



3...2...1...

Counting the Days

Long time employees Judy Nail and Judy Fisher have circled July 1 in red on their calendars. That is the day they are beginning the next phase of their lives: they are retiring from IEC.

Judy Nail began her career with IEC in February 1981. Her title at the time was executive secretary. Today it is executive assistant, works closely with the general manager and the board of trustees. Beginning in late 2002, Nail served as interim

administrator, overseeing the internal operations of the co-op for 11 months while the board searched for a general manager.

Judy Fisher came to work at IEC in February, 1982 in the Engineering department. She also worked in office services, and served as benefits administrator before returning to the Engineering department. She is currently the Engineering Office Assistant.

Both women are looking forward to retirement and plan to spend a lot of time with their children and grandchildren.

"These ladies have quite a history of service to the co-op, it's members and employees," says General Manager Jack Clinkscale. "We

are certainly going to miss our friends, and will have to fill their positions. But we can never replace either one of them."

Judy Nail (left) and Judy Fisher check the calendar as they count how many days until they begin their retirement.

District Meeting Notices in the Mail

Members in districts 3, 6 and 9 are receiving notices this month about their district meetings. The yellow postcard-sized legal notices were mailed the first part of June.

Each notice gives the meeting date, along with the location, time, filing period information, and bylaw requirements.

Members in district 3 will meet July 26 at Woodland Middle School in Ralston; district 6 members will meet July 23 at the Skedee Fire De-

partment; and district 9 members will meet July 24 at the IEC office in Fairfax.

In addition to voting for representation on the co-op's board of trustees, members can visit with co-op trustees and personnel, enjoy refreshments, get a registration gift and be eligible to win a door prize.

The district meeting registration gift is a royal blue and black fleece and nylon stadium blanket embroidered with the IEC logo.

The official
publication
of the members of
Indian Electric
Cooperative

Oops!

by Jack Clinkscale, General Manager

“Oops” is not generally a word I want to hear. It normally means a mistake or an accident has occurred that will require corrective action. Around my house, it usually means I am going to have to repair something or buy another one. That is why I cringe when I hear the expression.



IEC is in the process of installing an automated meter system throughout our entire system. This means installing new software and replacing all 18,500 meters throughout the entire IEC system with new electronic meters. When the project is completed, all meters will be read from our office in Cleveland. Any meter on the system can be read almost instantaneously at any time.

As you can imagine, a project of this magnitude takes careful planning. Before the project began, we had some meters read by cooperative personnel, some read by members, some read by independent contractors and a few read electronically. Many planning sessions were held to make this

transition to modern, efficient technology as seamless as possible.

First, we needed to arrange strategic dates with KAMO – our wholesale power supplier – to install fiber optic cable in our substations to transmit meter data to our office. Then we needed to notify members when we would be in their area changing meters, and how we should coordinate the transition from the old meters to that of the new meters so consumers would not get a bill for an unusually long short period of kWh usage.

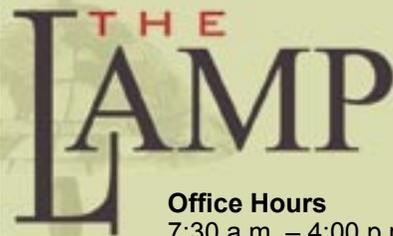
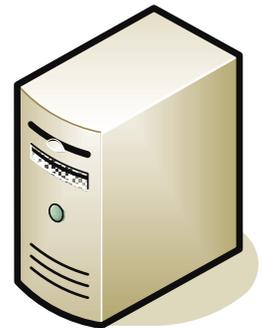
With the many different methods currently being used to read meters and three different billing cycles, this took a good amount of planning.

Despite our best efforts, the project did not begin as smoothly as we would have liked. Initially, we failed to notify members in a timely manner when their meters would be changed out. We also failed to coordinate the readings, which resulted in some members receiving a bill for usage covering

a short period and some for a long period. Couple this with extremely cold weather at the start of the project, and the result was some members received an unexpected large power bill.

We have learned our lesson and the project is now proceeding well. We sincerely apologize for any inconvenience this may have caused any of you.

This project began with an “oops” but the problems have been corrected and the results will be well worth the effort. The new automated meter reading system will provide many benefits to you for years to come. I hope I don’t hear the word “oops” for a long, long time.



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

To Report Meter Readings
(918) 295-9520

Board of Trustees

Bill Boone, President	District 7
Robert Burk, Vice-President	District 1
Greg Fielding, Sec.-Treas.	District 8
Mike Spradling	District 2
Berry Keeler	District 3
Wanda Foster	District 5
Loris Peckenpaugh	District 6
Rock Reese	District 9

Jack Clinkscale, General Manager
Kay Rabbitt-Brower, Editor

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 2006. Periodical postage paid at Cleveland, Oklahoma and additional mailing offices.

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

Boat Smart from the Start

New Oklahoma boating law requires boat and personal water craft operators between 12 and 16 years old to complete an approved Boat Safety Course (6 hours) before being able to operate a boat on Oklahoma waters. Anyone 16 years old and older must carry their photo identification when operating a boat or personal water craft.

To enroll in a free boat safety course, offered by the Oklahoma Highway Patrol, go to www.OKBoatEd.com.

Also, check with your insurance company to discuss any discount you might be eligible for once you satisfactorily complete the course.



Easy Summer Cooling Tips

If your home is too hot in the summer, there are many ways you can help keep heat out of your house. Planting trees, for instance, is one of the best ways to diffuse the hot summer sun before it enters your home. But a surprising amount of heat comes from inside your home.

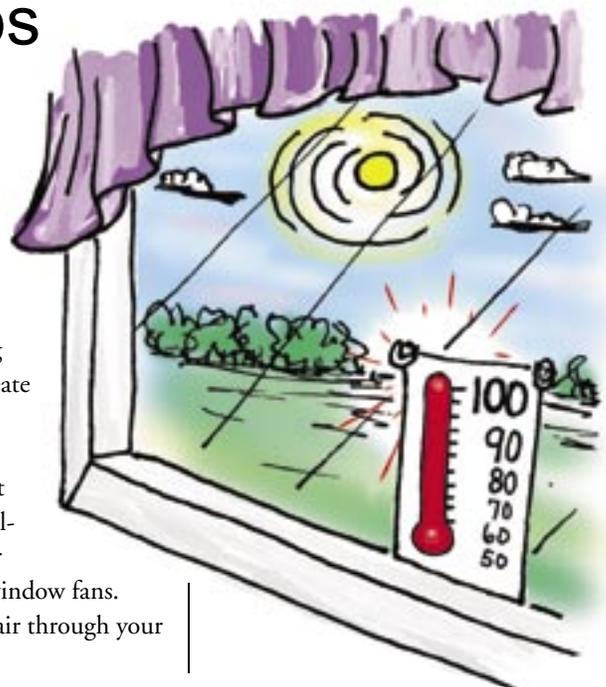
The biggest sources of internal heat gain are lights and appliances. Reducing their use will save electricity and keep your home cooler. In humid climates, moisture that is released by cooking, bathing, and other activities will also make it harder for air conditioners to cool your home. A drier home feels more comfortable.

Here are some easy ways to keep cool in the summer:

- Replace standard incandescent light bulbs with compact fluorescent light bulbs. The electricity used by standard bulbs produces 10 percent light and 90 percent heat. Also, compact fluorescent lights are cheaper to operate.
- Schedule heat-producing chores like baking or doing the laundry after the hottest part of the day.
- Install an insulating jacket on your water heater.
- Use kitchen and bathroom fans to remove heat and moisture during and after

cooking and bathing.

- When replacing appliances, buy those with the Energy Star® label. These appliances conserve energy and release less unwanted heat.
- If you are home during the day, use a room fan to create a cooling breeze.
- If you live in an area where evenings are cool, don't forget about the cheapest cooling method of all. Open your doors and windows, or run window fans. This will move cool evening air through your home for almost no cost.



CENTENNIAL EVENTS

The entire state is celebrating! And we want to help you promote your Centennial event. Send us the name of the event along with pertinent data such as the date, time, location, admission charge, and a phone number. We need it no less than eight weeks before the event. That information will appear in *The Lamp* through the December issue, with the exception of our annual report.

Send the information to Lamp Editor, Indian Electric Cooperative, P. O. Box 49, Cleveland, OK 74020, or to TheLamp@IECOK.com.

RECIPE



New Potatoes and Fresh Green Beans with a Twist

- 1 1/2 lbs. of new potatoes
- 1 lb. green beans (slender "haricots verts" are best), ends snipped off
- 1/4 cup snipped, fresh chives
- 2 Tbsp. chopped, fresh parsley
- Fresh Thyme Vinaigrette

Fresh Thyme Vinaigrette

- 2 1/2 Tbsp. red wine vinegar
- 3 Tbsp. olive oil
- 1 Tbsp. corn oil
- 1 Tbsp. Dijon mustard
- 2 tsp. chopped fresh thyme
- 1 tsp. salt
- 1/2 tsp. freshly ground black pepper

Combine all the thyme vinaigrette ingredients and shake until well blended. The new potatoes should be scrubbed, but not peeled. Steam them for about 15-20 minutes (until they are easily pierced with a fork.) Let them cool for about 10 minutes or more.

Steam fresh green beans until they are barely tender, but not mushy. (Takes about 4 minutes if cooking haricots vents; 6 minutes if cooking thicker ones.) Immediately plunge them in ice water to stop the cooking. Cut them however you prefer.

The potatoes should be cool enough to handle, so cut them into quarters. Set aside at least 2 Tbsp. of thyme vinaigrette and use the rest to mix in the potatoes. Fold in the parsley and the chives. Spread all this on a flat platter.

Mix the beans with the 2 Tbsp. of vinaigrette previously set aside. Then spoon these beans over the top of the potatoes. (It's nice to leave a rim of the potatoes around the outside for a bit of contrast.)



IEC offices in Cleveland and Fairfax will be closed Wednesday, July 4 so our employees can spend the 4th of July holiday with their families.

Please call (918) 358-2514 or 1-800-482-2750 to report an outage.

Have a Safe and Happy 4th of July!



Trees are Cool

When we think of trees, we usually think of them providing shade in the summer, trunks to lean on or sit beneath, branches to climb on, and homes for birds and squirrels. But we don't normally associate trees with carbon dioxide storage.

Trees are natural 'carbon sinks,' effectively capturing and storing greenhouse gases that have been linked to climate change.

Scientists with the U.S. Forest Service who study the use of trees for carbon clean-up, say any species will do, but trees that grow quickly and live long are ideal. Among those with the best 'carbon sequestration' potential are Loblolly Pine, Black Walnut, Red Oak, Virginia Live Oak and Bald Cypress.

So ultimately, trees of any shape, size or species will help absorb carbon dioxide.

Trees can also help with the energy efficiency inside your home. The right type of tree planted in the right spot in your yard can help keep your home cool in the summer by blocking the sun, and help keep it warm in the winter by letting the sun shine through.

Visit your local nursery or with a landscape specialist to learn what would be best for your home. And remember to look up before planting. Don't plant your new tree where it will grow into electric lines.