


Light Post

Your Touchstone Energy® Partners 

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A SUPPLEMENT TO OKLAHOMA LIVING



The path of destruction following Hurricane Katrina. PHOTO/OAEC.

SPOTLIGHT

KEC offers aid after Katrina

Kiamichi Electric Cooperative responded to Hurricane Katrina by sending a crew to help clear lines and restore power to devastated areas. Six KEC employees traveled to Louisiana to participate in the massive relief effort.

Working long hours in difficult conditions, KEC employees Clayton Boren; Dennis Dolan; Tony Nixon; Ray Oller; Brian Sawyer; and Justin Wade helped restore power to thousands of rural homes and businesses.

Oklahoma electric cooperatives were some of the first to arrive following the hurricane. Within 36 hours of Katrina's landfall, eight Oklahoma co-ops had crews and equipment on the road heading south to the Gulf. Fourteen of Oklahoma's 28 co-ops responded to the disaster.

Katrina left a path of destruction over 1,000 miles wide. It is recorded as the costliest natural disaster in the history of the United States.

HOLIDAY CLOSING

The offices of Kiamichi Electric Cooperative will close December 23-26 and January 2 to observe the Christmas and New Year holidays. To report problems during this time, please call 800-888-2731.



ANNUAL MEETING REPORT

Members hear good news

A total of 623 members registered at the Kiamichi Electric Annual Meeting on October 1. While attendance fell shy of the 773 members required to constitute a quorum, KEC members attending the meeting still enjoyed the prize drawings, live entertainment and updates from cooperative officials.

Harold Hale, director of legislative affairs for the Oklahoma Association of Electric Cooperatives, served as keynote speaker. Hale praised KEC members for participating in Operation Roundup. The program raises over \$6,000 each month to help individuals, organizations and communities in KEC service territory. Eight out of 10 KEC members voluntarily participate in Operation Roundup. "Every member should feel proud about keeping this program strong," Hale said.

Following the meeting, KEC conducted the grand prize drawing for a 52-inch RCA television. For details on grand prize winners, please see page 3.



FROM THE CEO

STEPHEN BRYAN

Light up your home for less

DuraBright bulbs are a smart choice for members

Who among us doesn't appreciate saving money—particularly if it requires very little effort on our part? I'm happy to bring Kiamichi Electric members good news about a new program that requires little more than swapping old light bulbs for more energy efficient models. KEC is currently offering super-efficient DuraBright bulbs to members only. These bulbs promise to shave dollars off your electric bill.

DuraBright bulbs are fluorescent, so they are four times more efficient than regular incandescent bulbs. Besides saving energy, DuraBright bulbs also produce a low amount of heat, which means it will take less energy to cool your home during the summer.

Many folks take a look at the cost of fluorescent bulbs and reach for the lower priced incandescent bulbs instead. I know it's hard to pay more initially, but the DuraBright savings really adds up, and makes these bulbs the much wiser choice in the long run.

Consider these facts: DuraBright bulbs can last three to thirteen times longer than regular bulbs and they only require 22 to 25 percent as much electricity for the same brightness. Since fluorescent bulbs only use about 25 percent of the electricity of an incandescent bulb, the above 100-watt incandescent bulb—if changed to a 25-watt fluorescent bulb—will save \$45 to \$75 in electricity costs over the life of that bulb. Depending on how

many hours it is rated for and the cost per kWh for electricity, a 60-watt incandescent bulb—if changed to a 15-watt fluorescent bulb—will save \$27 to \$45 in electricity costs over the life of that bulb.

It's not hard to see how the savings can add up for all the light bulbs in your house or business. Even if fluorescent bulbs are slightly more expensive to buy than incandescent bulbs, the enormous savings more than makes up the cost in electricity.

KEC offers a DuraBright alternative for almost every place you need a bulb—from the smallest table bulb to big outdoor floodlights. We encourage you to drop by KEC headquarters and stock up on these proven energy-savers. Prices vary from \$2.70 (14-watt or 60-watt incandescent equivalent) to \$5.62 (14-watt globe or 60-watt incandescent equivalent) with a limit of 10 bulbs per purchase.

We hope you will take advantage of this new program from Kiamichi Electric—it really is a smart, easy way to save.

Note: DuraBright bulbs are on display in the KEC lobby. For more details, please call 800-888-2731.

KIAMICHI ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC.

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P.O. BOX 340 • 1950 Highway 2 South
Wilburton, Oklahoma 74578

(918) 465-2338 TOLL FREE: (800) 888-2731

WEB: kiamichielectric.org

report power outages: 800-888-2731

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It's 'big news' for KEC prize winners

The world got a little bigger for Elvin and Edith Anderson following the KEC Annual Meeting on October 1. The Albion couple won the grand prize 52-inch RCA television given away during the event. KEC members for over 55 years, the Andersons admitted they weren't sure where they were going to place the extra-large TV, but said they do enjoy watching rodeos, ball games and news. "Now, it's big news," said Edith. PHOTO/TODD MINSHALL, KEC.



CO-OP SERVICES

Need help paying your bills?

Ask local agencies for assistance before winter strikes

Industry experts are sure about one thing: rising fuel prices will mean higher utility bills this winter. For low income households, this situation could create financial hardships that result in unpaid bills, bad credit or worse—going without heat in an attempt to save money.

Kiamichi Electric makes every effort to work with members who are struggling to pay their utility bills. If you

find that you are continually falling behind on payments, KEC urges you to please make arrangements *before* the situation gets out of hand.

KEC also encourages you to contact one of the following local agencies for information on assistance programs for qualifying families and individuals. Again, early notice ensures fewer interruptions in service and less hassles for you and your loved ones.

DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

Latimer County DHS
1809 Highway 270 East
Wilburton, OK
918-465-2333 or 800-493-7978

Leflore County DHS
511 S. Harper
Poteau, OK 74953
918-649-2300 or 800-493-7960

Pittsburg County DHS
1900 S. Main
McAlester, OK 74501
918-421-6100 or 800-270-0792

TRIBAL RESOURCES

Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma
P.O. Drawer 1210
Durant, OK 74702-1210
580-924-8280 or 800-522-6170

OPERATION



small change
that changes
lives

Kiamichi Electric's Operation Roundup is a community outreach program that is funded totally by Kiamichi Electric members. The program allows you to voluntarily contribute to qualifying community projects, charitable services, individual assistance and other programs by "rounding up" your electric bill by a few cents each month.

Grants approved at the November 7, 2005 meeting include:

- **\$700** in assistance to a Tuskahoma man to help purchase hearing aids.
- **\$300** to the Crowder Little League to purchase equipment.
- **\$2,000** to a Leflore household to help with medical bills.

Roundup Totals:

YEAR TO DATE COLLECTIONS:

\$51,781.09

TOTAL COLLECTED SINCE INCEPTION:

\$401,454.28

TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS SINCE INCEPTION:

\$340,574.29



BE A SANTA.

Round up your electric bill by only a few cents each month and you'll help others in southeast Oklahoma. To participate, please see the information on your KEC electric bill!

REAL ESTATE IN KIAMICHI COUNTRY

14x60 Idletime trailer on 100x250 lot in Sportsman addition of Lake Eufaula. Small boat and gazebo. Close to boat docks. 918-452-2082.

Fenced 12+ acres area of upscale homes, rural electric and water, 2 miles south of McAlester on Lenhard Rd. \$48,000. 918-423-6668.

3br, 2ba double-wide (30x60) on 30 acres, 20 acres are pretty clear and 10 acres with cedar and hard wood. Located 5 miles north of Talihina and 2 miles from the Talimena Drive. Great access to deer and turkey hunting and four-wheeler trails. Rural and well water. Carpets and vinyl 3 years old. Excellent condition and very well taken care of. New concrete front porch. \$89,950. 918-567-4116

Older model double-wide trailer to be moved, Located in Waldron, Ark. \$2000 cash or will trade for anything of equal value. 479-637-1911 or 918-653-2379.

2-br, 1-ba home. Hard wood floors, fireplace, and metal building for car or boat. Nice size lot. \$35,000 firm. Fax: 410-635-2498. Phone:443-375-9589.

For sale by owner: 3 br, 1.5 ba by Lake Wister. Fireplace with insert, family room, c/h, spa, 3 sheds, pole barn, pond, on 23 acres. \$125,000. Please call 918-655-7639 or 918-839-4749.

40x70 Lot, Piney Creek Addition, 7 miles east of Eufaula, Hwy 9, usable water well, \$2,500. No closing cost. 918-465-5249.

20 acres, 3 miles west of Yanush Store, Latimer County \$16,000. 918-522-4308.

Spectacular Eufaula waterfront home. 2 story, great room w/glass, 7 cedar beams,13-ft. dinning table, 5 br, 3 living rooms. Deck on three sides w/Koi pond. Gated \$475,000. 405-842-1929 or 918-452-3266.

212 Deercreek Rd. 80x100 Lot, 14x80 furnished mobile home, 2ba, 2br, new vinyl siding, propane tank, storage building, central H+A. \$18,000. Arrowhead Estates, call anytime. 405-379-6158.

2bd, 1ba mobile home. Remodeled inside and out, full metal roof, over 90+ feet of covered deck, storage and shop. Close to water and boat ramp. 75x160 lot \$35,000. 918-429-4642.

Double wide, 4br, 2ba, utility room with washer and dryer, fireplace, 2-car garage, central heat and air. Lot 78 Morrison acres, Pittsburg county, Oklahoma Block1, legal description: 2405-00-001-078-00. Telephone: 918-339-4645.

10 miles north of McAlester, one-half mile west of Hwy 69 on Shady Grove Road. 2.7 acres, 1,840 sq ft, 3br, 2ba, barn shop, carports plus small 2br house now rented for \$450/month. \$125,000. Rent house payment covers two-thirds of mortgage. Crowder school district. 918-423-1699.

Place your real estate ad here and reach over 16,000 readers with every issue! Kiamichi Electric offers FREE real estate ads for KEC members only. The KEC *Light Post* reaches cooperative members in Latimer, LeFlore, Pittsburg, Pushmataha and Atoka counties. To place your ad, simply fill out the form below and mail it by the published deadline.



PLAY IT SAFE

simple tips for a safe holiday!

Sparkling lights brighten the holiday season. This year, ensure a merry and safe holiday by heeding a few simple decorating tips from your friends at Kiamichi Electric Cooperative.

- ◆ Make sure all holiday lighting and extension cords are in good repair, with no fraying, cracking or cuts, and are certified by an independent testing lab such as UL, CSA or ETL. Follow the rating for indoor or outdoor use.
- ◆ Never connect more than three strands of decorative lights together. Make sure all connections are tight and protected from inclement weather, including the outlet. Unplug the lights from the outlet when not in use.
- ◆ Make sure spotlights used to highlight decorations are well-ventilated, protected from weather and are a safe distance from anything flammable, such as shrubs and bushes, dry leaves or fabric decorations.
- ◆ Keep power and extension cords out of pathways. Don't tuck them under rugs, carpets or curtains. They may overheat, causing a fire hazard.

For more safety information or to schedule a free electrical safety program, please contact KEC.

800-888-2731
kiamichielectric.org

Advertise your real estate—FREE

IN THE KIAMICHI ELECTRIC LIGHT POST

NAME: _____
 ADDRESS: _____
 CITY, STATE, ZIP: _____
 TELE: _____

CHECK: FOR SALE FOR RENT WANT TO BUY OR LEASE

Please attach this form to a separate sheet listing all the ad information including property location, price and appropriate contact telephone numbers. PLEASE PRINT LEGIBLY.

Ad deadline for the January-February issue is February 10, 2006. Please clip this form and fax, mail or e-mail to:

Todd Minshall
 KEC *Light Post*/Attn: Real Estate Ads
 PO Box 340, Wilburton, OK 74578

E-MAIL: toddm@kiamichielectric.org
FAX: 918-465-2950/Attn: Todd Minshall