When Gary Moore agreed to become an IEC trustee it was because he felt he could contribute to the co-op. Doing what is best for the organization has always been a priority for Gary, who retired from the board in August.

Gary was appointed to the board in 1996 when then-trustee Norman McDugle accepted a position with the Oklahoma Association of Electric Cooperatives.

“Because of my business background I felt I could contribute to the operation of the co-op. And because of my business, which makes me visible in the community, I am accessible to the members,” he explains. He has been the owner and pharmacist at Cleveland’s Palace Drug since 1966.

Gary has always been keenly aware of the dedication and commitment required to be an effective trustee, due in part to his father being an IEC trustee for almost 50 years.

Gary says approving the global positioning system (GPS) and automatic meter reading (AMR) programs are two board actions he is most proud of and that he feels will have a positive impact.

“The GPS program will dramatically improve our ability to know exactly what equipment we have and exactly where it is,” he says. “And the AMR program will enable us to improve meter reading efficiency and accuracy.”

During his time on the board, Gary has been an involved trustee serving as both chairman and member of several board committees. He has also served as secretary.

“I have enjoyed the people most, I think,” he says when talking about what he will miss about being a trustee. “I have gotten to meet many people, both co-op employees and members. I’ve learned a lot from all of them, and a lot about the operation of a cooperative.

“I will always have an interest in the co-op. It’s such an important part of the community. It has done a lot for Cleveland and the area and I see that continuing. I’ll always be available to do what I can to support it,” he says.

“Gary has brought a great deal of business expertise to our deliberations and we’re going to miss his contributions,” says Berry Keeler, president of the board of trustees. “I know he and his wife Carol are wanting to enjoy this time in their lives and spend more time with their children and grandchildren. We wish them well and sincerely thank them for the dedicated service and many contributions they have made to the co-op and its membership.”
“I saw a dog chasing a cat and both were walking!”

“Oklahoma farmers are feeding their cows ice cubes so they don’t give powdered milk and ice chips to the chickens so they don’t lay hard boiled eggs.”

“New thermometers don’t go below 70 degrees.”

“I saw two trees fighting over a dog!”

These old jokes were funny in June, slightly amusing in July and downright disgusting in August. The local weathermen could take extended vacations and replay the same forecast daily. Hot, sunny and dry seem to be all they forecast. By the time you read this, it will be September and maybe we will have received some much needed moisture and the weather jokes will once again be humorous.

I hope you will mark October 21st on your calendars and plan to attend the IEC annual meeting. It will once again feature a vendor and craft fair, entertainment, attendance prizes and plenty of other door prizes.

Congratulations are in order to Dr. Greg Fielding who won re-election to your board of trustees. He represents district 8 which is comprised of Cleveland and the surrounding area. Dr. Fielding has ably served on the board since being elected in 1994, serving as president in 2002 and 2003. The district 8 meeting was held at IEC headquarters on July 21 and it was encouraging to see so many members in attendance for the election. A quorum was present and Dr. Fielding carried a majority vote, so he will serve another three year term.

Wanda Foster, representing District 5, and Michael Spradling, representing District 2, were re-elected to three year terms with no opponents.

Gary Moore, who had also represented District 8, retired from the board in August. Gary was elected to the board in 1996 and it has been my pleasure to work with him for the past three years. IEC will miss his knowledge and experience and I wish him and his lovely wife Carol all the best in their future endeavors.
Mark Your Calendars

Annual Meeting is Saturday, October 21

We're busy finalizing all the details for annual meeting, and it's shaping up to be a morning of fun and informative activities.

The morning kicks off with registration at 8:15 a.m. at Cleveland High School. As in the past, members will register their attendance in the school's band room. Registration will remain open until the business session starts at 10 a.m.

This year's registration gift is a folding insulated cooler on wheels with a telescoping handle. It has a 48-can capacity and is blue with black trim and the IEC logo in white. The coolers will be available to the first 800 members who register – one per membership.

Earlier this year, your trustees voted to retire $235,958 in capital credits. That means members who were receiving electricity from IEC for a portion of 1978 and 2005 will get a capital credit check at annual meeting. The checks will be distributed in classroom 14.

In classroom 15, the youth safety fair will be taking place from 8:15 to 9:45 a.m. Continued on page 4.

First Official Notice of Annual Meeting

Notice is hereby given that the 2006 Annual Meeting of Members of Indian Electric Cooperative, Inc., will be held at 10 a.m. Saturday, October 21, 2006, at the Cleveland High School Gymnasium located in Cleveland, Pawnee County, Oklahoma.

Purpose of the meeting is to act on the following matters:
1. Reports of Officers and Trustees;
2. Election of Trustees of Cooperative from Districts 2, 5 and 8;
3. All other business that may come before the meeting or any adjournments thereof.

Registration for the 2006 Annual Meeting will commence at 8:15 a.m., Saturday, October 21, and the meeting will be called to order at 10 a.m.

Each membership, whether it is a single membership or a joint membership, shall be entitled to one vote in any matter that may come before the meeting.

Memberships other than residential must present a letter on organization stationery, signed by a recognized official of the organization, indicating the bearer as the official voting representative of the organization. Bearers must present the letters at the time of registration.

Bill Boone, Secretary-Treasurer

Feeling Blue? Get a Check-Up at the Health Fair

Cleveland Area Hospital will again be conducting a health fair at annual meeting.

Beginning at 8:15 a.m. members can take advantage of serveral services being offered.

They include:
- fasting lipid panel - $20
- complete metabolic profile - $20
- thyroid stimulating hormone - $15
- prostate specific antigen - $35.

There is no charge for the finger stick blood sugar test, height and weight check or for depression screening.

Pawnee County Health Department is hoping to be able to offer free flu shots, but a department spokesperson says that won’t be known until October.

“We will keep members advised by providing last minute details to area newspapers,” says Eulert.

One change this year is that the Hillcrest Mammogram van will not be available.

Anyone with questions about the health fair is encouraged to call CAH at 358-2501, ext. 140.
OSU Cowboy Chili

1/2 cup olive oil
3 pounds lean beef -- chopped
1 quart beef stock
2 bay leaves -- optional
8 ground dried ancho chile pods
3 tablespoons paprika
10 cloves garlic -- minced
1 tablespoon sugar
1 tablespoon salt
1 teaspoon ground cumin
1 teaspoon dried oregano
1/2 teaspoon black pepper
6 tablespoons cornmeal
3 tablespoons flour

In a large saucepan or Dutch oven, heat the olive oil over high heat. Add the meat and sear it. Stir constantly, cooking only until the meat is gray. Pour in the stock, and reduce the heat to a simmer. Add the bay leaves, and cover the pan. After about 20 minutes, remove the bay leaves. Continue simmering the meat, stirring occasionally, for another 1 1/2 hours. Add the remaining ingredients except the cornmeal and flour. Simmer uncovered another 30 minutes, stirring frequently. Skim all accumulated fat from the chili. In a small bowl, stir together the cornmeal and flour, and add enough water to make a thin paste. Mix the paste into the chili quickly, to avoid lumps, and cook 5 more minutes to eliminate the raw flour taste. Add a little extra stock or water if the chili seems stiff. Serve it hot.

*To be fair, an OU tailgate recipe will be included in the Nov. issue of The Lamp.

Attendees under the age of 18 can register to win a bicycle. Attendees must be present in the business session to win.

The Business & Arts Spotlight will again be in the school’s multi-purpose room. Businesses and artisans from throughout the service territory will have booths spotlighting their services, merchandise or creations. Members will have the opportunity to buy these and sign up for door prizes.

The IEC Foundation will have a booth spotlighting Operation Round Up. Members can sign-up to participate in this program at that time and be eligible for its door prize.

Prior to the business session, The Wiskey Bent band will be entertaining the group with a variety of country, new country, old rock and roll and patriotic tunes.

During the business session, members will be asked to elect trustees from districts 2, 5 and 8 by acclamation.

At the end of the meeting, drawings will be held for a large number of prizes, totalling $3,500.

“We’ve been working on annual meeting for several months and are certain the members will have a morning that is both informative and entertaining,” says Clara Eulert, annual meeting coordinator. “We are looking forward to seeing all of you there.”

Employees Recognized for Years of Service

Thirteen employees were recognized recently for their many years of service to the cooperative and its members.

Awards were handed out in front of employees, trustees and family members during the annual employee picnic, held this year at the Tulsa Zoo.

Those honored include (back row left to right), Judy Nail, 25 years; Jim Swigart, 5 years; Rick Harvel, 10 years; Dusty Rice, 5 years; Bill Graham, 5 years; Mark Tilley, 10 years, and Karen Davis, 5 years. Also, (front row, left to right), Clara Eulert, 5 years; Terry Dooley, 30 years and Teresa Robertson, 30 years.

Honored but unable to attend the picnic were Charlie Taylor, 30 years; Bob Peterson, 25 years, and Bill Brumley, 5 years.