



THE BUZZ

for members of CKenergy Electric Cooperative

Holiday Closing :
CKEC will close on Friday, April 7 in observance of Good Friday.

Save the Date:
August 11- Annual Meeting

April 2023

A SUPPLEMENT TO OKLAHOMA LIVING



Lineworker Appreciation Day is April 10

You've likely noticed CKenergy's crews out and about, working on power lines and other electrical equipment in our community. It's no secret that a lineworker's job is tough--but it's a job that's essential and must be done, often in challenging conditions. This month, we celebrate Lineworker Appreciation Day on April 10.

The work can be heavy, in many ways. Did you know the equipment and tools that a lineworker carries while climbing a utility pole can weigh up to 50 pounds? That's the same as carrying six gallons of water. Speaking of utility poles, lineworkers are required to climb poles ranging anywhere from 30 to 120 feet tall. Needless to say, if you have a fear of heights, this likely isn't the career path for you.

Lineworkers must be committed to their career--because it's not just a job, it's a lifestyle. The long hours and ever-present danger can truly take a toll. In fact, being a lineworker is listed in the top 10 most dangerous jobs in the U.S.

Lineworkers often work non-traditional hours, outdoors in difficult conditions. While the job does not require a college degree, it does require technical skills, years of training and hands-on learning. Did you know that to become a journeyman lineworker can take more than 7,000 hours of training (or about four years)? That's because working with high-voltage equipment requires specialized skills, experience and an ongoing mental toughness. Shortcuts are not an option, and there is no room for error in this line of work.

In addition to lineworkers, right-of-way crews and dispatchers are essential to keeping the power on. Dispatchers play a vital role every day and in outage situations. Their communication and instructions are vital to the efficient operations of the cooperative.

The number one reason for outages, whether during ice and snow or Oklahoma thunderstorms, is trees coming in contact with power lines. CKEC employs a variety of strategies including tree trimming, tree removal, and vegetation management in an active right-of-way management program. CKEC right-of-way crews are vital to keeping the lights on for you.

CKEC lineworkers, right of way crews and dispatchers are responsible for keeping power flowing 24/7, 365 days a year. To do this, they maintain 7,843 miles of power lines across ten counties. The workers and crews use laptops, tablets, drones and other technologies to map outages, survey damage and troubleshoot problems.

It may not seem like a glamorous job, but it is absolutely essential to the life of our community. Without the exceptional dedication and commitment of these hardworking men and women, we simply would not have the reliable electricity that we need for everyday life.

So, the next time you see one of these employees, please thank them for the work they do to keep power flowing, regardless of the time of day or weather conditions.



PO Box 70 • Binger, Okla. 73009
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tele: **(405) 656-2322**

www.ckenergy.coop

OFFICE HOURS:
Monday-Friday,
8:00 am - 5:00 pm.

POWER OUTAGE
HOT LINES
800-868-8243
888-832-3362

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

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PAYMENT OPTIONS

- Pay online at www.ckenergy.coop
- Pay by phone by calling **405-656-2322**, available 24 hours a day. Visa, Mastercard, Discover, or American Express.
- Pay in person at any of our offices: Binger, Cordell, Mustang, and Anadarko.
- Pay via automatic draft of your checking or savings account. To sign up, please visit www.ckenergy.coop or call **405-656-2322**. Pay at kiosks at various locations.
- **Pay through our CKenergy App available for iPhones or Androids.**



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APRIL

Winning CKEC Members

Jennifer Kane
Harold Gaddy
Julie Valdez

If your name is listed above,
please call us at **405-656-2322**



Socialize with us!

Stay up-to-date with your co-op and your community by following us on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, and SnapChat. Get the latest news on co-op events, services, energy saving tips, and more. During a power outage, stay connected with us for updates on the restoration process.

Questions or comments about your newsletter should be directed to Lisa Willard, Director of Communications, CKEnergy Electric Cooperative, PO Box 100, Cordell, OK 73632, email: editor@ckenergy.coop.



John Schaufele, Dr. Fred Reuter, Don Payne, Tony Setzer, Jack Sawatzky, Walter Hrbacek, Gary Brewster, Mark Slem, and Clint Pack

Out of the Gate Legislative Reception

CKEC board and CEO visit with
elected officials and staff

On February 6, the Oklahoma Association of Electric Cooperatives had the privilege of hosting the 2023 OAEC “Out of the Gate” Legislative Reception at the OAEC Conference Center.

All elected officials, legislators and staff were invited to visit with delegates from Oklahoma’s rural electric cooperatives. CKEC board members and CEO were in attendance to talk with legislators.

Attendance included 77 representatives and 25 senators in addition to many agency heads, state officers, and commissioners. Secretary of Energy and Environment Michael Teague, Deputy Secretary of Environment Tyler Powell, and State Auditor & Inspector Gary Jones, were also present.

Including co-op representatives, more than 380 people gathered to celebrate the 2nd Session of the 55th Oklahoma Legislature.

As always, we appreciate the effort that our senators and house representatives put forth toward the betterment of our state and communities. We look forward to continuing to work together for our members.



Cooperton Dance Hall

Dancing and dinner brings life to ghost town

Every Friday night, the sleepy, southwest town of Cooperton comes alive to the sound of country music and the occasional old rock and roll tune. Situated along State Highway 54/19 in CKenergy service territory, and nestled at the foot of the Wichita Mountains, the Cooperton Dance Hall has been going strong for nearly 50 years.

Folks as far as 100 miles come to Cooperton to shuffle, polka, waltz, and two-step in the Cooperton Dance Hall. Cooperton school closed in the late 1960's. It was then that the old bus barn was deeded to the town. The community renovated it and operated it as a square dance hall for many years. Kenneth Boyd, who farmed nearby, joined with a few friends to put in a wood floor over the dirt. They hired a band and the rest is history. With a total population of three, the "ghost town," comes to life every Friday evening.

Boyd, now 95 years of age, had no idea how successful the dance hall would be when they first started. So, what's the secret? The locals say it's the clean, family atmosphere. No alcohol, or tobacco is allowed, and the music is clean. Country music is mostly played with the some good ole rock and roll thrown in. Everyone is there for the dance. Some travel as far

as 100 miles away. It's been so successful, three remodeling projects have taken place to accommodate the increased participation.

The very first dance held attracted 13 people. The week after that 28 people showed up. The following week, 54 people arrived. The little dance hall known for its fantastic dance floor, with a potluck dinner is going strong and there is no indication it will end anytime soon. The Dance Hall mimics a museum inside with pictures of old graduating classes and other relics. Oldtimers believe the dance hall is the catalyst for many of the romances for miles around. Images of the happy couples line bulletin boards along the south wall of the dance hall. Many of the regulars remember dancing there as children with their parents or grandparents.

The Cooperton Dance Hall is open every Friday night. Music starts at 7 p.m. The band plays for an hour before supper and they play for 90 minutes afterwards. Admission is \$7. Everyone is welcome to join in on the family fun. For up-to-date information on the dance hall, be sure to visit their Facebook page, Cooperton Dance.

Left: Cooperton Dance Hall sign sits just west of Highway 54. **Below:** Cooperton Dance Hall is located just west of Highway 54 at the foot of the Wichita Mountains.



Reduce Your Energy Bill/No Roof Damage



By Boyd Lee, VP Strategic Planning

Electricity is a silent partner that affects many aspects of our lives. No other commodity adds more value to the human existence than electricity. Yet, with all the good things electricity does for us, the electric bill is the most hated bill of all when it comes time to pay. Most of us take electricity for granted while it's being consumed. We aren't focused on its use because it makes no sound, there is no smell, you can't see the electric current, it's just there in the form of whatever service it's enabling. And the most confusing thing of all? The kWhs we are billed for were used last month which means we probably can't remember what we did, when we did it, and was it blazing hot or icy cold while we were doing it?

The first step should be to make investments in things that help us reduce consumption in our homes, but our tendency is to look for someone else to buy our energy from who might be a little cheaper. That's the opportunity the solar industry jumps all over. They promise the moon with their panels and offer to solve all your problems. The sad thing is, after they've come and gone and you've financed yourself into old age, the same old problems still exist.

Unless you change your lifestyle, improve your home's thermal efficiency, purchase higher efficiency appliances and change out your HVAC equipment, your kWh usage will NOT change. In fact, with an alternative source of energy you don't reduce your costs at all, you only change who you pay for your energy.

CKenergy is NOT anti-alternative energy at all. Our geothermal program is second to none in the entire United States. Our incentive program is worth \$3,625/ton making Geo as affordable as a high efficiency air-source system. During the winter, Geo takes advantage of the sun's heat already stored in the Earth. It also serves as a place to put unwanted heat in the summer. NOTHING is more efficient than geothermal. Geo and good insulation in your home is a far better investment than a solar system which typically costs \$30,000 - \$60,000 and doesn't save a single kWh. The Geo will pay for itself in 5-10 years while a solar system will take a minimum of 20 years just to pay the finance costs. In addition to Geo being a renewable energy source, our power provider, WFEC, has added many megawatts of renewable energy into the distribution network. When you paid your electric bill this month, approximately 35% of it came from renewable energy sources, and you didn't even need to have an expensive array of panels on your roof or a noisy windmill in your back yard.

So after all this discussion, here's the real "gem" of advice. Find ways to reduce your consumption and add efficiency to your home instead of simply looking for a new provider for your energy. One way reduces your bills by reducing consumption, the other way only changes who you pay for the energy you consume.

Automotive

1970 Ford F-350. V-8 and rear dual wheels. 580-473-9184. No texts.

1993 Dodge 3/4 ton 4x4 truck, club cab, Cummins turbo diesel. 5 speed manual, new tires, very good condition. \$15,000. Text 405-933-6123 for pictures.

Farm/ Equipment

16' trailer - 6 ton limit. Heavy duty. Can haul heavy equipment or vehicle. Pendulum type hitch. \$4500. 405-570-8288.

Livestock/Pets

Better bulls. Add more profit with big, stout bulls with low birth weights that will sire calves with faster growth and more muscle. Kusel Limousin and Lim-flex. Call John. 580-759-6038.

Red angus bulls, service age, gentle, several A.I. sired. Call or text 580-450-1735.

Peacocks, 3 year old Indian Blues. 580-347-2645.

Swap 'N Shop

For Sale or Trade

Note: CKEC does not endorse or guarantee any of the products or services in these ads.

Business

Paving Maintenance, 405-245-6759.

Cooks Septic Service. Septic tank pumping and inspections. 580-550-0545.

C and K Trucking. 20 years exp. Hauling heavy equipment, dozers, escavators, loaders and tractors. 405-395-7758.

Liner replacement for semi end dump trailers. 405-638-1158.

Thinking of buying or selling a home or land? Call/text Doug Eckert, Wise Oak Realty: 405-400-8281. yourokcreator.com

Shook's Triple S Construction. Metal carpports, awnings, and more. Built on site to meet your needs. Free estimates. 405-413-7590.

Custom apparel printing and embroidery for your personal or business needs. No orders too small. We can print one or more. Special rates for fundraisers and not for profit groups. www.countrychickdesign.com

Mobile welding. Welding and fabrication. Call Tony at 405-834-1128.

Loud Mountain Trading Co. Cement, OK. Over 90 local artisans and craftsmen. Premium ice cream. Monday-Saturday 10-6 p.m. LoudMountainTradingCo.com

www.CowgirlBeef.com. Quality beef you can afford. Ranch-raised calves finished for 120+ days and processed in OK. Buy 1 cut or the whole beef. 619-884-0970. cf2cattle@gmail.com

Door and window installation and repair. Free estimates. JD DE Shazo Construction 405-245-4042.

Buster paint striping. Roll-off dumpsters, parking lot maintenance, dumpster rental, junk and debris removal. Free estimates. 405-648-2194.

Swap 'N Shop Ads are continued on page 8

Swap 'N Shop is a classified advertisement service that we provide to our members at no cost.

- Members are able to submit written ads through the mail, fax, drop off, or by email.
- Ads are **NOT** taken over the phone.
- Ads need to be received by the 5th of each month to appear in the next month's issue.
- Ad space is limited to a 25 word maximum. **ONE** ad per member.
- Contact the editor at 580-832-3361 for information about availability of ad space.
- CKEC reserves the right to reject any ad deemed inappropriate.
- Ads will automatically run for 2 months, additional run time must be requested **before** the 5th of the month.

You may submit classified ads, businesses, or services to Swap 'N Shop, P.O. Box 100, Cordell, OK 73632, ads@ckenergy.coop, or fax to 580-832-5174. One ad per member unless there is additional space available.

Circle category:

Autos Farm/Equip Furn/Appl Hay/Wood Livestock/Pets Misc
Real Estate Wanted-Notices Business

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone # _____

CKEC Acct # _____

Miscellaneous

C and K trucking heavy haul tractors, dozers, backhoes, trackhoes, loaders. 20 yrs. experience. 405-395-7758.

Jeans and pants hemming and minor alterations. Tuxes, accessory sales and rentals. Settle Studio. 405-247-5142.

49 JFK Jr. "Geroge magazines" plus "Last will and testament of Jacqueline Kennedy. 405-797-2915.

Heavy built fire pits. Can be built with or without removable grill. Made out of propane tank ends. Prices range from \$200 to \$450. 580-819-0695.

6' BrushHog, like new. Lumber: 3x12x16xLVls. Kenmmore sewing machine. 1993 Lincoln Cont. Mark VII. 580-695-4589

T-shirt quilts and memory bears. Alterations. 405-933-0224.

\$100 Agreed Divorces. JNK Paralegal Service. www.jnkparalegal.com JNKparalegal@aol.com 405-376-2206.

Goober House. Fresh peanuts of many varieties, pecans, and peanut brittle. 580-515-5821. www.Gooberhouse.com

Four 18 in. mag wheel and tires off 2019 Camaro. Like new. \$300 405-439-7571.

Offering a new service. When you can not, I can assist by checking on your loved one in the hospital, nursing home or their home. Janice Smith, Companion Care. 405-542-7498.

Campbell Hausfeld portable air compressor. 5 hp/1.7 hp/15 gallong 120 volt. 135 max PSI and 7 gallong air tank. \$250 405-687-0160.

Beautiful/rare 1880's Eastlake Cherry/Mahogany panel bed with luscious carving. Matching chest. Large mirror in excellent condition. Offering together or separate. 405-924-6344.

For removal & replacment of floor liners in semi end up trailers, cal/text 405-638-1158. Doughty's Repair Service. Removed 10x10 roll up shop door and all hardware. \$400 405-328-4013.

Real Estate

5 acre tracts of land for sale. Caddo County line 2750, 9 miles west of Minco. 405-574-2980.

RV Hook-up - Ft. Cobb Lake (Crow Roost Area). Nightly Rentals. Provide full hook-ups. Large pavilion and storm shelter. Nice and quiet get away. 405-694-0625.

160 acres. 40 acres cultivated. Irrigation well, three stock water wells. New fences. Two ponds. Shop 42x60x16x900 sq living. Metal lots. Caddo County. 405-639-8760.

Wanted-Notices

Wanted AFX, Aurora, slot cars, redline hotwheels, comic books, model car kits. 405-361-2227.

Two used tires for old crap metal trailer. 15 inch 95L 405-638-0466.

Need lawn mowing and care service for small lot at Foss Lake Estates. 580-515-8277.

Citrus-Spice Glazed Ham

Ingredients:

1 fully cooked bone-in ham (7 to 9 lbs.)

Glaze

½ c. orange juice, divided
1 tsp. Chinese five-spice powder
⅓ cup packed brown sugar
1 tbs. honey
4 tsp. cornstarch
2 medium oranges, peeled and sectioned
1 can (20 ounces) unsweetened pineapple tidbits



Directions:

Step 1

Preheat oven to 325 degrees. Place ham on a rack in a shallow roasting pan. Cover and bake until a thermometer reads 130 degrees 2 ½ to 3 hours.

Step 2

Meanwhile, in a small saucepan, combine ¼ cup orange juice and Chinese five spice powder; bring to a boil. Reduce heat; simmer, uncovered, until thickened, 1-2 minutes. Stir in brown sugar and honey. In a small bowl, mix cornstarch and remaining orange juice until smooth; stir into brown sugar mixture. Return to a boil, stirring constantly; cook and stir until thickened, 1-2 minutes.

Step 3

Remove ham from oven. Brush with half of the glaze. Bake ham, uncovered, until a thermometer reads 140 degrees, 15-20 minutes. Just before serving, stir fruit into remaining glaze; heat through. Serve with ham.