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Kiwash Electric Cooperative

Kilowatt

A supplement to Oklahoma Living

INSIDE

Money back for Kiwash Electric members via capital credits. **PAGE 2**

Virginia Walker announces her retirement from KEC board. **PAGE 3**

Protect yourself: Verify 'green' claims before you buy. **PAGE 4**



Stop Action. *Kiwash Electric General Manager Dennis Krueger speaks to co-op members at the recent KEC Annual Meeting about EPA's proposed regulations on power plant emissions. During the meeting, members were invited to send their own comments to the EPA via www.Action.coop.*

(LEFT) Just for Kids. *Stetson Turney, winner of the children's prize drawing at the KEC Annual Meeting.*

(CENTER) Grand Prize. *Dale Roberts of Rocky carried home the \$500 cash prize.*

(RIGHT) Kid's Prize. *Isaiah Snider of Rocky, winner of the children's prize, and KEC General Manager Dennis Krueger.*



\$250 Winner. *Rebecca Snow of Cordell, winner of the \$250 cash prize, shares the winnings with her husband, Hank Snow.*



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OFFICE HOURS:
Monday-Friday, 7:30 am - 5:30 pm.

POWER OUTAGE HOT LINE
888-832-3362

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Jack Sawatzky, *President*
Robert Travis, *Vice President*
John Schaufele, *Secretary Treasurer*
Rex Eagan, *Asst. Secretary Treasurer*
Ralph Cunningham
Jevon West
Dennis Krueger, *General Manager*

PAYMENT OPTIONS

- Pay online at **www.kiwash.coop**.
- Pay by phone by calling **855-875-7216**. Available 24 hours a day. Visa or Mastercard.
- Pay in person at 120 West 1st St., Cordell, Monday - Friday, 7:30 am to 5:30 pm.
- Pay via automatic draft of your checking or savings account. To sign up, please visit **www.kiwash.coop** or call **888-832-3362**.
- Pay at one of our authorized payment locations:

Custer City Hall
Custer City, Oklahoma

First National Bank
Thomas, Oklahoma



A New Way to Pay

Kiwash Electric members who appreciate instant information will enjoy the co-op's new interactive phone service. Using Call Capture, you can find information on your co-op account using an automated phone menu. The system includes a pay-by-phone option that allows you the freedom to pay via phone 24/7.

There are no busy signals when you use CallCapture; plus, you can rest easy knowing your payment is recorded the same day. VISA, Mastercard or electronic check with proper pin and routing information are accepted.

When using CallCapture, you will be asked to provide your current telephone number as listed with Kiwash Electric Cooperative, or provide your Kiwash account number. Please provide your co-op with your current phone number by calling **888-832-3362**.

To use CallCapture, please call **855-875-7216**.

Earn a Cash Rebate

Install an all all-electric, energy efficient geothermal heat pump and qualify for a rebate from your co-op of up to \$1,000 per ton. To qualify, units must have a minimum seasonal energy efficiency rating (SEER) of 18.5 and a coefficient of performance (COP) of 3.6. The rebate applies to geothermal heat pump installations in new homes, conversion from a gas furnace, or upgrades from an air-source heat pump. Geothermal units with a gas back-up system qualify for the air-source rebate rate of \$175/ton.

Be sure to save the proof of purchase, installation receipt, and energy efficiency rating information. You will need it to apply for the rebate. For more details, please visit www.kiwash.coop or call **888-832-3362**.

BY DENNIS KRUEGER

GENERAL MANAGER

Money Back for Ownership

Your cooperative is known as a consumer-owned, private non-profit organization. There are roughly 900 similar electric cooperatives across this great nation. Electric cooperatives serve over 42 million people in 47 states. You, as a member of Kiwash Electric Cooperative, are a part of this vast network.

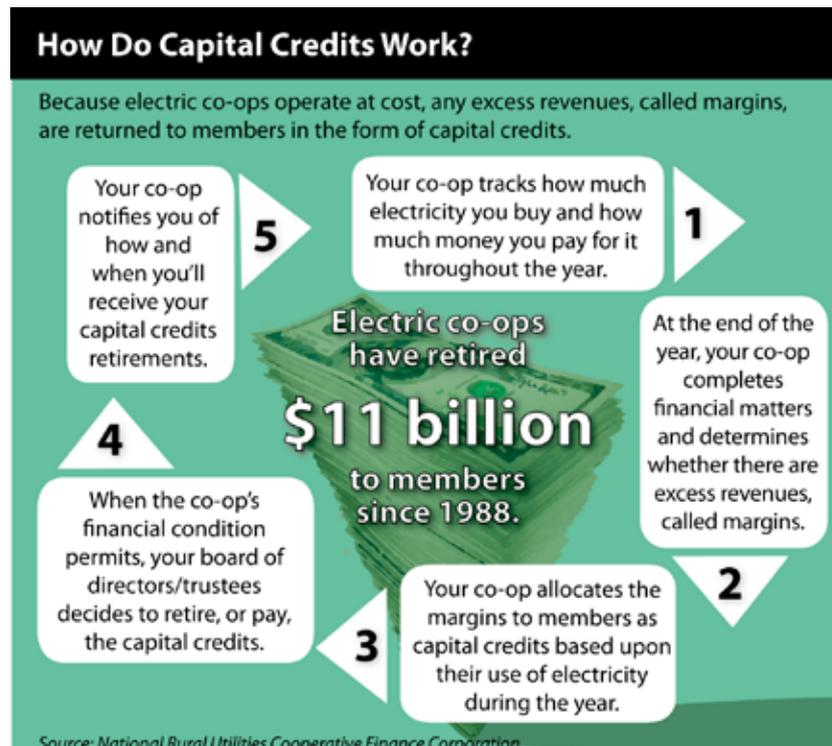
One major difference between a cooperative and other electric utilities is that electric co-ops return profits to their owners – that's YOU! Kiwash Electric only keeps what we need to supply, maintain and operate the cooperative grid system.

The remainder is returned to you. Capital credit distributions from member owned, not-for-profit cooperatives, are somewhat similar to the dividends paid to shareholders of investor-owned utilities. The difference is that a co-op's "shareholders" are also the members that it serves, and the "dividends" (capital

credits) are distributed to the co-op's consumer-owners.

Kiwash Electric rates are set to bring in enough money to pay operating costs, make payments on any loans and provide an emergency reserve. At the end of each calendar year, we subtract operating expenses from the total amount of money collected during the year; the balance is our "margin." This margin is allocated to each member based on the amount of electricity they use.

This year, the Kiwash Electric Cooperative board of directors allocated \$299,759 to be issued as capital credits to the membership. In 2013, the electric rates did not recover enough funds to make "margins" due to a cool summer; thus, the board will be issuing capital credits from prior years. Each member-owner has a



Walker Retires from Co-op Board

She blazed new trails as the first female to serve on the Kiwash Electric board

Virginia Walker, Kiwash Electric Cooperative District 4 trustee, and the first woman to serve on the co-op board of directors, announced her plans to retire from the board effective September 1, 2014.

Walker began her service with Kiwash Electric in May of 2000, when she was appointed to fill the term of retiring co-op board member Jerry Willard. Walker was recruited for the position by Kiwash board members who felt she possessed a sound understanding of rural issues in co-op service territory due to her many years with the OSU Cooperative Extension Service.

Dennis Krueger, Kiwash Electric general manager, said Walker's contribution to the board will be missed. "She was a committed and dedicated board member who applied her Cooperative Extension experience and business skills to every decision," Krueger noted.

As the first woman on the Kiwash Electric board, Walker blazed a trail that left little doubt of her competency. During her tenure, Walker held leadership positions that included vice president of the board of trustees. She also served for many years as secretary-treasurer of the board, and assistant-secretary treasurer.

"We will all miss Virginia Walker's leadership and contributions to this co-op. Her retirement is certainly well earned," said Krueger.



Virginia Walker, District #4 trustee, will retire from the co-op board on September 1, 2014.

Co-op bylaws require current board members to appoint a new District 4 representative to serve out the remainder of Walker's term. Krueger said the board is expected to create a nominating committee this month. This committee will follow Kiwash bylaws and policies in selecting a replacement. Interested persons who live within the boundaries of District #4 are encouraged to contact Kiwash President Jack Sawatzky for details.

Please watch your newsletter for further updates.

Capital Credit Payments

Cont'd

capital credit account in his or her name or company name. Each time the board calculates and allocates capital credits you receive the benefit in that account. The board of directors has made arrangements for your capital check refund to be mailed on or about September 1, 2014.

When the September checks are written, Kiwash Electric will have paid over \$2 million dollars in total capital credits or margin refunds back to the membership. After a long summer anything to reduce your bill must be a blessing. So members purchasing electricity from Kiwash prior to 2013 should expect a capital credit refund in the mail, unless that margin check is less than \$5.

For those who are new to Kiwash Electric service, you are a member of a cooperative and any margins or profits made by this organization are returned to you via a capital credit issuance. If you are a former co-op member and have since moved off Kiwash lines, your check will also be mailed to you.

Did You Know

Kiwash Electric Cooperative has returned more than

\$2 million

in capital credits to members!

Since 1988, electric cooperatives in the U.S. have retired

\$11 billion

to co-op members.

SOURCE: NATIONAL RURAL UTILITIES COOPERATIVE FINANCE CORPORATION AND KIWASH ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE.



ENERGY EFFICIENCY

Tip of the Month

When it's hot outside, appliances and lighting can actually heat up our homes more than we think. To save energy, minimize the activities that generate additional heat, such as burning open flames, continuously running a computer, or using hot-hair devices like curling irons. This will ultimately keep your house cooler.

Source: Department of Energy

Verify 'Green' Claims Before

If you're trying to do your part for the environment by choosing "green" products that use less energy and create less pollution, chances are good that you're a bit confused.

Too often, a manufacturer will claim that its appliances, systems, household remodeling materials, cleaning products or even food are "green" and then a report comes out to dispute the claim.

A tip: Look for proof that the "green" claims are true from a third-party certifying agency. Two examples: UL—the same agency that tests electrical devices for safety—also validates environmental claims. The federal Energy Star label on an appliance means it meets high standards for energy efficiency.

Typically, a "green" product has some of these attributes: It contains recycled material, is recyclable, made with local materials, grown without



hormones or antibiotics, is not an endangered species; saves energy; or contains no toxins that can waft into your indoor air.

Beware of words like "natural," "biodegradable," "organic" or "green" if you don't see a symbol on the package from a third-party verification agency.

Likewise, don't believe grandiose claims that seem too good to be true; they usually are. If the product label doesn't explain and prove the claims, don't buy it. Don't be fooled by colorful, bright green or flowered packaging that implies the product is made with natural products. Read the ingredients to learn what's in it.



State Fair Corn Dogs

INGREDIENTS

- 1 quart oil for deep frying
- 1 cup all-purpose flour
- 2/3 cup yellow cornmeal
- 1/4 cup white sugar
- 1 1/2 teaspoons baking powder
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 2 tablespoons bacon drippings
- 1 egg, beaten
- 1 1/4 cups buttermilk
- 1/2 teaspoon baking soda
- 2 pounds hot dogs
- wooden sticks



DIRECTIONS

Heat oil in a deep fryer to 365 degrees F (185 degrees C).

In a large bowl, stir together the flour, cornmeal, sugar, baking powder and salt. Stir in melted bacon drippings. Make a well in the center, and pour in the egg, buttermilk, and baking soda. Mix until everything is smooth and well blended.

Pat the hot dogs dry with paper towels so that the batter will stick. Insert wooden sticks into the ends. Dip the hot dogs in the batter one at a time, shaking off the excess. Deep fry a few at a time in the hot oil until they are as brown as you like them. Drain on paper towels or serve on paper plates.

Yield: Makes 20 corn dogs.

TAKE ACTION >>>>

Urge EPA to consider an "All-of-the-Above" approach at action.coop

