and drop it in the CFL recycling bucket located in the front lobby.

Recipe Box

Cola Easter Ham

INGREDIENTS

- 1 (8 lb) boneless ham
- 2 cups packed brown sugar
- 1 (12 fluid oz) can or bottle cola-flavored carbonated beverage
- 1 cup grape juice
- 1 (20 oz) can sliced pineapple, drained with juice reserved

DIRECTIONS

Preheat the oven to 325°F.

Use a knife to score a diagonal pattern onto the ham with the lines about 1 inch apart. Place the ham in a large roasting pan and pat brown sugar over the entire surface. Some will fall into the pan, that's okay.

Bake the ham in the preheated oven until the sugar is melting off of it, about 30 minutes. Remove the ham from the oven and pour the cola, grape juice and juice from the pineapple into the pan. Baste the ham with the mixture and return it to the oven.

Continue to bake in the preheated oven, basting every 20 minutes, for about 2 hours. Cut the pineapple rings in half. Remove the ham from the oven and float the pineapple rings in the drippings. Allow the ham to rest for about 10 minutes, then slice and serve with the pineapple and sauce.

Yield: 1 (8 lb) ham.



STAY AWAY from power lines

Whether you're pruning a tree, installing an antenna or operating farm equipment, steer clear of overhead power lines.

Contact with a live wire can damage your equipment. If you're touching that equipment when it makes that contact, it can seriously injure or even kill you.

- If it looks like you or your equipment will come within 15 feet of any power line, make a new plan. Any closer is too close for safety.
- Assume any wire you see is a live electrical line. Do not assume the wire is a telephone or cable line. Call your electric cooperative to make absolutely sure. Do not touch a branch if it is touching a wire. If the wire breaks, assume it is energized and can injure or kill you. Report the



problem to your electric cooperative and keep everyone away from it until help arrives.

- If you're using a ladder, keep it far enough away from all power lines that it won't touch one if it falls over. The Consumer Product Safety Commission reports that ladders contacting power lines cause nine percent of electrocutions each year.
- Take the day off if it rains. Climbing ladders and working with big equipment in bad weather is an invitation for you to lose your footing and knock something—or yourself—into a power line.

Co-op news on your phone

Get the free OKL-Kiwash Kilowatt mobile app

Oklahoma Living magazine—the statewide publication of the Oklahoma Association of Electric Cooperatives (OAEC) recently launched cutting-edge digital tools to enhance the reading experience of 317,000-plus electric consumer-members across the state.

The tools include an interactive digital edition and a FREE app for Apple, Android and Kindle

devices. Sixteen

local electric cooperative publications are also available through these outlets including your co-op's newsletter, the *Kilowatt*.

Download the free app through the Apple Newsstand, Google Play, or Amazon by searching for "Oklahoma Living magazine."



The digital edition and app include helpful features such as:

- Ability to access videos and bonus content
- Conduct searches through current edition and archives
- Access live web, e-mail and phone links
- E-mail edition to friend or share it on social media sites
- Add highlights, bookmarks, and comments
- Keep archives handy
- Print pages
- And, much more!

"We really like the quick access of being able to review past issues and read or share all the articles we've enjoyed, without having to track down our print copies," points out Ben Imel, a digital reader and member of Central Rural Electric Cooperative in Stillwater, Okla.

Electric cooperatives are always looking ahead and planning for the future. The magazine's new slogan, "Powering the needs of new generations," reflects this refreshed purpose and continued dedication to serving Oklahoma's electric co-op members.

"While electric co-ops have a proven track record of providing excellent service to their members, co-op leaders of today recognize that they are serving a new generation of consumers—younger members who may not know or care about their cooperative's past. This 'new generation' of cooperative member has far different needs from those of their

predecessors," said Sid Sperry, director of public relations and communications for OAEC.

Electric cooperative leaders are also quick to point out these digital tools are not meant to replace the printed version of local publications. On the contrary, the app and digital edition are offered as a benefit of your co-op membership, simply to expand and enrich your reading experience.

Take a moment to view the free digital edition at www.ok-living.coop or at www.kiwash.coop. Download the free app through the Apple Newsstand, Google Play, or Amazon by searching for "Oklahoma Living magazine." Watch the video tutorial found on the Kiwash Electric Facebook page to learn how these digital tools can broaden your readership experience.



COMING UP

in *Kiwash Country*

■ APRIL

- 11-13 SWOSU Rodeo
Don Mitchell Rodeo Arena
Weatherford, OK 73096
580-774-3068
- 11 Chamber of Commerce Banquet
Hobart, 580-726-2553
- 16 Washita Valley Leadership Graduation
Caddo-Kiowa Technology Center
Fort Cobb, 405 643-3281
- 18-21 Apache Rattlesnake Festival
Main Street, Apache

■ MAY

- 24-25 Clinton Route 66 Festival
Downtown & McClain Rodgers Park
Clinton, 580-323-2222
- 24-25 Cordell Roundup Club Open Rodeo
Rodeo Grounds, Cordell, 580-832-3781
- 24-27 Celebration of Freedom, Hobart
580-726-5900

■ JUNE

- 24-25 Clinton Route 66 Festival
Downtown & McClain Rodgers Park

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.