

Operation Round-Up Helps Fairfax Fire Department Save Lives

IEC Foundation Approves Use of Operation Round-Up Funds for Jaws of Life Equipment

They all have “day jobs.” Some farm, some weld, some run businesses. At the end of the day, they head home to families and chores...at least until the telephone rings. Responding to emergency calls is something they do because it needs to be done. And their community depends on it. Volunteer fire fighters are heroes in our rural communities and IEC members participating in Operation Round-Up are now part of that team.

Last month the IEC Foundation, an independent nine-member committee appointed by the IEC Board of Trustees to oversee Operation Round-Up donations, unanimously approved a request from the Fairfax Volunteer Fire Department to help offset the cost of purchasing Jaws of Life equipment for one of their trucks. The equipment, including a gas powered hydraulic unit, spreaders and shears, is used to extricate people trapped in vehicles or pinned under debris. Jaws of Life, manufactured by Hurst Corporation, is considered the gold standard in rescue equipment, credited with saving literally thousands of lives each year. The tool is especially important in rural areas like Osage County, where it could easily take over an hour for emergency workers from other areas to reach the scene of an accident. With the Jaws of Life on

board, Fairfax Fire Department volunteers are now better equipped to respond to vehicle emergencies, farm accidents and even tornado victims.

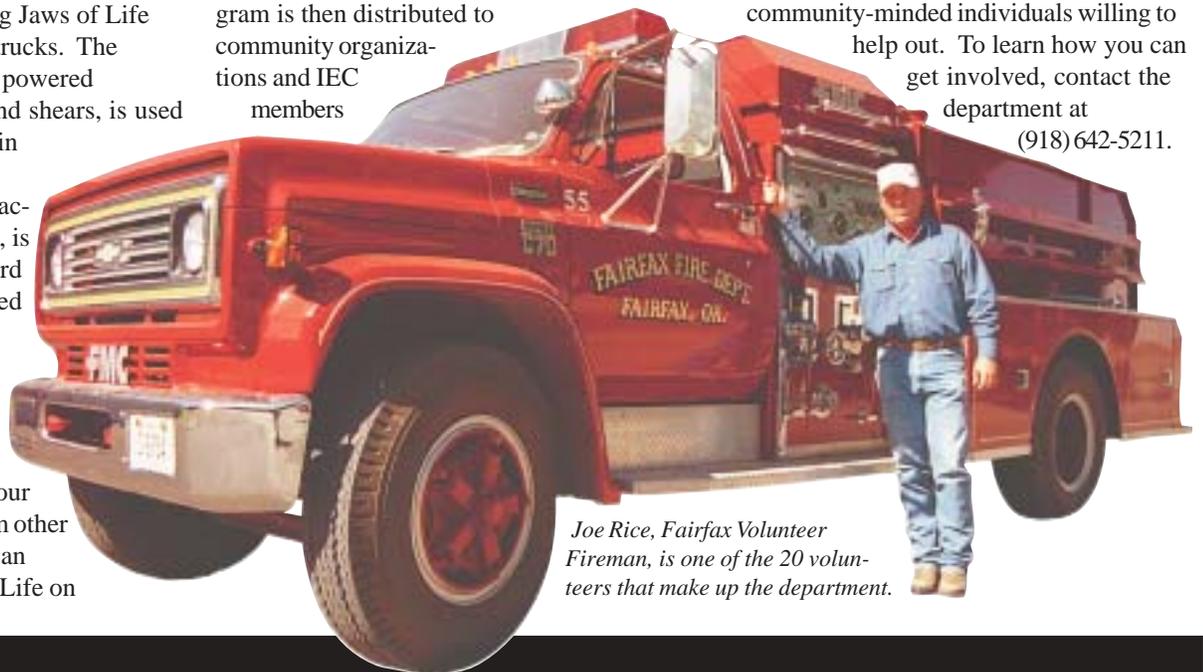
Indian Electric Cooperative has a long-standing tradition of partnering with the fire departments in its service territory. IEC collects dues on behalf of 11 departments that serve IEC members, saving the fire departments more than \$10,000 each year in billing costs and postage. Grants and low interest loans for tools, training and fire department improvements are also available through the cooperative.

Operation Round-Up is a voluntary program in which the bill total of participating members is rounded up to the nearest dollar. Money donated through the program is then distributed to community organizations and IEC members

in need. The IEC Foundation reviews and approves submitted applications. Over \$43,000 went to worthy causes during 2001.

“Cooperatives are founded on the concept of neighbors helping neighbors,” said Terry Jech, CEO of Indian Electric Cooperative. “Our members pitching in to help provide tools to the Fairfax Fire Department is just another example of how much we can accomplish by working together. I am personally proud to participate in a program like Operation Round-Up.”

IEC members wishing to enroll in Operation Round-Up can do so by simply calling our offices at (918) 358-2514 during normal business hours. The Fairfax Volunteer Fire Department and the Fairfax Fire Department boosters are always looking for community-minded individuals willing to help out. To learn how you can get involved, contact the department at (918) 642-5211.



Joe Rice, Fairfax Volunteer Fireman, is one of the 20 volunteers that make up the department.

IEC Linemen Earn Certifications

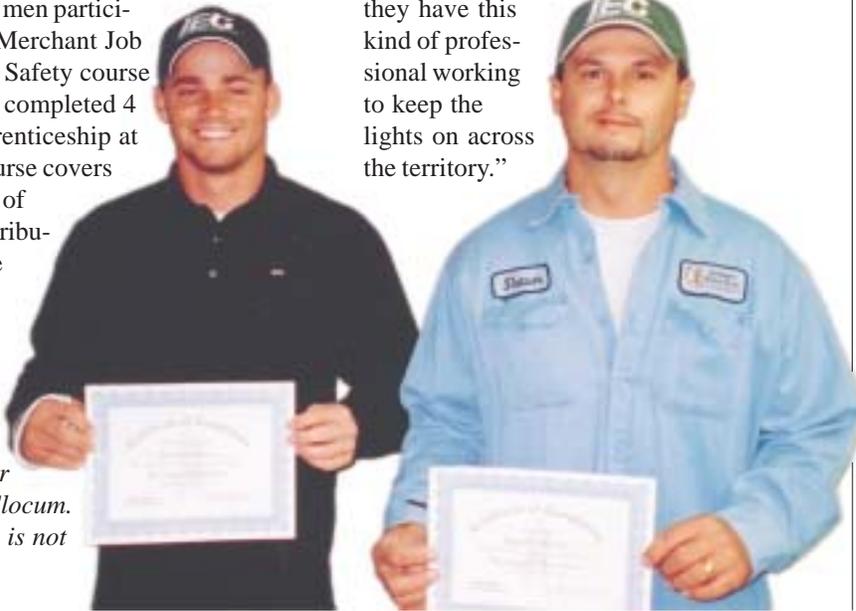
Damon Lester, Shawn Stocum and Tony Gordon Complete Journeyman Lineman Course

After 576 hours of academic study, 40 tests, 8,000 hours of on-the-job training and 2 ice storms, three Indian Electric Cooperative employees have completed the academic portion of the Journeyman Lineman certification course. Damon Lester, Shawn Stocum and Tony Gordon have satisfied the requirements outlined by the United States Bureau of Apprenticeship and Training for linemen and after a final field review in November, will have reached the highest professional recognition in their career field.

The three men participated in the Merchant Job Training and Safety course of study, and completed 4 years of apprenticeship at IEC. The course covers every aspect of electrical distribution from the

physics of generating and distributing power, to safety and the construction and maintenance of distribution systems.

"We're very proud of these guys," said IEC Manager of Operations Paul Grantham. "They have put a lot of work into getting to this point in their career. The certification shows they have put forth the effort to get to the top of their profession. We train constantly to make sure we have the safest, most knowledgeable crew of individuals at work for our members. Our members should be proud to know they have this kind of professional working to keep the lights on across the territory."



Pictured are Damon Lester and Shawn Stocum. Tony Gordon is not pictured.

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Financial Assistance for Winter Heating

DHS Program offers help for winter heating bills.

If you're having trouble paying your electric bills, you may be eligible for help from the Department of Human Services. DHS, in cooperation with the federal government, provides seasonal assistance through the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) to low-income households to assist with winter heating bills, and to provide help for some families who have received utility disconnect notices. DHS also contracts with the Oklahoma Department of Commerce to provide weatherization services for eligible families. Applications are taken in the local county offices.

The next application period is scheduled to begin in December 2002. For more information, and to review guidelines for qualification, contact your local Department of Human Services office.

Online Tips

Make web surfing your winter sport...

Winter Preparedness Checklist
www.organizedhome.com

13 Ways to Winterize Your Home
www.moneycentral.msn.com

Fast & Free Ways to Reducing Energy Use
www.consumerenergycenter.org

The U.S. Department of Energy Website
www.eren.doe.gov



Like it or not, colder weather is coming and you need to think about getting your home ready for winter. There are a number of “winterizing” projects you can do around your home to make it more comfortable and more energy efficient. Some of them cost very little. For example, most of the following projects should cost you less than \$50.

Replace Door Stops

Check at the bottom of your exterior doors. If you can see light underneath, you need a new door stop. Don't forget about your garage door.

Clean Furnace

Have your furnace cleaned and inspected. You don't want any unpleasant surprises when you turn it on that first cold morning. Not only will your furnace be ready to go to work for you, you will have the satisfaction of knowing your gas furnace is not leaking carbon monoxide. And don't forget to change the filter on your furnace on a regular basis throughout the heating and cooling season.

Insulate Electrical Outlets

Hold your hand in front of an outlet on an outside wall and you'll be amazed at the cold air that comes in. Multiply that by all the outlets on outside walls and you can imagine how much energy is being compromised. Outlet insulation kits are insulating pads that go inside the outlet plate.

Weather-strip Exterior Doors

This is often the first thing people think about when they begin winterizing their home. The weather-stripping that comes with a door eventually wears away and needs to be replaced.

Install Set-back Thermostat

A set-back thermostat lets you program your heating system to come up or go down at specific times of the day or night. The simplest ones allow you to set one time period for the furnace to drop the temperature and bring it back up. The more sophisticated models let you set temperatures for several times each day.

There are of course a number of other winterizing or energy saving projects that would benefit your home. The single greatest loss of heat in a home is through the attic. Increasing the amount of attic insulation is the most energy-efficient improvement you can make to your home. Not only will it make your home warmer in winter, but it will also help you stay cooler in summer. How much insulation is enough? Here in Oklahoma, it is recommended that attic insulation have an R-38 value. What does the R value represent? It's the insulation's resistance to heat flow; in other words, how much heat it prevents from escaping. The higher the R value, the greater the insulating power. Adding attic insulation is a cost-effective way to make your home comfortable.

Outstanding Students Athletes Sought for Leadership Summit

IEC to sponsor two local students in the 2003 Touchstone Energy Leadership Summit

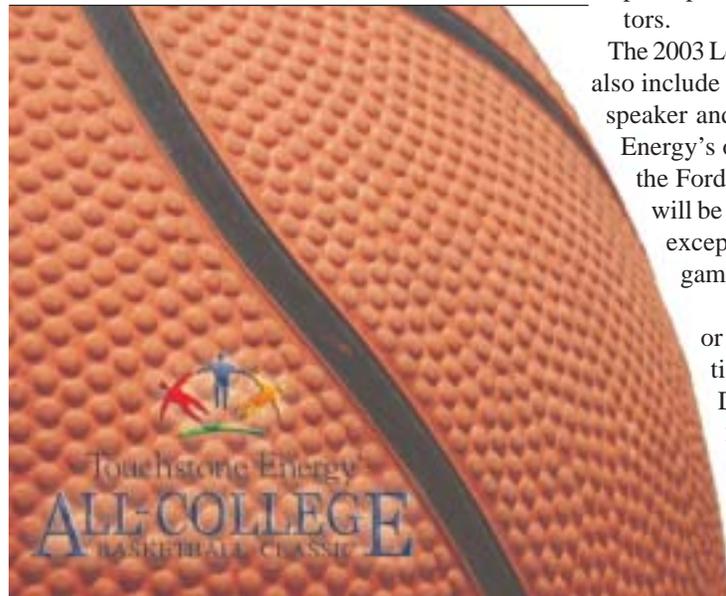
Do you know an outstanding high school athlete that excels on and off the court? Is there an athlete in your town who exceeds expectations in the classroom and is also a leader of their peers? Indian Electric Cooperative and Touchstone Energy would like to recognize that student during the 2003 Touchstone Energy Leadership Summit.

Touchstone Energy and Indian Electric Cooperative will host the 2003 Touchstone Energy Leadership Summit for outstanding high school athletes on January 4th, during the oldest basketball tournament in the country, the Touchstone Energy All-College Basketball Classic, at the new Ford Center in Oklahoma City. Eight participating students will have the opportunity to win computers or \$500 scholarships. One student will get the chance to make basketball shots and win up to \$1,500 in scholarship money during half time of the second game of the Touchstone Energy Basketball Classic.

The Touchstone Energy All-College Basketball Classic lineup will feature

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David Wilson,
Manager of IEC Marketing/Member Services



Oklahoma State University who will play Brigham Young University in game one, while the University of Oklahoma will play Michigan State in game two. For the first time ever, ESPN will broadcast the tournament.

“The Leadership Summit is another way in which we get the opportunity to recognize outstanding students in our communities,” said David Wilson, Manager of Marketing and Member Services. “Indian Electric Cooperative and Touchstone Energy are excited to provide this fun and unforgettable experience.”

Students selected to attend will have the opportunity to attend both games of the Touchstone Energy All-College Basketball Classic and will hear top basketball coaches and sports professionals talk about their careers and answer questions.

Students will get the chance to host their own press conference featuring Oklahoma’s best basketball coaches and sports celebrities. During the press conference and panel discussion, students will receive tips on how to write their own press release to be published in their hometown newspapers.

College and Career guidance will be provided at the “Put Your Passion to Work” panel discussion, where students will meet with sports-related professionals, such as television sports anchors, former players, newspaper reporters and sports directors.

The 2003 Leadership Summit will also include lunch with the keynote speaker and dinner at Touchstone Energy’s own hospitality suite at the Ford Center. Plus, students will be recognized for their exceptional efforts during the games.

For more information, or to receive an application form, please contact David Wilson at (918) 295-9557. Applications and a photo of the applicant must be submitted to IEC by 5 p.m. on Friday, November 15.

Pumpkin Bread

- 1 1/2 cups all-purpose flour
- 1 cup whole-wheat flour
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 1 teaspoon double-acting baking powder
- 3/4 teaspoon baking soda
- 1/2 teaspoon ground cinnamon
- 1/4teaspoon freshly grated nutmeg
- 1/8 teaspoon ground cloves
- 1/2 cup raisins, plumped**
- 1 cup pureed cooked pumpkin (fresh, canned or frozen)
- 3/4 cup sugar
- 2 eggs
- 1/2 cup vegetable oil

√ Preheat oven to 375° F.

√ Grease and flour two 8 1/2" x 4 1/2" loaf pans.

√ Stir together the flours, salt, baking powder, baking soda, cinnamon, nutmeg and cloves.

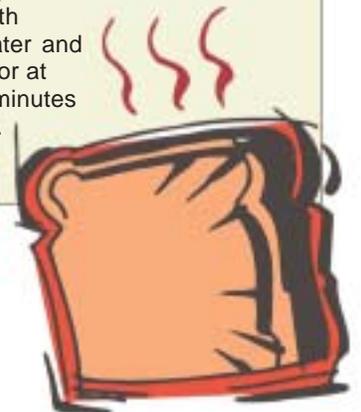
√ Combine the raisins, pumpkin, sugar, eggs and oil in a large bowl; mix well.

√ Stir the dry ingredients into the pumpkin mixture all at once; mix just until the dry ingredients are blended into the batter.

√ Transfer the batter to the prepared loaf pans and bake in the preheated oven for 50 to 55 minutes.

√ Let the breads cool in the pans for 10 to 15 minutes, then ease them out of the pans and continue to cool on a rack. Makes 2 loaves.

**To plump the raisins: Cover the raisins with boiling water and let stand for at least 15 minutes and drain.



**IEC
Offices will be closed for
Thanksgiving on November
28 & 29.**