

THE LAMP



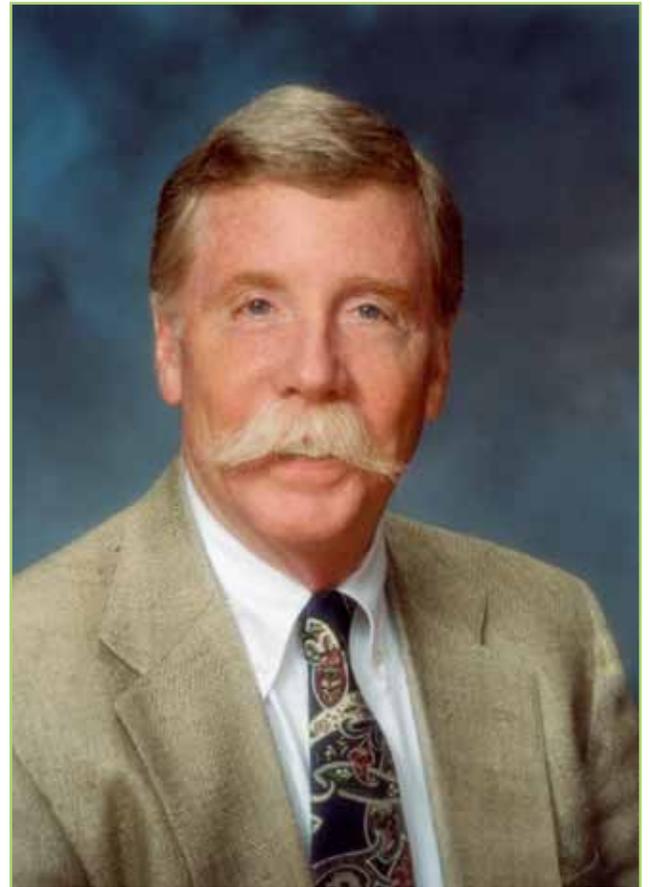
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FORMER MARINE TRUSTEE

By C.L. Harmon

At first I wasn't even interested...but I was talked into it and now I'm

each time he sees an IEC crew working and asks questions. The input improves IEC's ability to deliver power effectively at the lowest possible cost to members and makes employees' jobs more efficient.



Bill Boone - District 8 Trustee

getting ready to run for my fourth term," IEC Trustee Bill Boone and the next to be interviewed in a series of stories on those who serve you.

Boone has made a living being a business man. He's one of those individuals with the gift to turn ideas into innovation and innovation into success. Retired former owner of a successful company which sold commercial heating and cooling mechanical equipment, Boone never saw himself as one who would be involved in something he knew so little about. "I was ignorant about electricity," he admits. But at the insistence of his friend and fellow Trustee Mike Spradling, he decided to see if his specific set of skills could be of value to co-op members. His first stint as Trustee began in 2002. By the time he finished that term, he knew his set of skills were a valuable tool to the board just as the skills of the other members had been and continue to be.

In 2002 the only thing he knew about electricity was that it ran down a line. He became a quick study though and within a short time, became very interested and versed in how the entire dynamic of creating and delivering electricity worked. In fact, even now he stops

"Jack (Clinkscale) runs a tight ship and it works well," Boone said. He

said that Jack's leadership and business skills mesh very well with the board's business sense. He further explained that all the Trustees bring an individual business perspective to the table based on their careers. Each Trustee brings a unique sense of individualism forged from their own experiences which also seems to interact well with the ideas of the other Trustees. He said this makes the group more cohesive.

They must use their collective business sense to solve problems like running out of power. He agrees with his fellow members that relying on coal as a continued long term source of creating electricity is a sure way to make that problem becomes a reality. He also does

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I was ignorant about electricity, but I decided to see if my specific set of skills could be of value to co-op members.

- Bill Boone

not believe that “wind and solar power are the saviors.”

“Government is doing it the wrong way. With its regulations, they are tying our hands,” he said. The regulations pertaining to the EPA and the freight charges railroads are demanding have become problems that are taking the collective senses of co-op board members across the country to help keep the power coming down the line at a cost that consumers can afford”, he said.

“Our customers are our members and they are part owner and we need to take care of them,” Boone said. He explained that the co-op does very well “tightening its belt” in order to bring the lowest rates to members. It even sends Trustees to various schools and meetings with other co-ops to learn and discuss ways of reducing costs. During one such meeting he was very proud to discover that ideas being considered by a Florida co-op board had already been initiated at IEC. He added that its good to know that IEC

is keeping up with the latest cost-cutting measures nationwide as they become available.

“We are a step ahead and I am very pleased and proud to say that.” In fact he is proud to be part of the co-op, which he calls a family who is always trying to help each other. Speaking of family, Boone, a former Marine and a native of Chicago, has been married to Barbara, an “Okie”, for 38 years. He has two grown children of whom he is very proud and are Okies as well.

“I am a d@!# Yankee, however,” Boone quips. Then after a second or two he added, “Well, I guess now I've become an Okie too and I'm proud of that as well,” he says with a hearty laugh. Boone was very candid in his answers and it was obvious that he is a very straight forward business man who knows the value of a dollar and the value that it has to those who use it to keep the lights on and the power flowing down the lines. ♦

SPECIAL OLYMPIC SUPER HEROS



Special Olympics

By C.L. Harmon

Super Heroes is their theme, a fitting theme for these individuals who are Special Olympians. This year marks the 42nd Annual Summer Games held in Oklahoma for these athletes numbering in the thousands. They met on the field in Stillwater May 11 through 13 to test their skills against the more than 4,300 athletes registered to attend and compete. And once again, just as in years past, IEC volunteers were there to make this day special for these individuals who have trained so hard throughout the year.

“It's the feeling you have when they

cross the finish line. It's neat to be a part of something that they accomplish,” IEC volunteer Paul Grantham said. He was working with the foot race competitions on Thursday at the starting line, among other IEC volunteers.

The volunteers from IEC mostly work in the track and field events each year. Some keep time while others help prepare the athletes at the starting line such as Grantham. But it is obvious by anyone watching that everyone's favorite job is to be on the receiving end when those tired bodies with smiling faces run into the awaiting arms at the finish line.

Several IEC volunteers were fortunate

enough to be at the finish line and were always waiting with hugs, high fives and smiles for all the athletes regardless of what place they came in...to them every athlete is a winner. In all there were 29 volunteers over two days from IEC donating their time to help these athletes reach their goals of attaining the medals that each have given so much effort to earn. As with any athlete, these competitors work on their skills year around.



A Special Olympian competes to cheers of encouragement.

Sadly however, there are always those who don't finish first or those who simply miss the mark. It's the actions of the volunteers during these times which really appear to make a difference. One such incident, which involved an IEC volunteer, occurred when the athlete lost the race and then just sat on the track sad in the defeat at the finish line. The volunteer did not push for good sportsmanship but instead sat with the athlete and shared in the defeat. It was a great message of compassion and understanding and one obviously shared by all the volunteers.

"We are very committed to being involved in the community and Special Olympics is just one more way we can achieve this goal", IEC General Manager Jack Clinkscale said. IEC has been involved in the Special Olympics since at least 1996, according to Member Service Representative Clara Eulert. And every year the co-op has no problem in acquiring volunteers. As one volunteer put it, "once you go, you're hooked."

For those who have gone, it's easy to see why they keep coming back. The experience of watching these athletes smile after winning an event or receiving a medal is something that becomes a part of the volunteers and supporters.

'It's something you never forget.

They work just as hard as any other athlete. And all they really want is someone on the line cheering them on,' was the general sentiment from those volunteers asked to describe why they participate, many of them year after year. Participation of family members of IEC employees has also grown to bolster the volunteer effort which makes Special Olympics a success every year.

Special Olympics Oklahoma staff, along with hundreds of volunteers work each year to give these athletes a few days to show the world what true heroes they are. Not only in the games but in life as well. It is with the support of organizations like IEC that has helped make Special Olympics a global organization which serves more than 3.4 million athletes with disabilities each year, according to the Special Olympics website.

The establishment of Special Olympics began in 1968 with Oklahoma's first Special Olympics following just one year later in 1969 at the University of Tulsa. With that opening game in Tulsa and the popularity that has followed throughout the years, the need for volunteers has grown exponentially. Over the course of many of those years, Oklahoma Electric Cooperatives have grown their involvement to become the largest group of volunteers in the state, according to Member Services Manager David Wilson. ♦

"We are very committed to being involved in the community and Special Olympics is just one more way we can achieve this goal", - Jack Clinkscale



Rick Harvell and Jason King assist an olympian getting ready on the starting line.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!!

IEC's Annual Meeting of the Members will be held August 11th at 7 p.m. inside the Cleveland Event Center. Registration will open at 5 p.m. Come get your \$20 registration gift for the first 800 members to register. Stay for the gifts, prizes, and entertainment. Bring your June, July or August IEC power bill to register faster at the new scanning stations. Members who register at one of the new scanning stations with their bill will be entered into a drawing for a \$50.00 bill credit.

More information on the meeting will be in next month's Lamp. Stay tuned.

2011 Annual Meeting Business Spotlight Reservation Form

Business Name _____
Contact Person _____
Cell/Home Phone _____
Work Telephone _____
E-mail Address _____
Mailing Address _____
City _____
State _____ Zip _____
Food to be sold _____
Product to be sold or displayed _____

Return completed form by Friday, July 8th to:
Indian Electric Cooperative
Attn: Clara Eulert
P. O. Box 49, Cleveland, OK 74020
Spaces reserved on a first come, first serve basis

Recipe: Summer Fruit Salad

- 2 med. Granny Smith apples, cored and sliced
- 1 lime
- 1 can (11 ounces) mandarin orange segments, drained
- 1 cup halved seedless red grapes
- 1 ½ cups miniature marshmallows
- 1 carton (8 ounces) vanilla low fat yogurt
- 2 Tbs. nuts, chopped

Do not peel apples. Core and slice apples. Cut apple slices into sixths. Zest lime using a lemon zester. Combine apples, lime zest, mandarin oranges, and grapes in a bowl. Add marshmallows and yogurt; mix gently using a scraper/spatula. Chop nuts and sprinkle over salad. Refrigerate until ready to serve.

Yield: 12 servings (Approximately 80 calories and 1 gram of fat per serving)

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