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June 2011

Hot Watts

PUBLISHED BY COOKSON HILLS ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC.

Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 



Energy Efficiency *Tip of the Month*

Does your home have a window air conditioner? Make sure that your window unit is properly weather stripped, and clean the filter monthly. Keep "fresh air" vents on window A/C units closed.

Source:
Touchstone Energy
Cooperatives

Congratulations

Kathleen Borchers
is our
online survey winner!



Cookson Hills Electric in Need of New Building

The Cookson Hills Electric Cooperative (CHEC) headquarter facilities in Stigler has served the employees and members well for more than 50 years. However, we cannot escape the challenges facing the aging facilities. The administrative office, garage and warehouse were first built in the early 1960's and the cooperative has now outgrown these facilities.

When the headquarter facilities were built over 50 years ago, the cooperative served approximately 4,522 meters and operated 1,480 miles of line with 2 substations. This was accomplished with 10 employees. Today we serve over 17,674 meters and operate 2,869 miles of line with 14 substations. This is accomplished with 52 employees.

To maintain the quality of service to the membership and to manage the growth of the cooperative we will need to add more employees to keep up with the administration and operations of the cooperative. CHEC has no additional office space to house future employees at the headquarter facilities in Stigler, OK.

As you might expect, new methods and new technologies require CHEC employees to do their jobs in much different ways than they did 50 years ago. Information Technology was not even a concept when the facility was built. Our ability to adapt or fully in-



Photo of CHEC Stigler office taken February 22, 1960 after construction was complete.

tegrate some of the latest utility technologies is constrained due to the configuration and physical characteristics of the existing building.

As for the existing building, it has experienced two major floods and a tornado which ripped off a portion of the roof. The roofing system now leaks during storms as well as water infiltration through doors and other openings. Recently standing water has been discovered in an abandoned under floor duct system. This water can cause mold and pose possible health risks.

Many other issues surround the existing building. Compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) for building accessibility is extremely difficult and costly in older facilities. The existing building layout has limited flexibility for modifications due to load bearing masonry walls within the construction.

The Stigler office building does not meet current industry standards for insulation and does not have energy efficient exterior windows. The current heat pump cooling and heating system is over 20 years old and very costly to upgrade.

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Hot Watts

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Larry Mattes - Editor

Cookson Hills welcomes members to submit photos, and articles which will be subject to Cookson Hills editing.

Any submissions must be received before the 12th of the month prior to the publication date.

If You Find Your Account Number Hidden in this Issue of the *Hot Watts* You'll Receive a \$25 Credit on Your Electric Bill.

CHEC New Building

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As for federal and state regulatory issues, the need for major equipment improvements, as well as site security, demands attention to be in compliance. Public and regulatory expectations for electric utilities to protect critical infrastructure, as well as member identity information, has become critical over the years. New equipment and employees

will be required to stay in compliance.

As you can see, 148501 there are many issues to consider as the Board continues to study options for meeting the future needs of Cookson Hills Electric Cooperative. In the next few months we will keep you informed as we work through the details in constructing the new head-quarter facilities in Stigler, OK.

High School Juniors Win a Trip to Washington, D.C.

On April 19, 2011 Cookson Hills Electric Cooperative (CHEC) held the 33rd Annual Youth Tour Banquet. Four students were chosen to receive an all expense paid trip to Washington, D. C., June 11 – 17, 2011.

The trip will begin when they join other winners from across Oklahoma for a "Get Acquainted Banquet" in Oklahoma City. The delegates will board a plane the following morning and fly to Washington, D.C.

Six eventful days in the nation's capitol will include a tour of the capitol, riverboat trip on the Potomac River, tour of Mount Vernon, breakfast with Oklahoma's Congressional delegation and many other points of interest.

The Youth Tour competition is available to all students in CHEC's service territory, who are completing their junior year in high school. Kristie Cash, CHEC Youth Tour Coordinator, visits local schools in CHEC's service territory and gives a presentation about electric cooperative history and the annual Youth Tour trip.

The contest consisted of an essay written on a topic chosen by the cooperative. This year the topic was "My Life Without Electricity." From the essays entered, a judge chose four finalists. These four students were then invited to give an oral presentation of their essay.

CHEC is pleased to have these four students representing the cooperative for the 2011 Youth Tour: Madison Cotherman from Gore High School, daughter of John and Julie Cotherman; Chance Fletcher from Gans High School, son of Bud and Kelly Fletcher; Aubrey Hale of Roland High School, son



CHEC Youth Tour Winners left to right: Madison Cotherman, Chance Fletcher, Aubrey Hale and Hunter Hume.



of Robert and Lola Hale; and Hunter Hume from Webbers Falls High School, son of Dudley and Brenda Hume.

If you would like to know more about the CHEC Youth Tour essay contest, please contact Kristie Cash at 918-967-4614. Also you can visit www.youthtour.coop to view pictures and videos from previous trips.

Electrical Safety Vacation Checklist



Turn off and unplug power strips before you leave home for vacation.

Summer vacations are hard to pull off these days, so it's important that trip-takers have peace of mind while away. Fires can start when lightning storms strike electronics or small appliances; burglaries tend to increase because folks aren't at home.

The electrical safety checklist below will help you decrease the risk of problems occurring while on vacation:

1 Turn off all electrical appliances, including toaster ovens, stoves, and curling irons.

2 Unplug television sets and computers—these items are especially susceptible to lightning and power surges.

3 Use a timer on indoor lights. Look for one that can be set to a random pattern rather than regular times throughout the day.

4 Install motion-detecting lights outdoors.

5 Set the thermostat to 80 degrees in the summer and 55 degrees in the winter if you plan to leave for an extended period of time.

6 Give your house key to a neighbor and make sure he or she has a phone number where you can be reached.

Source: Touchstone Energy® Cooperatives

Remembering Ellis L. Sappington Long Time Director will be missed



Ellis L. Sappington

Cookson Hills Electric Cooperative (CHEC) recently lost one of its leaders. Ellis L. Sappington, a member of the CHEC's Board of Directors, passed away on April 18 at his home in Webbers Falls, OK, at the age of 94 years.

Mr. Sappington served 19 years as trustee for CHEC's southern Muskogee county District 7.

The dedication and service Mr. Sappington provided to CHEC will benefit members and employees for generations to come. He served on several committees throughout his years of service on the Board.

Mr. Sappington was a big proponent of educating area youth through CHEC programs such as Youth Tour and Energy Camp. He also pledged for CHEC's involvement in other youth programs from 4-H to livestock shows.

As a former U.S. Army Air Force Sergeant, he served during World War II. His

military service spanned from the Pacific, Europe, to North Africa with his final assignment to the historical 509th Bomber Wing. Mr. Sappington co-owned SRS Inc., a feed store in Webbers Falls, OK.

Mr. Sappington was also a long time and devoted member of the Webbers Falls First Baptist Church where he served as Deacon, Sunday School Director and Church Treasurer for more than 40 years.

Do you have a capital credit check to claim?

Cookson Hills Electric Cooperative (CHEC) is operated on a non-profit basis for the benefit of its members. This means any margins left over after Cookson Hills pays all its expenses, including taxes, belong to the members and not the cooperative.

Please look closely at the following list. If you find your name or the name of a friend or relative, please notify CHEC at 918-967-4614 or 800-328-2368.

- MEININGER, LEROY
- MENDENHALL, KENNETH
- MENDENHALL, RAY
- MEYER, HUBERT
- MILLER, DOC H
- MILLIRON, MITCH
- MILLS, MICHAEL E
- MILLS, WILLIAM H
- MINGBOUPHA, BOUN-THANH
- MITCHELL, JOE
- MITCHELL, SHEILA
- MITCHELL, STEVE E
- MITCHON, BENNIE
- MONTGOMERY, JIM
- MONTGOMERY, L L
- MOONEY, MICHAEL W
- MOORE, JIM W
- MOORE, TONY N
- MOORE, VIRGIE R
- MORGAN, CARL C

- MORIN, LARRY P
- MORRIS, SOLOMON J
- MORRISON, MONTY
- MORROW, BILLY B
- MORTON, DIANE C
- MOSBY, WANDA
- MOSELEY, MARY
- MOUNTAIN, BELLER
- MOWDY, DON
- MT OLIVE BAPTIST CHURCH
- NARCOMEY, J JOE
- NATIONS, BRENT
- NAUGLE, THOMAS E
- NEAL, RICHARD A
- NESTER, JOYCE ANN
- NEWMAN, STEVE
- NICELY, BARBARA S
- NICELY, BILL
- NICHOLS, TERRY M
- NICUT SENIOR CITIZENS
- NOBLE, CHARLES J

- NOISEY, MICHAEL
- NORRID, TEDDY
- OGLE, JACK
- OGLE, JOYCE F
- OGLE, TERRY
- OK NATURAL GAS CO
- ONEAL, STEVEN
- ORGAN, CONNIE F
- ORMAN, JACK
- ORR, MILTON
- OSBORN, MELBA M
- OSBORNE, IRMA LEE
- OSBURN, BENTLEY E
- OSBURN, EVERT OLEN
- OSBURN, MARK
- OSBURN, QUINTON SR
- OTTO, BRUCE J
- OWENS, JILL
- OWENS, MITCHELL
- PACK, CARLTON G
- PANNELL, RICHARD E

- PARKER, DAVID W
- PARKER, JAMES
- PARKER, SHERRY
- PARTAIN, ALVIE
- PATTON, FRED H
- PATTON, TAMMY J
- PAVATT, MARLA
- PAYNE, DAVID M
- PAYNE, EARL
- PEALOR, DENNIS
- PEARCE, NORMA
- PEASLEE, KENNIE
- PECK, CHARLES E
- PENNINGTON, ROBERT
- PEREZ, FERMIN
- PERKINS, WESLEY E
- PERRY, HUGH

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CHEC Uncashed Capital Credit Checks

PERRYMAN, FLO
PESNELL, RODNEY N
PETREE, PAM
PHILLIPS, PAUL C
PHILPIN, JOHN E
PIERCE, FRANK P
PIERCE, TROY L
PINKSTON, LESLIE A
PITTMAN, JOANNE
PLANK, EVA
PLANK, SHERMAN
POE, KEVIN L
POLLARD, FRANKLIN D
POPE, CECIL R
PORTER, LARRY G
PORTER, RONALD DALE
POSEY, ERTHA
POSTON, LONNIE D
POWELL, BRENDA F
POWELL, HAROLD G
PRATT, ARTHUR L
PRATT, ROBERT L
PRICE, C S
PRIDDY, DONALD G
PRITCHARD, GERALD
PROCK, MURRAY
PROCTOR, JESSE T
PRUITT, HOWARD
PRUITT, TRUDY
PUCKETT, ROSIE
PURDOM, JUDY D
QUALLS, KENNETH
QUICKEL, LEIGH ANN
QUINTON, DOROTHY M
QUINTON, M W JR
RACER, RICHARD
RAGSDALE, DALE
RAIBURN, LINDERELL
RAILEY, MICHAEL D
RAINS, WILLIAM
RAY, DONALD B
READNOUR, JOHNNY
REAL, PATRICK
REASNOR, STEVE
REASONER, DEBORAH
REDSTONE OIL & GAS CO
REED, PAUL L
REEL, JESSEY
REESE, THOMAS J
REEVES, EULES
RELEFORD, ALONZO
REMER, CLARA J
RENEER, MARGARET R
REYNOLDS, DAVID K
REYNOLDS, EDWARD A
RICH, JOHN F
RICHARDS, GARY S
RICHARDSON, JACK JR
RIDER, JERRY
RISCHARD, M W
RISLEY, BERT JR
RITTER, HANCIL LEROY
RITTER, NOLEN
ROAM, LAWRENCE G

ROBERTS, MARK
ROBERTS, MICHAEL L
ROBERTSON, CHRIS
ROBISON, DAVE
RODGERS, DONALD P
ROGERS, DONNA M
ROGERS, PHILLIP M
ROLAND, RODNEY L
ROLSTON, SHAWN P
ROOF, LEWIS B
ROSE, JIM D
ROSE, P JOANN
ROSS, EUGENE H
ROSS, FREDDIE L
ROSS, JACKIE
ROSS, LISA
ROSS, RANDY L
ROSS, STANLEY L SR
ROSS, WILLIS
ROTHWELL, SHERRY P
ROY, CLORIS P SR
ROZELL, DAMON E
RUARK, KEVIN D
RUDELL, LARRY E
RUSHING, H W
RUSSELL, KAREN D
RUSSELL, STEVEN K
RUST, LINDA L
SAPPINGTON, A L
SARSFIELD, WILLA DEAN
SAWYER, GINA
SAWYER, SAVANNAH
SCAGGS, JERRY C
SCHREIBVOGEL, STEVE M
SCIONEAX, DOROTHY
SCOGGINS, TINA
SCOTT, CHARLES C
SCOTT, FOLSOM
SCOTT, GRACIE
SCOTT, S WADE
SCOTT, WINFRED
SCRAPPER, CAROLYN
SCRUGGS, JANIE M
SEAY, SCOTT
SEBO, JERRY
SEELY, W C
SEQUICHI, WILEY JOE
SEXTON, TONY
SEYLER, RONNY
SHADE, RED BIRD
SHADE, TOMMY
SHAMBLIN, D BRYON
SHARP, WARREN D
SHEARER, NORMAN
SHELLEY, GREGORY D
SHEPARD, BRENDON
SHIPMAN, GRACE
SHOCKEY, DONNIE W
SHOCKEY, HOMER L
SHROPSHIRE, BILLY
SILVEY, MICHAEL S
SIMS, ARLIE R
SISCO, MARY G
SIXKILLER, JOE B

SKILLMAN, DENTON D
SLOAN, DAVID L
SLUSSER, BRETT
SMITH, BARBARA J
SMITH, BILLY J
SMITH, BOBBY
SMITH, CURTIS
SMITH, DOREN
SMITH, HENRY D
SMITH, JAMES D
SMITH, MARVIN
SMITH, RICHARD D
SMITH, RICKY A
SMITH, ROBERT
SMITH, RONALD J
SMITH, VINCE I
SNOW, WOODROW K
SORENSEN, DEANNA
SOUTHAM, ANDREW D
SOUTHERN, BILLY C
SPARKS, CHARLIE W
SPARKS, EARL
SPARKS, JOE WAYNE
SPECK, ANTHONY W
SPENCER, ELIZABETH M
SPENCER, JAMES G
SPORT, J R
SPRADLING, TROY O
SPRINGWATER, LARRY W
SPYRES, DEWEY SR
SQUYRES, RAY A
STAFFORD, LARRY A
STATON, LINDA
STEED, RICHARD
STEELE, LARRY A
STEPHENS, JAMES
STEVENSON, JOHNNY D
STEWART, SHAWNEE
STILES, KENNETH
STITES, DOUG
STITES, EDDIE D
STITES, R DARREN
STOUT, MICHAEL L
STOVALL, J D
STRAIN, DANNY
STROUD, HAROLD E
SUMMERLIN, KIMBORAH B
SUMMERS, JAMES W
SURRETT, DENNIS
SUTTON, DALE
SWEARINGEN, TRACI
SWEARINGIN, RUSSELL A
SWICKER, BRAD C
T C I CABLEVISION OF OK
TABOR, FRED J
TACKETT, JAMES W
TALIAFERRO, R MIKE
TAYLOR, DAVID L
TAYLOR, DONALD
TAYLOR, JIMMY
TAYLOR, LUCY S
TAYLOR, STEVE L
TAYLOR, TOM
TEAGUE, LOYD

TEEHEE, DORA
TELECOMM. MCI
TERRELL, CHARLES H
TERRILL, CARL W
THOMAS, BERNICE
THOMAS, GARY D
THOMAS, HERBERT
THOMAS, TERRY
THORLTON, V L
THORNBURG, RONNIE D
THORNELL, JAMES L
THRASHER, MARION L
TIBBS, DAVID
TILLERY, BILLY
TILLERY, JACK J
TINNIN, KENNETH W
TONEY, LUCY
TONSING, MARVIN
TRAEGER, E JANE
TRAMMELL, KAREN S
TRAMMELL, REBECCA J
TRAMMELL, VIRGINIA
TRUETT, RODNEY D
TUCK, RANDALL J
TUCK, RONNIE
TUCKER, BILLY JOE
TULLOS, RICHARD
TURNAGE, BARBARA A
TURNER, ROBERT D
TURNER, SETH
TURPEN, REBA
TUTTLE, JACK
TWIST, PATSY P
TYLER, RICHARD
UMBAUGH, JUDY
UNDERHILL, JAMES W
UNDERWOOD, IVAS
UPRIGHT, MARK S
URICH, DALE
VASQUEZ, RICHARD M
VAUGHN, C O
VAUGHN, DAVID C
VESSELL, ODUS
VICTORY, JEREMY A
VICTORY, JERRY W
VINH, MARGARET KAY
VINZANT, KIMBERLY
WADE, NANCY R
WADE, ROBERT G
WALKER, FRANK B
WALKER, JOE
WALLIS, LELA B
WALSH, WILLIAM J
WALTERS, CONRAD
WALTERS, DONALD E
WALTERS, JEFFERY M
WALTON, JOSEPHINE
WANN, LEONARD
WARD, BILLIE JEAN
WARD, MARY
WARD, PATRICIA A
WARD, SAMUEL
WARFORD, PAUL E
WATERS, G WILLIAM

WATERS, MARGARET
WATERS, ROBBY J
WATKINS, WILLIAM L
WATTERS, JOHN KEVIN
WEAVER, DONALD W JR
WEBBER, PAUL
WEBER, RONALD
WEBLEY, RAY
WEBSTER, C R
WEBSTER, JOHN A
WELCH, V J
WELLS, DAVE
WELLS, KENNY
WEST, JASON D
WEST, JERRY D
WESTHOFF, FRED
WHEELER, CHARLES B
WHITE, ANITA
WHITE, STEPHEN R
WICKETT, BRETT A
WIGINGTON, J A
WILCOX, WILLIAM
WILEY, RICHARD B
WILLIAMS, DANIEL
WILLIAMS, ROBERT J
WILLIAMSON, RUFUS JR
WILLIS, CATHERINE
WILLSEY, FRANK
WILSON, ALONZO
WILSON, BENO
WILSON, CHRISTINE
WILSON, PARMA
WILSON, RAYMOND
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WINTER, JOHN
WISE, CECIL
WISE, JACK C
WITT, BARNES L
WOLBERT, LISA D
WOMACK, JIM
WOOD, GERALD W
WOODALL, ROCKY
WOODS, SEBRON F
WOOLDRIDGE, DONALD M
WOOLRIDGE, BOYD
WORST, JOHN
WRIGHT, CHARLES W
WRIGHT, DOLLY J
WRIGHT, JACK
WRIGHT, JESSIE
WRIGHT, JIMMY DON
WRIGHT, STANLEY
WYLIE, JOSEPH K
WYLIE, RAYMOND L
YOUNG, BOB D
YOUNG, CHARLES D
YOUNG, CHARLEY
YOUNG, FLORA
YOUNG, KENNETH