

THE



LAMP

INDIAN ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC.

VOLUME 41

JULY 2002

NUMBER 7

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IEC Employees Volunteer for Special Olympics

They say to “save a little something for a rainy day”...some interpret that to mean money; last month I met a group of Oklahomans that think it means spirit. I am always amazed at the courage and character of the folks involved in the Oklahoma Special Olympics Summer Games. From parents to athletes to coaches, the group shows up every year with all that’s right about America in a pair of tennis shoes. And they don’t mind a little rain.

This year was certainly no exception. I watched dumbfounded as over 3,500 athletes crowded onto the track in the pouring rain to compete in their event of expertise. They huddled together on the sidelines, cheered on their friends, and smiled. There was a lot of smiling.

And as they have been for nearly 15 years now, Indian Electric Cooperative employees were everywhere. From keeping time on the track and organizing events on the sidelines to cheering on contestants and serving in the ever popular role of “hugger” at the finish line, IEC employees joined colleagues from cooperatives across the state in helping make the event a success.

A total of 109 Oklahoma cooperative employees volunteered this year. IEC contributed 29 employees, making it one of the largest volunteer groups.

Cyndie Wood, a member of IEC’s marketing team, and coordinator of IEC’s Special Olympic volunteers, commented on the event. “This is what cooperatives are really about - everyone working together to help make our community a better place for all of us to live. This is probably one of the most rewarding experiences our family participates in all year!”

I watched a kid getting ready for his track event, decked out proudly in a uniform courtesy of a local business. The gun went off and he made his way quickly to the front of the pack, running the race just as I’m sure he had envisioned it so many times in practice. About 30 yards down the track, his spirit outran his legs and we all winced together as he fell to the asphalt. He was up in a second and as his freshly skinned knees carried him toward his goal I noticed his smile. It was just as bright and confident as it had been at the start of the race - he knew he had done his best. It was then that I noticed that his sponsor had printed the Special Olympics Oath across the chest of his uniform: “Let me win, but if I cannot win, let me be brave in the attempt.”

That’s a little something for a rainy day.

---Jonathan Smith, IEC Marketing/Member Services

“This is what cooperatives are really about - everyone working together to help make our community a better place for all of us to live!”

Cyndie Wood, a member of the IEC Marketing/Member Services team and coordinator of IEC’s Special Olympics volunteers, congratulates Mary after an event.



Employee Spotlight - Teresa Robertson

For Teresa Robertson, it's been the family spirit at Indian Electric that has made her 25 years as an employee so enjoyable.

Teresa began at IEC as a data entry clerk straight out of high school. After completing the business and office curriculum at Central Tech in Drumright, Teresa began her on-the-job training at IEC and soon was hired as full-time. She learned her 10-key skills at Central Tech, which was an important part of her job then.

"I never knew at that time how much my job would change and grow," Teresa said. "Since then, things have become more technology and computer oriented. The technology we use now makes accounting processes much more efficient, but there are a lot more things to learn and keep up with."

Teresa soon became Chief of Data Processing, in charge of overseeing the accounting computer program and system upgrades. Recently she was promoted to Supervisor of Member Accounts. She is responsible for the monthly billing process and serves as the liaison for IEC's software provider.

"Teresa stays current with all the updates to our accounting software and troubleshoots problems when they arise," said Karen Davis, Manager of Office Services "She is our resident expert."

Teresa enjoys her co-workers and has grown to appreciate them even more over the years.

"The people I work with are wonderful,"

Teresa said. "I really feel like we all work together to provide good service to our members. If I need help, they're always willing to help, no matter what it is. It's a cooperative effort."

"I truly appreciate Teresa's loyalty and knowledge of the cooperative and the billing system," Karen said. "She is a tremendous asset to IEC."



IEC Recognizes Employee Service



Front Row:
Marsha Murray - 20 years,
Judy Fisher - 20 years,
Marilyn Stevenson - 10 years,
Teresa Robertson - 25 years.

Back Row:
Wayne Robertson - 10 years,
Robert Bradley - 15 years,
Murray Braden - 5 years.

They say it's hard to find good help and even harder to keep them. Not so at IEC where seven employees were recently recognized for their dedication and commitment to the members of Indian Electric Cooperative. Their motivation is best summed up by Teresa Robertson, featured this month in the Employee Spotlight. "It's rewarding to work with our members, to know that what we do here helps them out at the end of the line. They're a great group of people to work for!"

THE LAMP

Indian Electric Cooperative, Inc.

Office Hours

7:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
Monday through Friday
918-358-2514

To report an outage call
358-2514 or 1-800-482-2750
(if you live outside the expanded Tulsa
calling area)
24-hour Service Center
918-295-9520

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The Lamp (USPS 942-940) is published monthly by Indian Electric Cooperative, Inc., P.O. Box 49, Highway 64 Southeast, Cleveland, Oklahoma 74020 for the interest of its membership. Subscription price was \$0.17 per month in 2001. Periodical postage paid at Cleveland, Oklahoma and additional mailing offices.

- Postmaster: Send address changes to The Lamp, P.O. Box 49, Cleveland, OK 74020.

My Bill is Higher Than My Neighbors!

SUMMER WEATHER & FAMILY ACTIVITIES LEAD TO HIGHER BILLS

“Why is my electric bill higher than my neighbor’s?”

You have a TV, VCR, microwave oven, electric range and cook top, refrigerator/freezer, stereo, heat pump and personal computer. So does your next door neighbor. So why aren’t your electric bills about the same?

There are a lot of factors involved in answering those questions. Consider this: How well are your walls insulated compared to your neighbor’s? Do the members of your family take showers or baths? Are the showers long and use a lot of hot water?

Are you cooking gourmet meals or baking from scratch while your neighbor pops quick meals in the microwave? Does the TV keep you company even when you’re not watching it? Does everyone turn out the lights in a room when they leave? Are you or members of your family at home more than your neighbor’s family? Are your homes about the same size?

No two

families live alike. So no two electric bills are the same. Comparing

your monthly statement to anyone else’s would be like comparing your weekly grocery bills.

Two families of four will never spend exactly the same amount on food because their tastes and habits are different.

Think about the conveniences you might be willing to pay for, even though your

neighbor isn’t. Are you more comfortable sleeping in an extra-cool house on hot summer nights? Maybe your neighbor has set his or her thermostat a few degrees higher. Do members of your family entertain themselves in separate rooms after dinner – turning on a light in each – while the folks next door gather all together in a family room to watch baseball games or a movie on TV?

Remember, each of your neighbor’s bills is going to differ from the other neighbor. Just make sure your bill reflects energy that has been used as efficiently as possible.

If you have questions about your bill or your energy usage, call us. We’ll be happy to help you learn about your family’s electricity usage and possibly make suggestions on how to improve efficiency.

Average Monthly Billing to the Rescue!

Electric usage in your home may vary from season to season, which may lead to fluctuating electric bills throughout the year. This variance, in turn, often makes it difficult to follow a budget.

The average Indian Electric Cooperative member receives their highest bill in the summer while the spring and fall usually bring the lowest power bills of the year.

This is especially helpful to those on fixed incomes or those monthly salaries.

Members who are interested in Indian Electric’s Average Monthly Payment (AMP) Plan may contact the billing department for full details.

Average Monthly Billing continued on back page...



Indian Electric Announces District Meeting Dates

One of the great things about being a member of an electric cooperative is that every member has an equal voice and an equal opportunity to vote on co-op business. Members may attend the annual meeting and their district meeting each year to exercise this right. District meetings this year are all scheduled to start at 7:00 p.m.

- District 1 Monday, July 22 Full Gospel Church – Mannford
- District 7 Monday, July 29 Fisher Baptist Church – Sand Springs
- District 4 Tuesday, July 30 Sr. Citizens Center – Terilton

Make plans now to attend IEC’s annual meeting Saturday, October 19th at Cleveland High School at 10 a.m. To learn more, call IEC at 918-358-2514.



July 4
2002 Freedom Festival
Lake Ponca
580-763-8051

July 4
July 4th Celebration
Pawnee Lake
918-762-2108

July 4 – 7
Pawnee Indian Veterans Homecoming & Powwow
Memorial Field, Pawnee
918-762-4048

July 5
Freedom Celebration
3:30 – 11:00 p.m.
Feyodi Park, Cleveland
918-358-2131

July 5-6
Christmas in July
Pioneer Beach, Kaw City
580-762-9494

July 6
Cowboy “Ride-In” Breakfast
Pawnee Bill Ranch, Pawnee
918-762-2108

July 18-21
International Round-up Clubs Cavalcade – World’s Largest Amateur Rodeo
Osage County Fairgrounds
918-287-1208 or 918-287-1553

July 30-31
Grand National Moto-Cross Races
AMBUC Raceway
580-762-5502



Average Monthly Billing

Continued...

The plan allows the member to average out their electric bills throughout the year, eliminating high bills during times of extra winter or summer usage.

To participate in the AMP Plan, members must complete an application with IEC.

To be approved, the member must have twelve month's billing history at the location, and the account must be in current status.

This means that the current billing should not be past due, no unpaid balance should exist on the account and previous credit history is satisfactory.

On approval, the member's monthly bill average will be computed. The AMP Plan is based on the current month's billing, plus the eleven preceding months, divided by twelve (12).

At the next billing period, the oldest month's billing is dropped, the current month's billing is added, and an average of 12 months is again computed.

Each bill denotes the actual cost of the month's usage and also the AMP Plan amount.

When the member agrees to the AMP Plan, he must always pay the AMP amount, realizing that in some months the average bill will be more than the amount shown for actual usage.

If the plan is terminated by the cooperative for past due amounts, the entire amount owed must be paid prior to the restoration of service.

The AMP Plan takes the surprise out of your electric bill and puts you in control.

Fresh Strawberry Muffins

- 1/2 cup butter
- 1/2 cup white sugar
- 2 eggs
- 1/2 cup buttermilk
- 1 (8 ounce) container strawberry flavored yogurt
- 1 tablespoon lemon juice
- 2 1/2 cups all-purpose flour
- 1 tablespoon baking powder
- 1 1/2 cups chopped strawberries

Preheat the oven to 350 degrees. Grease a 12 cup muffin tin, or line with paper liners. In a large bowl, cream together the butter and sugar until light and fluffy. Beat in the eggs one at a time, then stir in the buttermilk, yogurt, and lemon juice. Combine the flour and baking powder; stir into the yogurt mixture until just blended. Fold in strawberries. Spoon the batter into the prepared muffin cups. Bake for 15 to 18 minutes in the preheated oven, or until the top springs back when lightly touched. Cool in the pan over a wire rack.

Summer Lake Safety

Planning a trip to the lake this summer? Maybe you're a regular visitor to Kaw Lake, Lake Keystone or another Oklahoma Lake. We at IEC want to remind you that if you have kids, please plan to take life jackets.

Drownings are the second-leading cause of fatal unintentional injuries to Oklahoma children, accounting for 25 deaths in 2000 alone, according to the Oklahoma Safe Kids Coalition.

Because of that alarming statistic, Oklahoma Safe Kids Coalition implemented a life jacket loaner program three years ago called the "Brittany Project," named for four-year-old Brittany Mobley, who drowned Memorial Day weekend six years ago and wasn't wearing a life jacket.

The program offers free use of children's life jackets in 16 different parks at the following Oklahoma Department of Tourism lakes: Eufaula, Fort Gibson, Green Leaf, Keystone, Murray, Quartz Mountain, Tenkiller, Texoma, and Thunderbird. Life jackets are usually available

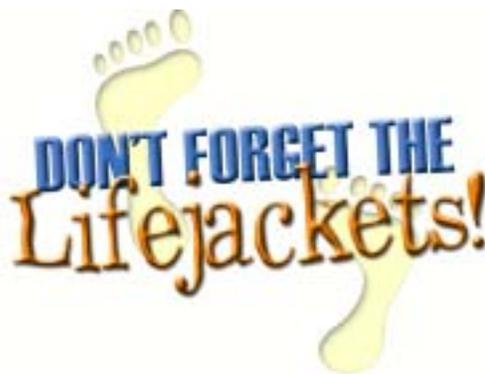
on freestanding kiosks located on the beaches. Loaner jackets are also available at 19 parks owned and operated by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers: Birch, Canton, Copan, Eufaula, Ft. Gibson, Ft. Supply, Heyburn, Hugo, Kaw, Keystone, Oologah, Pine Creek, R.S. Kerr, Sardis, Skiatook, Tenkiller, Texoma, Waurika, and Webbers Falls. Life jackets at these lakes are available at the gatehouses.

Your children should wear life jackets at all times when on boats or near bodies of water.

Teach your child how to put on his or her own life jacket.

Make sure the life jacket is the right size for your child. The jacket should not be loose. It should always be worn as instructed with all straps belted.

Blow-up water wings, toys, rafts, and air mattresses should never be used as life jackets or life preservers. They are not safe.



PROTECT YOUR FAMILY WITH A STORM SHELTER FROM IEC!

Storm season in the IEC territory can be devastating. But, you can protect your family and your peace of mind with a pre-cast concrete storm shelter. Just call (918) 295-9564 for more information.

- Structure poured with minimum 6,000 psi concrete
- Room for 8-10 adults
- Double handrail on steps
- 8" wind turbine for ventilation
- 6" vent
- Maintenance free!
- 10-year manufacturer's warranty

Delivered and installed for as little as \$59.99*/month!

**WAC. Some locations may require additional install fees due to soil conditions.*

