

# THE LAMP

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The official  
publication  
of the members of  
Indian Electric  
Cooperative



## Demand for Power Increases



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## 3 5K RUN

We're a Part of Your  
Hometown, too

## 4 A familiar Face



# Members Help Blue Star Mothers Support Our Troops

If you received a soft drink or a sausage biscuit at Annual Meeting, you helped make a U.S. soldier's life overseas a little easier.

The Mannford chapter of the Blue Star Mothers of America worked the concession stand at IEC's Annual Meeting as a fund raiser. They received a \$1,000 donation from IEC for distributing donuts, sausage biscuits, candy, soft drinks and water at our Annual Meeting.

Blue Star Mothers is a volunteer organization open to persons who have family members currently serving in the United States military or who have been honorably discharged from the military. The Lake Area Chapter, headquartered in Mannford, is one of 13 Oklahoma chapters, and serves many area communities including Cleveland, Bristow, Cushing, Drumright, and Mannford.

Lois Babcock, associate member whose step-son is currently assigned to the U. S. Embassy in the Philippines, says the chapter raises funds to send needed items to the soldiers.

"We send them things like shampoo, disposable razors, and deodorant, Chapstick or lip balm, along with items they enjoy such as sunglasses, and books, candy, drink mixes and writing tablets and pens or pencils," says Babcock. She says they gladly accept donations.

"A list of items can be found on the Web site: [www.okbluestarmothers.org](http://www.okbluestarmothers.org)," she says, adding monetary donations are also accepted.

"It costs us between \$8 and \$9 per box to send the Freedom Boxes overseas, so we're always glad to accept money.

"These boxes remind the soldiers that people back home are thinking of them and



The box may be small, but Lois Babcock will pack these items and it will be shipped overseas to a U.S. soldier as a Freedom Box. Shelves of donated items line the walls of the Blue Star Mothers headquarters in Mannford.

support them. They enjoy getting something from home, even if it's from someone they don't know. It's not unusual for us to get cards or letters or pictures from someone we've sent a box to. We have even had a few make a trip through Mannford just to meet us and say thank you," says Babcock.

If you would like to help the Blue Star Mothers, you can contact them at 121 Steel Rd., Mannford, 74044, or at [DixieLeeBSM@AOL.com](mailto:DixieLeeBSM@AOL.com).

# More Power Needed to Meet Growing Use of Electricity

Speaking during a recent co-op annual meeting, Jim Jura posed a question to the members. Jura, manager of Associated Electric Cooperative, Inc., which supplies wholesale power to Indian Electric and other electric cooperatives in Missouri, parts of Northeastern Oklahoma and Iowa, wanted to know how many members had more than one TV in their homes.

Almost the entire audience raised their hands. They responded the same way when asked about refrigerators. Most, it seems, had replaced their inefficient refrigerators, only to move them to the garage or workshop where they continue to run keeping drinks cold.

Jura and the board at Associated have been carefully watching the rapid load growth at electric cooperatives across the state.

Looking ahead, Associated's planners predict the energy requirements of the cooperatives it serves will increase about 2 percent a year. That's enough power to supply about 30,000 homes a year.

"The system is growing and it's

growing faster than we thought," Jura says. "No matter what we do, the system is growing so fast we are going to need more generation."

The number of electric cooperative members has increased nearly 90 percent since 1985. Through 2025, the total number of new members is fore-

**"The system is growing and it's growing faster than we thought. No matter what we do, the system is growing so fast we are going to need more generation."**

**-- Jim Jura**

cast to grow another 45 percent.

Not only are there more members, but those members are using more energy than ever before. Average use for residential, commercial and industrial customers has increased 35 percent since 1985 and is forecast to grow another 14 percent by 2025.

Driving that increase is a plethora of new appliances and gadgets. Virtu-

ally everything you buy these days — from cell phone chargers to iPods to computer peripherals — comes with a plug.

The number of electric cooperative members who owned a computer went from just 14 percent in 1993 to 60 percent in 2004, mirroring a national trend. The Environmental Protection Agency Energy Star program estimates that home electronics account for about 15 percent of all residential electricity consumed. That's a 200 percent increase since 1980.

Air conditioner use also has skyrocketed. Today, 90 percent of new homes have air conditioning. And those units will be required to cool much larger homes.

According to the 2006 census, the average single-family home had 769 more square feet than it did in 1976. Thirty-nine percent have four or more bedrooms, double the rate of 20 years ago. And 26 percent have three or more bathrooms, almost three times the rate from 1986.

So not only are there more houses

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## INDIAN ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC.

### Office Hours

7:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. (Monday - Friday)  
(918) 358-2514  
www.iecok.com

### To Report an Outage

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

### 24-hour Service Center

(918) 295-9520

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being served by electric co-ops, they are also larger and use more energy.

In board meetings across the state, this growth has caused concern among those responsible for planning to meet member needs. "There's a lot of concern over capacity as we go forward and what steps should be taken to plan for it," says IEC General Manager Jack Clinkscale.

The good news: Your electric cooperative has plans in place to meet this tremendous increase in demand for electricity. The bad news: New sources of power will certainly cost more to build, and rates are expected to increase in the foreseeable future.

What's driving current rate increases? For years, Associated had excess energy that could be sold on the open market. Margins made on these sales helped offset rates co-op members paid.

"When the system grows, the members use up the low-cost generation," Jura says. "That's fine, because these generation units were built for our members. But it does mean we will have to increase rates a little faster because we won't have the margins from selling power off the system."

Other factors that are driving rate increases include dramatic increases in the price of fuel — especially coal and natural gas — that are used to generate electricity. Another issue is the staggering cost of equipment that must be installed at power plants to meet strict new environmental standards.

In the short term, new gas-fired units have been brought on line that can add to the generation mix in times of high energy use, usually on the hottest and coldest days of the year. For example, Associated purchased a mothballed power plant in Dell, Ark., and completed construction on it this spring.

Associated also contracted to buy the entire output of the three wind projects being constructed in northwest Missouri. The first of these, Bluegrass Ridge, is already delivering some

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## Your Hometown is Our Hometown too

Yes, we provide the electricity that makes your house a home. But we want to do more. That's why we are involved in your community and its events throughout the year.

In 2007 we were involved in the following events:

\*American Cancer Society Relay for Life - Sponsor and participant

\*Oklahoma Special Olympics

\*CimTel Classic 5K Run - Sponsor and participant

\*Cleveland Pioneer Days

\*Salvation Army Angel Tree site

\*Hometown Christmas parades

We call your community home too, that's why we want to be a part of it. So look for us to be a participant and corporate sponsor for those events that make a difference.



**IEC offices will be closed**

**Monday, Dec. 24, Tuesday, Dec. 25 and Tuesday, Jan. 1  
to allow our employees to enjoy the holidays with their families.**

*Happy Holidays*

Call 358-2514 or 1-800-482-2750  
to report an outage.



### **Employee Service Awards**

Back row (left to right)  
Bryan Ward, Jason Callahon, 5 years;  
Wayne Robertson, 15 years; Robert Bradley, 20 years; Bubba Braden, 10 years;  
front row (left to right)  
Don Lawrence, 5 years; Marsha Murray, 25 years; Marilyn Stevenson, 15 years; and Kim Lay, 5 years.

# RECIPE



## Festive Fruit

- 1 12-oz. can each: peaches, pears, pineapples, apricots
- 2 Tbsp. brown sugar (maybe a little bit more)
- Dabs of butter or margarine (about 1/4 cup)
- 1/2 Tbsp. curry powder
- 1/2 Tbsp. nutmeg
- 1/2 Tbsp. cinnamon
- Spiced apples rings
- Maraschino cherries

Drain fruit. Place in 9 x 13 x 3 inch baking dish.

Mix spices and sugar and spread over top; add dabs of butter or margarine.

Bake about 45 minutes in a 325° oven.

When cool, spread spiced apple rings over the top and add maraschino cherries for decoration.

YIELD: Serves 10 to 12

## New Trustee is a Familiar Face, Name

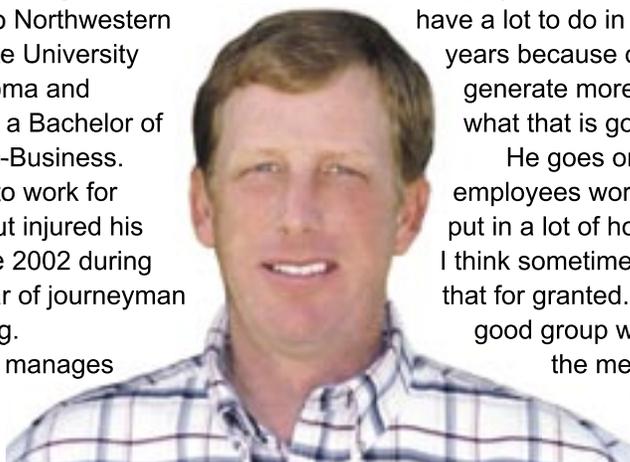
IEC's newest trustee is no stranger to Indian Electric. Jim Hadlock is both a former employee and the son of former trustee Glen Hadlock.

Jim was elected at Annual Meeting to represent members in district 9, which includes Fairfax, Hominy, Wynona, Pawhuska, Personia and Blackburn.

Reared in Fairfax, he graduated from Fairfax High School. He continued on to Northwestern Oklahoma State University in Alva, Oklahoma and graduated with a Bachelor of Science in Agri-Business.

Jim came to work for IEC in 1999, but injured his shoulder in late 2002 during his second year of journeyman lineman training.

Today, Jim manages the B&K Cattle Company.



He and his wife Kelly have two sons: Jim Clark, 14 and Hayden, 11. Being with his family is how Jim spends his free time. His sons raise and show hogs with the Woodland 4-H and FFA. Jim also helps coach the boys' baseball team during the summer.

He is a deacon in the Fairfax First Christian Church.

"The co-op is like a family, and I want to be able to help both the members and employees," he says. "We have a lot to do in the next few years because of the need to generate more power and what that is going to cost."

He goes on to say "The employees work hard and put in a lot of hours, and I think sometimes we take that for granted. We have a good group working for the members and I want to be a part of that."

More Power Needed...con't. from page 3.

power to members.

But in the long term, Associated cooperatives will need additional base-load generation which, unlike wind power, can be relied on whenever it is needed. A new coal-fired plant in the works for Norborne, Mo., is expected to cost \$1.7 billion. That's 70 percent more than estimates from two years ago.

The last large generation unit built by Associated's electric cooperatives came on line in 1982. Much has changed since that plant was built, and these factors are driving costs for new power plants through the roof.

"One way I try to put these cost increases into perspective," says Clinkscale, "is to compare it to the price of a new car. If you priced a new Chevy in 1985, it was probably \$14,000. What would that same Chevy cost today? It's probably double. So how can we expect it to be any different for a new power plant?"

Electric cooperatives are not the only utilities experiencing this combination of high growth and sticker shock over the cost of new generation. Utilities across the country are in the same boat.

But Oklahoma's electric cooperatives today enjoy some of the lowest rates in the nation. And that is expected to be the case in the future, especially with a new emphasis on efficiency.

"It's a given we are going to have rising rates," Jura says. "Fuel and construction costs are going up. But if we can help members use energy more efficiently, it's possible bills will level out and not go up that much."

**Energy Efficiency**  
*Tip of the Month*

By resetting your programmable thermostat from 72 degrees to 65 degrees for eight hours a day (for instance, while no one is home or while everyone is tucked in bed) you can cut your heating bill by up to 10 percent.

Source: U.S. Dept. of Energy