



IEC Member Knows the Joy of Heartfelt Giving

Marvie "Dean" Bishop gives from the kitchen and from the heart

Tinfoil, Saran-wrap® and Zip-Lock® bags will serve as wrapping paper for gifts given by Marvie Bishop this year. And her giving doesn't end with the holiday season. When doctors told her she would have to cut back on many of the foods she had long enjoyed preparing, Ms. Bishop knew there was only one thing to do—start giving them away. The Cleveland community is glad she made that choice.

Ms. Bishop, "Dean" to those who know her, has been baking breads, cobblers, cookies and a long list of her other specialties to share with friends and neighbors since she and her husband moved back to the area in 1977 after his retirement from the military. Her delicious generosity has been enjoyed by everyone from the men down at the fire station to employees at Palace Drug, Ace Hardware and Indian Electric Cooperative, just to name a few. It's not unusual for total strangers to receive a call letting them know something fresh from the oven is waiting for them down at the Baptist Village.

"This community has been so kind to my family and me," said Ms. Bishop. "This is just one way I can show them how much I appreciate how they've helped us out when we've needed it and do a little giving back at the same time. There are a lot of good people here in Cleveland who work hard to make this town a great place to live. I want to do something to let them know I'm grateful."

Ms. Bishop, who grew up in Osage, OK, commented on how much the area has improved.

"We had no electricity at all when I was growing up near Osage; things have certainly changed a lot. Cleveland has grown into a nice little town and my husband and I decided we would settle down here when he retired and never move again. It's really a nice place to live."

Ms. Bishop represents all of what's truly

great about Main Street America. She's doing her part year round to contribute something positive to the community. She trades her heart-felt creations for hugs and puts a smile on hundreds of hungry faces every year.

Dean, we are proud to be a part of the community you call home and we're working hard to follow your example of giving back to the those we serve—it's the cooperative way!

We at IEC want to wish everyone a safe and happy holiday season!



The official
publication
of the members of
Indian Electric
Cooperative

Employee Spotlight

Teresa Sparks recently named Accounting Supervisor at Indian Electric Cooperative



Statistics tell us average Americans will change careers 10 times during the course of their working years. For Teresa Sparks, Accounting Supervisor at IEC, this statistic seems a little hard to imagine.

“I love working for an electric cooperative. I think our community focus and the sense of responsibility we have toward the people we serve makes working for a cooperative unlike anything else out there.”

“You get to know the members you serve and that makes you feel like what you do at work each day really benefits the community.

It’s a real family environment.”

And family is something Sparks takes seriously. The mother of four and grandmother of four (her newest arrived in November!), she goes about her tasks at IEC surrounded by pictures of the kids.

Born in Stroud, Sparks and her husband Gary now reside in Payne County and love living within a short drive of most of their family. Sons Bobby and Brock, are students at OSU; their daughter Dawn and her husband John live in Glencoe;

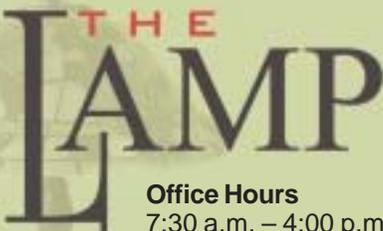
and their son Michael, a member of the Air Force, is currently stationed in Little Rock, AR.

Sparks graduated from Oklahoma State University with a degree in accounting and worked for Central Rural Electric Cooperative, Inc. of Stillwater, OK, before joining IEC in August of this year. In addition to supervising the Accounting Department at Indian Electric, she is also working to become a CPA.

“Teresa is an outstanding individual whom we are proud to have on our team,” notes Terry Jech, IEC General Manager. “She’s a true professional and our members are fortunate to have someone of her caliber working on their behalf.”

For more information on services provided by the IEC Accounting Department, visit us at www.iecok.com.

INDIAN ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC.



Office Hours

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(918) 358-2514
www.iecok.com

To Report an Outage

(918) 358-2514 or 1-800-482-2750

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Three hundred homes and more than \$23 million in property are destroyed annually by Christmas tree fires according to the Consumer Product Safety Commission. You can protect your family this season by eliminating the two leading causes of these fires: worn or malfunctioning tree lights and open flames or heat sources too near decorations.

Remember to water live trees at least once a day and remove all dropped needles.



We at IEC wish you and your family a safe and enjoyable holiday season. It has been our pleasure to serve you another year!

“Put a candle in the window...”

Nothing warms the heart more than the glow of a candle on freshly fallen snow. And nothing starts a fire as quickly as that same candle placed too near other decorations or window treatments. This season, opt for safety with a plug-in version of this holiday classic.



Remember the lights you stored so carefully last season?



Somewhere between Halloween and Thanksgiving of each year, Christmas lights participate in the age-old tradition of tangling, fraying and re-arranging themselves into unrecognizable piles of knotted cords and broken bulbs. While

there is no known cure for this phenomenon, following a few basic safety tips will help you guarantee your decorations don't turn into disasters.

- ◆ Use only lights that have been tested for safety. Identify these by the label from an independent testing laboratory.
- ◆ Check each set of lights, new or old, for broken or cracked sockets, frayed or bare wires, or loose connections. Discard damaged sets or repair them before using.
- ◆ Fasten outdoor lights securely to protect from wind damage. Use only insulated

staples or hooks to hold strings in place; avoid nails or tacks.

- ◆ For added electric shock protection, plug outdoor electric lights and decorations into circuits protected by ground fault circuit interrupters (GFCIs). Portable outdoor GFCIs can be purchased where electrical supplies are sold.
- ◆ Use no more than three standard-size sets of lights per single extension cord.
- ◆ Turn off all lights on trees and other decorations when you go to bed or leave the house.
- ◆ Never use electric lights on a metallic tree, a frayed cord could energize the entire tree.

That's a LOT of ribbon!

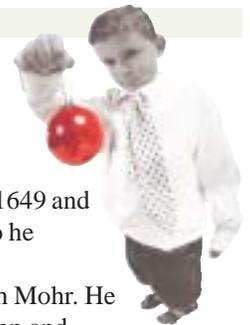
More than 38,000 miles of ribbon gets thrown away each holiday season. That's enough ribbon to tie a bow around the earth!

You can make a difference this year by reusing or recycling wrapping materials.



Things you never knew about Christmas Carols...

- ◆ Oliver Cromwell banned Christmas carols in England between 1649 and 1660. Cromwell thought Christmas should be a very solemn day so he banned carols and parties.
- ◆ “Silent Night” was written in 1818 by an Austrian priest, Joseph Mohr. He was told the day before Christmas that the church organ was broken and would not be repaired in time for Christmas Eve services. He was saddened by this and could not think of Christmas without music, so he wanted to write a carol that could be sung by choir to guitar music.
- ◆ At midnight on Christmas Eve 1914, firing from the German trenches suddenly stopped. A German brass band began playing Christmas carols. Early Christmas morning, the German soldiers came out of their trenches, approaching the allied lines, calling “Merry Christmas.” At first the allied soldiers thought it was a trick, but they soon climbed out of their trenches and shook hands with the German soldiers. The truce lasted a few days, and the men exchanged presents of cigarettes and plum puddings, sang carols and songs. They even played a game of soccer.
- ◆ Two of Elvis’ eight albums to reach the number one spot on Billboard Magazine’s EP chart were his Christmas albums.
- ◆ The biggest selling Christmas single of all time is Bing Crosby’s “White Christmas.”



RECIPE



Eggnog Bread

2 eggs	1 tsp. vanilla extract
1 cup sugar	2 1/4 cups flour
1 cup dairy eggnog	2 tsps. baking powder
1/2 cup butter, melted	2 tsps. rum extract
1/4 tsp. nutmeg	

Preheat oven to 350°
Grease bottom of bread pan
Beat eggs. Add sugar, eggnog, butter and rum and vanilla extracts
Blend well. Add flour, baking powder and nutmeg
Stir until just moistened
Pour into greased pan
Bake at 350° for 45-50 minutes or until toothpick comes out clean
Cool 10 minutes
Remove from pan
Cool bread completely before slicing

Holiday Office Hours

IEC offices will be closed for Christmas on December 24 and 25. If you should need assistance with your account during the holidays, you can access our Automated Account Information line at (918) 295-9520 or visit our website at www.iecok.com. Outages and emergencies can be reported at (918) 358-2514. Offices will re-open for normal business hours (7:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.) on Thursday, December 26.

Offices will be closed again on Wednesday, Jan. 1, 2003, to observe the New Year's Holiday.

Election Results

How did the November 5 election affect IEC members? View results and detailed district maps under "Our Communities" on our website at www.iecok.com.



IEC Members Elect New District 1 Trustee

Robert Burk hopes to bring his business experience and community involvement into the board room

Robert Burk is no stranger to the ups and downs of the economy. As a member of the oil and gas industry, he has seen his share of market changes. "I hope to bring a little of what I've learned in my 31 years in the oil business to the board of Indian Electric," says Burk.

"Times are tough right now for a lot of people. They need to have local businesses they can feel confident in. I hope to work with other members of the IEC board to continue the tradition of excellence Indian Electric Cooperative has."

Burk, a native of Jennings, graduated from Oilton High School and finished his education at the Spartan School of Aeronautics in Tulsa. He entered the oil business in 1971 when he established his own company, Red Fork Oil Production, Inc., which he still operates today.

Burk has also served on the board of directors for the American Heritage Bank of Mannford for the past 20 years. "Working with the bank has really taught me how to work with people and get things done in the community," said Burk.

"Indian Electric Cooperative has a lot of opportunities to do great things for the communities it serves and I hope my years of service with the bank will help accomplish that."

Burk and his wife Jayne currently reside in Mannford and have four children: George, Dillon, Drew and Kacy. "We've always been proud to be part of the cooperative," says Burk. "We've been members for over 30 years now and I can say we've always been impressed with the quality of service IEC provides. The men in the field and the office employees are dedicated people and as a trustee, I plan to do all I can to insure we all work as a team. I'm committed to seeing IEC grow as a business and do all it can to help out the members it serves."

Burk was elected by the members of Indian Electric Cooperative to a three-year term on the board during its 62nd annual meeting held Oct. 19, 2002, at Cleveland High School.