



Families,  
Remodeling &  
Holidays

Being a  
Good Neighbor



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Trustees Achieve  
Certification

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## Youth Tour and Energy Camp Programs in Full Swing

Juniors attending high school in IEC's territory are eligible for the experience of a lifetime – an all-expense paid, week-long trip to Washington, D.C. this June as winners of our **Youth Tour** essay contest. It's free, it's exciting and it's fun! You'll join some 1,300 high school juniors from across the United States to learn about government, rural electrification, leadership and electric cooperatives.

The trip begins with a "Get Acquainted Banquet" in Oklahoma City, where everyone meets, makes new friends and has an evening

**Deadline for both essays is  
12 Noon Tuesday, Feb. 8.**

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## Co-op Contract Personnel on Your Property for New Mapping Program

Sometime during the last 12 months you may have noticed a man or woman with a strange looking backpack hiking across your property. No, they're not poachers, or thieves, or scientists looking for dinosaur fossils.

They are actually personnel IEC has hired to gather information from every utility pole on our electric system as we prepare for a new mapping program. They will be in our seven-county service territory through June 2005.

They carry their electronic equipment in large yellow backpacks. The contractors input the necessary data into their equipment which will allow us to use a global positioning system (GPS) in our new mapping program when it is implemented.

In recent months some of these contractors have had the horrifying experience of members pulling guns on them, or calling local police or sheriff's agencies who then pulled guns on them, usually without first asking them for identification and proof of their purpose. We can't stress enough how serious this is and how unnecessary it is.

**Each of these individuals carries a co-op photo ID with him or her. If you need to verify their identity and purpose, please call the co-op at (918) 358-2514. We can tell you which contractor is working in your area, and will be happy to answer any questions you may have about this program.**

Please remember these people are simply visiting each utility pole on our electric system with the purpose of gathering data from those poles and the equipment on them. The only way to gather this information is to physically visit each and every pole. The equipment they carry on their backs is large and heavy and is in a bright yellow backpack. They will be happy to show you their ID, explain their purpose for being on your property and to encourage you to call the co-op if you feel you need verification.



■  
*The official  
publication  
of the members of  
Indian Electric  
Cooperative*

# Families + Remodeling = Happy Holidays?

by Jack Clinkscale, General Manager

It is difficult to write a column a month in advance. Will what you write be timely a month from now? The better question might be “was it ever timely?” I hope you all experienced a wonderful Christmas and a happy New Year and Santa brought you everything you wanted.

I hope I also had a merry Christmas and happy New Year. I am fairly confident I will have had a merry Christmas. With my son home from college and my daughter already getting ready for college next fall, I am sure we had a good Christmas. I am sure their significant others (yes, this means you Krista and Patrick) will have shared in the happy, festive occasion.

Now, the New Year’s celebration is a completely different story. My wife’s family is coming for a late Christmas celebration on New Year’s Day. I dearly love all her family (all 12 including spouses and children) but this will mark the first time they have

all been at our house at one time and Beverly and I have been married for 25 years. Combined with our family and guests, our house will be full indeed.

As you might well imagine, my wife is beside herself with anticipation. What is starting out as a steady flow of planning, cleaning, straightening, trimming, arranging and re-arranging will surely culminate in a whirlwind of activity that will test the limits of all involved.

Did I mention the remodeling? Since we moved into our home a year ago, we have slowly been updating the décor with plaster, paint and hours of drudgery disguised as quality time. We have a large living room with the world’s ugliest carpet and no direct lighting. I fondly compare the room to a bat cave. We had talked over various things we wanted to do to update the room and the family visit lit a fire under us to “git ‘er done.” I have grown a little smarter with age and we are securing the services of professionals to get the job done before the big event. Now our electrician, Doyle, was enlisted

to add some new lighting and replace a ceiling fan and he was able to fit the job into his busy schedule and should be done in short time. Now, the new flooring was a little different story. The tile folks assured us they could get the project done before our deadline so we picked out the tile we wanted and were just waiting for them to pick a date to do the job. Imagine our surprise when they called and told us they would start on December 27! Now we have to arrange for the furniture delivery and have everything in place before the big day. Did I also mention we have to find a TV person to move the satellite connection to a different part of the room? I don’t know whether Bev will need a straight jacket or a good supply of valium.

This will be a holiday I’m sure we will reflect on and laugh about someday well into the future. But for now, I just hope Bev doesn’t strangle Santa.



## INDIAN ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC.

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

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# Community Involvement is Part of Being a Co-op Good Neighbor

For IEC, being a good neighbor means more than simply keeping the lights on. It means sharing the work and the expense of a desired goal.

Throughout the year, IEC donates money, the time and talents of volunteering personnel, and provides financial support to a variety of events and organizations. All because what is important to our communities and our members, is important to us. Anything that has a positive impact on our communities, or the organizations that serve those communities and their residents, is what we want to support.

Some of our participation is on an annual basis. Such as when our employees hand out candy to youngsters dressed for Halloween during "Trick or Treat on Broadway," sponsored by the Cleveland Chamber of Commerce, or when we provide financial support for the 5th of July celebration. In recent years, IEC personnel and family members can be found walking the track throughout the night at the American Cancer Society's Relay for Life.

We provide a variety of services and assistance to both the Lake Keystone and Kaw Lake Associations. We attend meetings, pay dues, and donate



*IEC donated the electric line which City of Cleveland contractors laid underground for the Country Fest celebration in October at Feyodi Recreation Area.*

the skills of some of our employees because we want to support these organizations which actively help develop the lake areas.

You can find IEC personnel or co-op participation at Pawnee's Wild West Rodeo and the Pawnee Bill Wild West Show, and in a number of parades throughout the year.

We are members of chambers of

*Co-op trucks and employees can be found participating in parades, such as the Fairfax Christmas parade, across the service territory.*

commerce in the towns and communities in our service territory.

And we work with area schools to educate youth on electrical safety, and to give them unique opportunities through our Youth Tour and Energy Camp programs. We sponsor trophies which are awarded during local livestock shows.

Our linemen and bucket trucks can be seen helping athletic organizations when they need to change the bulbs in light fixtures at the football, baseball, softball or soccer fields.

"These aren't just communities we serve," says IEC General Manager Jack Clinkscale, "these are communities where we live. These are our homes, our schools, our chambers of commerce. We want to help bring a desired way of life to the residents, and see the communities prosper and grow.

"We want to be a good neighbor," he says.



# RECIPES



## Bacon-Swiss Crescent Bites

- |                               |                           |
|-------------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1 lb. bacon, cooked, crumbled | 1 & 1/2 cups Swiss cheese |
| 3 green onions, sliced thin   | 1-2 Tbsp. basil           |
| 3 Roma tomatoes, chopped fine | 2 tubes crescent rolls    |
| 1/2 cup mayonnaise            |                           |

Combine ingredients. Cut each crescent roll triangle in half (will not be uniform.) Spoon 1 Tbsp. of mixture on triangle. Pull tip of triangle over about 1/3- 1/2 of mixture. Bake at 375° for 11-13 minutes.

## Snow Ice Cream

- |                        |                    |
|------------------------|--------------------|
| 1 can milk             | 1 egg, well-beaten |
| 1/4 cup powdered sugar | 1 Tbsp. vanilla    |
| 1/4 cup sugar          | 1 dash salt        |

Mix all ingredients, then add 1/2 gallon of snow.



Four IEC trustees were recognized at a recent board meeting for having been certified through the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NRECA) trustee certification program. They include (left to right) Bill Boone, district 7; Bobby Burk, district 1; Wanda Foster, district 5 and Mike Spradling, district 2.

## Youth Programs...

*Continued from page 1.*

of fun, before jetting off to the nation's capitol early the next morning. After arriving in Washington, D.C., Youth Tour includes days filled with sight-seeing, a riverboat trip on the Potomac and breakfast with Oklahoma's Congressional delegation.

The contest requires you to write a 500 to 1,000-word essay over a chosen topic. The topic this year is: "*Compare Indian Electric Cooperative to Any Other Form of Business.*"

Four finalists are selected to compete at the IEC Youth Tour banquet by an independent panel of judges. Scores are based on subject knowledge, originality, neatness, and grammar. Finalists give oral presentations of their essays at the banquet before the panel of judges and banquet guests.

Judges award the Youth Tour trip to the top two individuals at the conclusion of the banquet. Runners-up receive a U.S. Savings Bond.

**YouthPower Energy Camp** is a leadership camp designed for eighth grade students and sponsored by the Oklahoma Association of Electric Cooperatives. The camp is held at Canyon Camp near Red Rock Canyon at Hinton.

By forming their own cooperative, students will spend four days learning about leadership, community development, and electrical safety.

Along with forming and operating a co-op, students will also enjoy volleyball, hiking, swimming, campfires and new-found friendships that will last a lifetime.

Teams, comprised of two students each who are currently eighth graders, will be required to write a 100 to 300-word essay on "*Where Would Your Community be Without an Electric Cooperative?*"

Details for both contests, including essay topics, contest rules, entry forms and resource material, trip dates, and deadlines are available under the Community Services section of our Web site at [www.iecok.com](http://www.iecok.com).