

THE LAMP



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COWBOY HATS & HARD HATS

BY JACK CLINKSCALE

MERRY CHRISTMAS FROM INDIAN ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE

The outlook of the electric power industry in the U.S. is unsettled at

best. The industry must address the ever increasing need for electricity and the shrinking pool of resources to generate that power. The major forms of generating power in the U.S., coal, natural gas and nuclear are all dirty words to the environmental extremists that seem to have the ear of the federal government. Guess what? For one brief moment in time we are going to forget that and actually deliver good news for a change!

2010 has been a good year for your cooperative. Favorable weather conditions, no major storms and prudent business practices by the Board of Trustees and employees have combined to create a favorable financial year for IEC.

Regular readers of The Lamp have seen numerous articles dealing with the advantages of the cooperative form of business. A Cooperative does not strive to produce large profits to satisfy owners or stockholders. Any profits left over after all expenses are paid is allocated to members in the form of capital credits. These capital credits are returned to members as the financial condition of the cooperative allows. This year, your capital credit payment appeared as a credit on your November power bill.

In addition to regular capital credit retirements, during certain years when IEC is experiencing favorable operating conditions, your Board of Trustees has chosen to return additional credits in the form of a member rebate. For the third year in a row, you will see a rebate on your December power bill.

We call this “the cooperative advantage rebate” and it truly is a benefit that you rarely see in any other form of business. Your Board of Trustees truly believes in the cooperative principles and is pleased that they are able to provide this rebate. While operating conditions do not always allow for large capital credit refunds or rebates, they are quick to seize the opportunity to return money to the members when conditions allow. They not only “talk the talk” of cooperative principles, they indeed “walk the walk”.

Due to large increases in power costs in recent years, IEC has had to raise rates from time to time to keep the Cooperative financially sound. We realize that this has been difficult for many of our members on fixed incomes or those that have been hit hard by the financial downturn in the U.S. economy. We hope that the capital credit refund and cooperative advantage rebate will help make this a merrier Christmas for all IEC members. ♦

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WE'RE DIFFERENT. WE'RE LOOKING OUT FOR YOU

Electric Cooperatives are different from other business you deal with. To tell you the truth, I like being different. And the fact that you're reading this article shows you like that difference, too.

We're different because we're Looking Out for You. Now, more than ever, that's important because we need to work together to keep your electric bills affordable.

Congress did not pass a comprehensive climate bill last year. In January the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency begins regulating greenhouse gasses—an action made possible by a 2007 Supreme Court decision, followed by rulings allowing the EPA to use the Clean Air Act to curb carbon emissions. Policies dealing with coal ash, even more stringent controls on other power plant emissions, and state renewable energy requirements could also lead to higher costs. It's hard to predict the future, but one thing seems certain: government regulations are going to increase the cost of doing business.

New regulations won't be the only culprit. Prices for fuel, materials, and equipment will continue to rise. Although the recent economic slump and corresponding drop in electricity use provided some much-needed breathing room, soon we will need to build new power plants, requiring a significant, long-term investment of time and money.

We're committed to keeping you informed about policy changes

New regulations won't be the only culprit. Prices for fuel, materials, and equipment will continue to rise.

that will impact your electric bill through The Lamp. We're going to do everything we can to keep your electric bills affordable.

To accomplish that, we're controlling costs through innovation. Our energy efficiency programs Take Control & Save help you manage your energy use. Our website, TogetherWeSave.com shows how little changes like sealing your air ducts, replacing old appliances, or improving your home's insulation can add up to big savings on your electric bill. We also offer home energy audits to make sure you're getting the best value out of the energy you use every month.

Deploying state-of-the-art solutions like our automated meter system helps us control operating costs and improve service. We are also meeting members' power needs with a diverse fuel mix, including renewable energy.

While we're affordable and innovative, above all else we're member focused. No matter what comes our way we'll continue to put you, our members, first. Indian Electric Cooperative is member controlled and locally operated. As a member, you have a voice in how your co-op operates. At our annual meeting each year you have the opportunity to elect fellow members to our board of trustees to represent your best interests. Don't miss our next meeting in August of 2011!

Member control means we are accountable to those we serve, and are dedicated to assisting our communities—your money stays at work close



2010 CHRISTMAS HOME LIGHTING DRAWING

DRAWING FOR (1) \$100.00 IEC Bill Credit after Dec. 22ND

Indian Electric Cooperative, Inc. is having a Christmas Home Lighting Contest in Dec. 2010 to share the Christmas spirit. The contest isn't about the biggest and brightest display. It is about sharing your Christmas spirit with your family, neighbors and your community. IEC will share our Christmas spirit with one (1) lucky member and credit their January IEC electric bill with a \$100.00 bill credit for participating in the contest.

Contest Entry Deadline: Noon on Wednesday, Dec. 22, 2010.

CONTEST RULES:

- ▶ Type or print your IEC Account number, Name, address and phone number(s) on an 8.5 x 11 piece of paper.
- ▶ Attach a photograph of your 2010 Christmas Home Lighting display. (Any members photograph capturing their Christmas Light display from outside their home qualifies).
- ▶ Mail or deliver both to:

Member Services Lighting Contest
Indian Electric Cooperative
P. O. Box 49
Cleveland, OK 74020

Entries must arrive no later than noon, Wednesday, December 22, 2010.

Entries submitted without all of the above information will be disqualified.

Winner and Prize: One IEC Member participant will be drawn from the hopper. The winner will receive a \$100.00 IEC January 2011 Bill Credit. The winner will be notified by mail. Eligible participants: All IEC members. ♦



to home. Costs are rising for all of us, but when it comes to your electric bill our rates are set simply to cover the cost of doing business, not to generate profits for distant stockholders.

In fact, as a not-for-profit organization, we give money back to you when our revenues exceed costs. I'm proud to report that in 2010 we returned more than \$589,000.00 dollars to our members in the form of capital credits

The bottom line? We exist only to serve

Member control means we are accountable to those we serve

you and meet your needs for safe, reliable, and affordable power.

As you can see, we're different. We're working together to keep your electric bills affordable. We're controlling costs through innovation. And we're continuing to put you, our members, first. No matter what the future brings, one thing is certain. We're Looking Out for You. ♦

OFFICE CLOSINGS

IEC's Offices will be closed on:

Friday, December 24th Friday, December 31st

so our employees can spend the holidays with their families. Please call (918) 358-2514, (918) 295-9598 or 1-800-482-2750 to report an outage.



CHRISTMAS AT STAGE CENTRE

The Community Service Center in Cleveland has announced that it will be inviting adjoining communities to join Cleveland residents for a 'Community Christmas Show' at the Stage Centre, Thursday evening December 23rd. The show will feature Katelyn Stelly, a newly signed recording artist with Revolt Records in Branson, Missouri and a 2010 American Idol Finalist. Joining Katelyn on stage will be a number of local performers presenting a unique blend of old standard favorites as well as new Christmas music. Katelyn will also be performing her newly released song 'You or New Orleans'.

Tickets are expected to be available beginning in early December at participating area businesses. Reservation can be made by calling Rachele at the CSC offices in Cleveland, 918.358.5162 or toll free 877.745.5162. ♦



Recipe: Caramel Rolls

- 1 cup Brown Sugar
- ½ cup Heavy Whipping Cream
- 2 Tbs Brown Karo Syrup
- ¼ cup Butter
- 1 pkg. Frozen Cinnamon Rolls

Mix caramel sauce in the bottom of the pan and place frozen rolls in the sauce before going to bed. In the morning pull the rolls out of fridge and set for 1 hour. Spray foil with Pam® and cover rolls. Check baking temperature on the frozen roll package. Bake for the first 20 minutes covered. Bake uncovered for 10 minutes.

Cleveland Office
P.O. Box 49
Cleveland, OK 74020
(918) 358-2514
or
(800) 482-2750

Fairfax Office
P.O. Box 545
Fairfax, OK 74637
(918) 642-4813

Account Information
(918) 295-9597
Automated Outage Reporting
(918) 295-9598
On the Web @
WWW.IECOK.COM

Office Hours
7:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
(Monday - Friday)

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