



The official
publication
of the members of
Indian Electric
Cooperative



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Strong Winds Wreak Havoc System-Wide

The meteorologists call it a 'gust-nado.' It's not a tornado, but the damage it causes certainly resembles one. A thunderstorm hit north-central and northeast Oklahoma Wednesday, June 2 bringing not only rain, hail and thunder, but straight winds that were clocked between 60 and 80 miles per hour.

Before it moved out of the co-op's service territory, it downed trees and utility poles, tore roofs off of buildings, knocked down carports and portions of buildings, and scattered people's belongings into the yards of neighbors down the road. Flower arrangements could be found hanging on fences waiting to be claimed by their owners, after having been blown more than one-half mile from the cemetery where they were placed during Memorial Day.

"We started receiving calls about 2:30 Wednesday afternoon from members in the Pawnee area," says IEC Line Superintendent Doyle Whittenburg. "By 3:45 we were experiencing a full-blown system-wide outage situation,

and had dispatched all personnel to the field." Whittenburg says the damage was wide spread. "IEC has 18 substations, and we had outages on multiple feeders coming out of each of those. We had four poles down northeast of Terlton, three down in the Yale area and one down west of Hwy. 99, north of Hallett. There were numerous meter poles down, transformers blown and knocked down from the poles, numerous lines down across the system, and of course, there were trees blown onto the lines which tore equipment from homes and utility poles."

Whittenburg says the outage lasted only about 33 hours, as IEC had power restored to all affected members by 11:30 p.m. Thursday.

IEC General Manager Jack Clinkscale says the outage could have lasted longer and involved more members if it weren't for the co-op's aggressive right-of-way clearing program.

"We work throughout the year clearing

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The True Expense of Status Symbols *by Jack Clinkscale, General Manager*

How many times have you purchased an item you just couldn't wait to get home with, and within a couple of weeks it is shoved aside in your sock drawer never to be seen until your next garage sale? I am that way with horse equipment. I break out in hives when I walk through Mock Brothers or Drysdale's. Several years ago, Spyderco clip-on pocket knives were the rage among ropers. You just weren't cool unless you had a Spyderco clipped to your pocket. They have a very wicked looking serrated blade and will cut through a 3/8-inch nylon rope in the blink of an eye. A convenient hole in the blade allows you to flip it open with one hand. If you rope and are accident prone like I am, a knife like this can be a lifesaver. I looked at these knives and finally shelled out \$80 for the coolest Spyderco you ever saw. Now, I proudly carried this status symbol to a roping or two but I always found myself reaching to my pocket to make sure this treasure was still firmly attached. After several ropings, I decided it was just too much trouble and I couldn't stand the thought of losing an expensive knife, so it now resides safely in my dresser drawer. But I take comfort in

knowing when I get my hand caught in a dally and need to quickly extricate myself from this horrible situation, I have a quality knife that can do the job. I just hope I have time to run home and get it!

By now, you have probably received your first bill reflecting the new electric

rates. I hope we have done an adequate job over the past months, of informing you of the need for this increase and the reasons why. As always, if you have any questions concerning the new rates, please give us a call.

Storm Causes Outages... *Continued from page 1.*

and maintaining our rights-of-way for reasons such as this storm," he explains. "In an area such as northeast Oklahoma, where brush and foliage are so prevalent, we have to maintain our rights-of-way if we're going to be able to provide reliable electric service."

Clinkscale goes on to say although the rights-of-way are maintained, there were some locations where trees as tall as 70-feet and not growing in the right-of-way were blown down, falling onto the electric lines.

"We thank our members for their patience during this outage, and for working with us on such things as our right-of-way clearing program, throughout the year," says Clinkscale. "I think our members understand there is no way to protect against every type of outage," he says. "Being patient and working with us adds to the commitment our employees have to restoring power and providing good service."



THE LAMP

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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Co-op Employees, Family and Friends Give Time, Talents to Worthy Causes

“Neither rain or shine or gloom of night” is a phrase usually applied to postal employees dedicated to reliably delivering our mail. But that dedication isn’t exclusive to the postal service. Electric cooperative employees are not only dedicated to performing their jobs during business hours, they are also dedicated to lending their time and talents to worthy causes.

For the 19th consecutive year, employees from Oklahoma’s electric cooperatives volunteered for three days at the Oklahoma Special Olympic games on the OSU campus in Stillwater. More than 130 employees, 24 employees from Indian Electric and 11 family members and friends, braved cold, rainy weather to help in the track and field area. They helped the athletes get to their event at the right time, encouraged them as they participated, and hugged and congratulated them as each athlete finished his or her event.

Wearing bright yellow T-shirts, the co-op volunteers made an impressive statement as they worked not only the track and field events, but also in the Olympic Village and aquatic events. Representing IEC were Clara Eulert, Shawn Stocum, Damon Lester, Mike Gundy, Murry “Bubba” Braden, Rick Harvel, Ryan Weaver, Jason Callahan, David Donalson and daughter Amanda, Brittany Fishes, Larry Brown, Bill Graham, Rick and Kathy VanDeventer, Doyle Whittenburg, James and Nora Cox, Amanda, Ashleigh and Adam Ramsay, Trena Zickafoose, Kim Woodrell, Kim Lay and son Jesse, Marsha Murray, Brian Cox, Tara Hudgins, Tony Gordon, Dusty Rice and daughter Laryn, Bill Brumley, Kyle Welch, Brenda Banks and Heath Collins.

Inclement weather postponed Cleveland’s Relay for Life event for one week, but it didn’t deter IEC employees from putting on their walking shoes and pitching tents as they spent the night walking the high school track to raise money for the American Cancer Society. IEC was also a corporate sponsor for the annual event.

Trena Zickafoose, IEC coordinator for the event, said eight employees were on hand either the entire night of June 11 or a portion of it.

Employees Darrell Murray, Teresa Robertson and Amanda Ramsay entertained the walkers by singing a variety of popular gospel songs.

Zickafoose says the employee group

raised over \$1,200, including the corporation sponsorship.

Participating in the event were Kim Lay, Doyle, Vicki and Wendi Whittenburg, Ryan Weaver, Jason Callahan, Carlton Walker, Brian Cox, Ramsay, Zickafoose and friends Keah Robertson, Amanda Brower, Jessica Towell and Amber Gough.



RECIPE



BlackBerry Ice cream

3 cups sugar
3 Tbsps. all-purpose flour
1/2 tsp. salt
10 cups half-and-half
8 large eggs, beaten
1 tsp. vanilla extract

4 & 1/2 cups fresh or 1 1-lb. pkg.
frozen blackberries
1 & 1/2 cups sugar
1 Tbsp. fresh lemon juice
Garnishes: fresh mint, fresh black-
berries

Combine first 3 ingredients in a large Dutch oven. Whisk in half-and-half. Bring to a boil, stirring constantly, over medium-high heat.

Slowly whisk about 4 cups of hot mixture, whisking constantly, until mixture reaches 160. (Immediately remove it from heat to prevent curdling.) Let cool completely, stirring occasionally. Stir in vanilla; chill 8 hours or overnight.

Combine blackberries and 1 & 1/2 cups sugar in a separate bowl; stir well. Cover and chill 8 hours, stirring occasionally to dissolve sugar. Stir in lemon juice.

Stir berry mixture into custard mixture. Pour into container of a 4-quart ice cream maker. Freeze according to manufacturer's instructions; if recommended, pack freezer with additional ice and rock salt, and let stand 1 hour before serving. Scoop into serving bowls; garnish, if desired.

NOTE: To hasten cooling of custard mixture, partially fill sink with ice water to come about halfway up sides of Dutch oven. Let pan remain in ice-water bath, stirring often until room temperature; chill.

Meter Tampering can Kill

Tampering with your electric meter can cost you your life.

No, the crime won't land you on death row when your cooperative – whose



technicians are trained to spot electricity theft – reports you to the local law enforcement agency. In that case, you'll be charged with theft, possibly sent to jail and definitely

slapped with fines of about triple the money you thought you could save by rigging your meter.

But an attempt to bypass or alter an electric meter can result in shock, fire, explosion or electrocution. And if you're lucky enough not to get hurt, you'll still leave the tampered meter in a state that's dangerous to others, including the electric cooperative employee who reads or maintains it.

Plus, you're driving up electrical costs for your neighbors, just as shoplifters force department stores to inflate the price of their clothes to cover the thefts.

The cooperative does not have to catch you red-handed to turn you over to the police or to the sheriff. In fact, the law assumes a person who benefits from the use of stolen electricity has tampered with the meter.

And we can disconnect your electric service, meaning there will be fees you will have to pay to have your meter re-connected and your service restored.



School may be out for the summer, but the students at the Full Gospel Christian Academy in Fairfax will be excited next year about the computer IEC has donated to them. Teacher Candace Rogers and students (left to right) Kaylie and Breanna Rogers and Katzee Reese were on hand to thank IEC Trustee Rock Reese (right) for the donation.