

KILOWATT

An Oklahoma Living Supplement

Published monthly for the Members of Kiwash Electric Cooperative, Inc. Cordell, Oklahoma • www.kiwash.coop

November, 2006



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Got a suggestion for a story in a future issue of Kilowatt?

Call Lisa at 1-888-832-3362

Kiwash Electric Cooperative will be closed Thursday, November 23 and Friday, November 24 for the Thanksgiving Holiday.

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Published Monthly for the members of Kiwash Electric Cooperative, Inc.
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 Cordell, Oklahoma
 www.kiwash.coop
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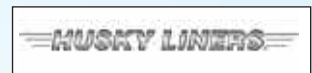
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Bob Mills Furniture - 20% discount on all accessories.

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Husky Liners - Wholesale trade pricing with savings of up to 40% off retail cost (excludes freight and handling fees).

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Log on to www.connections.coop for details of all the new local, Oklahoma and national discounts available.



Manager's Monologue
Dennis Krueger



Uncommonly Weird Electric Outages

This is the season to give thanks for the many pleasures that life has to offer. We thought it was also an ideal time to bring you some stories of the weird and unusual and hopefully put a smile on your face. Western Oklahoma is a land of tremendous thunderstorms, blustery winds and occasionally terrible tornados.

Since power poles are higher than most trees in the region, we have come to expect outages caused by lightning, tornados, extreme winds, and ice storms. Yet, sometimes the unique and unusual happens on our lines that causes all of us grief. Here are just few of the "uncommonly weird electric outages" at Kiwash, which have been told to me by our linemen.

Flying Rabbits – The rabbit outage is one of our strangest tales. We understand that rabbits can run, jump, and hop for short durations; but, landing on a transformer 20 feet above ground seems a little beyond a rabbits capability; but, this silly rabbit did exactly that! This rabbit was found on top of a transformer and by doing so shorted the transformer wiring, which shut-off electricity to one member-owner. We believe that a bird-of-pray probably dropped this poor rabbit as it was headed toward the nest and the transformer broke the rabbit's fall to earth. At least we hope this is what happened, if not we may have killed "Super Rabbit" on his way to save the world!

Electric Fences for Snakes – In cattle country, electric fences have been used for years to keep the herd pinned into grasslands or wheat pastures. Have you ever heard of a snake fence? We are forced to construct these fences at all of our substations. Birds enjoy nesting within the steel structures of the high-voltage substations and snakes are willing to climb the steel in search of eggs or birds. Thus, we need a method to deter the movements of the snake in search of their next meal and a snake fence just above ground level seems the logical choice. Yes, occasionally a snake does make it to the upper levels of the substation and hits a high-side fuse and the entire substation is off until the fuse is replaced. Many snakes have lived through this event only to strike out at the lineman as they fixed the problem. Snake-eyes at midnight are not a welcome sight.

Frogs A Leaping – Frogs are jumpers; but can they jump 25 feet to the top of the electric pole? Apparently they can because frogs have caused at least one outage. Imagine a lineman's surprise to find a frog straddled between a pole insulator and the wire. The frog had enough bulk to cause a direct short across a 7200 volt electric system and it became instant "fried frog legs." Again, a bird-of-pray probably deposited this frog on the lines to cause both Kiwash and the frog big problems.

Giant Grasshoppers – This borders on the weird and bizarre. During the hottest of summers, grasshoppers like to swarm on the shady side of the power poles. Kiwash had one outage in which the grasshoppers stacked on top of each other under the shade of a transformer lightning arrestor. After the grasshopper stack grows large enough then the grasshoppers began forming a direct short between the transformer and the lightning arrestor causing an individual outage. Another shocking tale for grasshoppers looking for a cool spot or a hot Oklahoma summer day!

Ladybug Bugs Consumer – A member called in one day indicating his pump wasn't working and he had checked all of the breakers in the electric box; but, he could not start his water pump and thought it was a Kiwash problem. The linemen were dispatched and everything checked out with full power to the meter. Upon further investigation, it was found that this pump only started via two contacts coming together in the starter. Low and behold, nestled in between these two contacts was a ladybug that prevented the contacts from joining and firing-off the motor. The ladybug was removed and the problem was solved.

Summary – Our linemen might be able to tell you other stories of weird circumstances that they have seen over the years on these electric lines and we hope you ask them. Meanwhile, we must leave you with this parting thought – on a clear day when the electricity goes out for no apparent reason, rest assured that our linemen will be dispatched quickly to find the cause and maybe, just maybe, it might be caused by another uncommonly weird reason! We prefer to tell you the strange stories with short interruptions in your electrical service then the long, lengthy outages brought on by Mother Nature. Happy Thanksgiving!



Leslie Hinds was recently recognized for thirty years of service on the WFEC Board. Mr. Hinds began his tenure with WFEC's board in September of 1976.

He currently serves as vice president. Pictured with Mr. Hinds is Dr. Bruce Scott, President of WFEC's board of directors.

Statement of Non-Discrimination

Kiwash Electric Cooperative, Inc. is the recipient of federal financial assistance from the Rural Utilities Service, an agency of the U.S. Department of Agriculture, and is subject to the provisions of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended, the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, as amended, and the rules and regulations of the U.S. Department of Agriculture which provide that no person in the United States on the basis of race, color, national origin, age or handicap shall be excluded from participation in, admission or access to, denied the benefits of, or otherwise be subjected to discrimination under any of this organization's programs of activities.

The person responsible for coordinating this organization's non-discrimination compliance efforts is Dennis Krueger, General Manager. Any individual, or specific class of individuals who feels that this organization has subjected them to discrimination may obtain further information about the statutes and regulations listed above and/or file a written complaint with this organization; or the Secretary, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C. 20050; or the Administrator, Rural Utilities Service, Washington, D.C. 20250.

Complaints must be filed within 180 days after the alleged discrimination. Confidentiality will be maintained to the extent possible.

Signed: Dennis Krueger

Kiwash Electric Cooperative, Inc.



Kiwash Electric Co-op offers state-to-state long-distance rates for only 4.9¢* per minute. In-state rates are only 5.9¢* per minute. No minimums and no cost to join. You don't have to be a Kiwash Electric customer to sign up. Now that's something to jump into!

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*Rates for other "numbered" states. See website for details. Service not available in certain states. Member service is available 24 hours a day. Please call 1-877-859-3033 for more information.

Pumpkin Recipes

Pumpkin Ice Cream Delight

1-1/2 cups pumpkin pie filling
1/3 cup sugar
1 teaspoon vanilla extract
1 quart vanilla ice cream, softened
1 cup chopped pecans, toasted

In a large bowl, combine the pie filling, sugar and vanilla. Fold in ice cream. Transfer to a greased 8-in. square dish. Cover and freeze for 3-4 hours or until firm. Scoop into individual bowls. Sprinkle with pecans.
Yield: 8 servings.



Pumpkin Spice Spread

1 package (8 ounces) fat-free cream cheese
1/2 cup canned *or* cooked pumpkin
Sugar substitute equivalent to 1/2 cup sugar*
1 teaspoon ground cinnamon
1 teaspoon vanilla extract
1 teaspoon maple flavoring
1/2 teaspoon pumpkin pie spice
1/2 teaspoon ground nutmeg
1 carton (8 ounces) frozen reduced-fat whipped topping, thawed

In a large mixing bowl, combine the cream cheese, pumpkin and sugar substitute; mix well. Beat in the cinnamon, vanilla, maple flavoring, pumpkin pie spice and nutmeg. Fold in whipped topping. Refrigerate until serving. **Yield:** 4 cups.

Editor's Note: This recipe can be used with Splenda No Calorie Sweetener. Look for it in the baking aisles of your grocery store.



BULLETIN BOARD

What's Happening In Your Community

November 9 – Weatherford Community Coffee at Stafford Museum at 9:30 a.m.

November 26 – Christmas Lighting Ceremony & Moonlight Madness Downtown Hobart 6-9pm.

Contact: Chamber office 580/726-2553

November 28 – Clinton Festival of Lights

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To report the events in your community, or for more information, call Kiwash Electric Cooperative.
1-888-832-3362