

Three Trustees Seek Re-Election p. 3

Coming Oct. 1

SmartHub

Beginning Oct. 1 VVEC will add a brand new means of communication and interaction to our already extensive roster of communication methods for members. In addition to phone calls, office visits, direct mail, and pre-payment, we will “have an app for that” called SmartHub.

Registration is easy and many of you are already connected. Members using E-bill will automatically be registered in SmartHub. If you need to register, all you need is your VVEC account number, your name and an E-mail address.

Developed by the National Information Solutions Cooperative (NISC) – the same developer VVEC uses for accounting, E-bill, and data management – and customized by VVEC, SmartHub provides you instant access to your electric account, customer service, and outage reporting. Users can choose to receive an E-mail or text for VVEC notifications, such as when a payment is due or a service interruption is scheduled.

SmartHub allows members to make payments right from their smart phone or tablet – for FREE; but it is more



The Center of Customer Engagement

than just a payment platform. SmartHub is an information hub delivering personal electric usage data directly to wherever you are, safely and securely. Once in SmartHub, use the My Usage tab to view graphs of your daily, monthly, and yearly usage trends, searchable by date.

Members with smart phones or tablet devices can download the SmartHub app from their app store software. (Use the term “NISC SmartHub.”) SmartHub is also available on

personal computers, by clicking on the SmartHub button on VVEC’s Web site at www.vvec.com. You will need to set-up a user name and password when you access the program for the first time.

The two-way communication available with SmartHub allows you to notify us of account and service issues while providing us a way to let you know about co-op events, special offers, programs and services, and more.

Watch for more information in future issues of *Power Circuit*.

WVEC Board of Trustees

- District 1 - **Jim Brackett, 720-4531**
- District 2 - **Jack Bogart, 371-9587**
- District 3 - **Vernon Lewis, 341-5225**
- District 4 - **John Hibdon, 847-2320**
- District 5 - **Jimmy Lambert, 760-7029**
- District 6 - **Dennis Lenox, 289-5961**
- District 7 - **Charles Huerter, 333-3107**
- District 8 - **Ken Howard, 724-9965**
- District 9 - **Buddy McCarty, 272-5134 or 272-5364**

General Manager - Alice Houston

WVEC Headquarters

8901 E. 146th Street N., Collinsville

Mailing address

P.O. Box 219, Collinsville, OK 74021

Phone number

(918) 371-2584 or 1-800-870-5948

Office hours

7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.,
Monday through Friday

Editor - Kay Rabbitt-Brower

WVEC offices will be closed Monday, Sept. 1 in recognition of Labor Day. Please call 918-371-2584 or 1-800-870-5948 to report an outage.

Summer Residential Rates

April through September usage,
May through October billing

Customer Charge \$25.00

Energy Charge

1st 2,000 kWh \$0.0809/kWh
Over 2,000 kWh \$0.0860/kWh

A power cost adjustment (PCA) will be applied to all bills when the actual cost of power purchased exceeds or is less than 55.993 mills per kWh.

In addition, a gross receipts tax of 2% of revenue will be included, plus additional taxes if applicable.

This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

Qualifications to be a WVEC Trustee

Electric cooperatives are governed by a board of trustees, who are members of the cooperative residing in the districts they represent. They are elected to the board by members of their respective districts, at meetings held in the districts. Each trustee serves a three year term, and the terms are staggered so three different trustee terms expire each year.

Qualifications for trustees can be found in the cooperative's bylaws: Article 4, Section 4.

Those qualifications are:

“Each year, there shall be elected trustees to succeed all trustees whose terms of office shall expire at the time of holding such election. All duly elected and qualified trustees shall serve for the term of three (3) years, or until their successors are elected and qualified, subject to the provisions of these bylaws with respect to the removal of trustees.

No person shall be eligible to be-

come or remain a trustee of the cooperative who:

(a) is not a member and bona fide resident in the area served or to be served by the cooperative; or

(b) is any way employed by or financially interested in a competing enterprise or a business selling electric energy or supplies to the cooperative, or a business primarily engaged in selling electrical or plumbing appliances, fixtures or supplies to the members of the cooperative; or

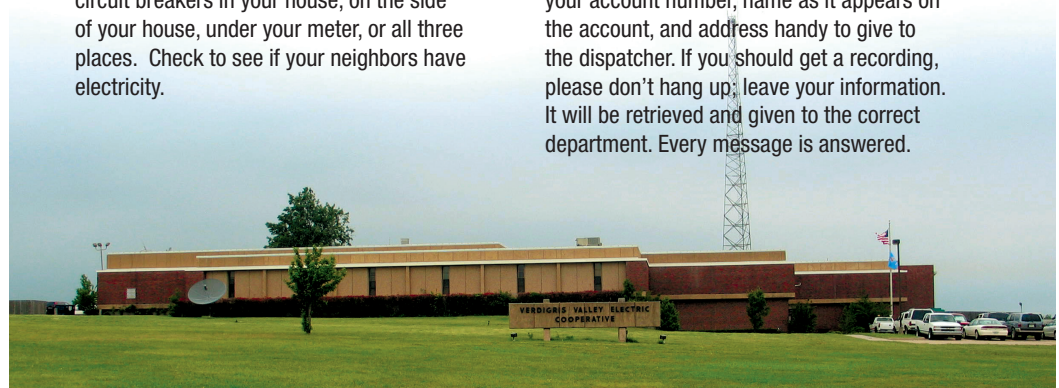
(c) has been convicted, pled guilty, or pled nolo contendere to a felony; or

(d) is a close relative of an incumbent trustee or of an employee of the Cooperative, or

(e) is or was an employee of the cooperative during the preceding three years prior to time of filing or being nominated.”

What to do if Your Power Goes Off

1. Check your fuses or circuit breakers. Every service is different. You may have fuses or circuit breakers in your house, on the side of your house, under your meter, or all three places. Check to see if your neighbors have electricity.
2. Call the Co-op at 371-2584, or 1-800-870-5948 if the call is long distance for you. Have your account number, name as it appears on the account, and address handy to give to the dispatcher. If you should get a recording, please don't hang up; leave your information. It will be retrieved and given to the correct department. Every message is answered.



Power Circuit is published monthly by Verdigris Valley Electric Cooperative, Collinsville, Oklahoma (ISSN 10884378) for its members in Tulsa, Rogers, Washington, Nowata and Osage counties. Periodical postage paid at Tulsa, Oklahoma and other additional mailing offices. Subscription price is \$0.19 per month. POSTMASTER - send address changes to Power Circuit, P.O. Box 219, Collinsville, OK 74021.

VOLUME 73 • NUMBER 9 • SEPTEMBER 2014

Incumbent Trustees Seek Re-election to Board



Jim Brackett
District 1

A rancher originally from Collinsville, Jim has been a VVEC member since 1972 and was appointed to the board in March 2010 following the death of long-time trustee Carl Long.

Jim retired from VVEC in 2006 concluding a 33-year career in the co-op's operations department.

He holds an associate degree in business administration from Claremore Junior College. He is a member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars and the American Quarter Horse Association. He and his wife Pam attend the Cowboy Capital Fellowship in Lenapah.

They are the parents of Stacie, David, Sheila, and Kyle. They also have nine grandchildren.

In his spare time, Jim enjoys horseback riding.



Vernon Lewis
District 3

A VVEC member since 1968, Vernon has served on the board since 1984. He has held every officer position, along with being VVEC's trustee and voting delegate to the Oklahoma Association of Electric Cooperatives Board of Directors, and an alternate to National Rural Utilities Cooperative Finance Corporation.

Vernon completed certification as a cooperative director from the NRECA in 1998. He has also served on the Owasso Board of Education.

A graduate of Howe High School, he is the retired manager of Vernon Lewis Lumber Co., in Collinsville.

He has one son, Kenny, and two granddaughters.

He and his wife Sara live in the rural Claremore area, and attend the Owasso Assembly of God Church where Vernon is a Sunday School teacher.



Jimmy Lambert
District 5

A resident of Tiawah and a graduate of Owasso High School, Jimmy owns Lambert's Auto Salvage in Collinsville.

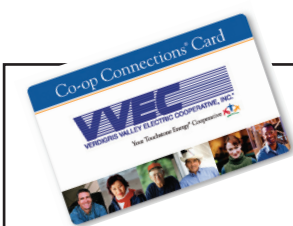
He has been a VVEC member since 1994, and was appointed to the board in 2008 following the death of trustee Ken Easterling.

He is working to earn his certification as a cooperative director from the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association.

Jimmy attends the First Christian Church of Owasso.

He has three sons, Trey, Cole, and Austin.

In his spare time he enjoys racing mini-sprint cars with his sons.



Use your **Co-op Connections Card** for discounts or special deals at area businesses. Visit www.VVEC.com for a list of those businesses and pharmacies.

Right-of-Way Efforts Aimed at 'Tree-Free' Easements

Although summer may be winding down this month, we are continuing to take advantage of the weather and long days to clear and maintain our rights-of-way.

Lon Lambert, VVEC right-of-way coordinator, says special attention is being paid to areas where the co-op has an easement.

"We are clearing easements of fast-growing trees that can grow into the easement," he says. Those include such trees as hackberry, elm, oak, pecan, and Bradford pear. Depending on the location, red bud trees might be left.

"We are leaving certain low-growing species," he adds.

Lambert goes on to explain the co-op's easement is 15 feet on either side of a 3-phase line, and

10 feet on either side of a single-phase line.

"Clearing and maintaining the easements results in better service to the members, and fewer outages," explains Lambert. "Trees and brush in the right-of-way can interrupt electric service, especially during severe weather. By taking a firm stance on clearing

rights-of-way and maintaining our easements, we're ensuring reliable electric service, and reducing outages."

Lambert says crews have been working in the areas near the Oologah and Verdigris substations.

"We want to thank the members in those areas," he says. "We certainly appreciate their cooperation."

Anyone with questions about VVEC's right-of-way maintenance program can contact Lambert at (918) 371-2584.

Co-op Web site being Re-designed

Beginning in mid-September, our Web site – www.vvec.com – will have a new look!

The new design will allow you to access our programs and services quicker and more efficiently, and will allow us to update it quicker and easier so it is current any time you visit.

Check it out and let us know what you think!

RECIPE

Creamy Pasta Salad



- 6 oz. pasta
- 3/4 cup broccoli (blanched - cooked 1 min. in boiling water)
- 1 cup frozen peas
- 6 slices bacon (crumbled)
- 1 cup cheddar cheese (shredded)
- 1/2 cup carrots (thinly sliced)
- 14 oz. yogurt (Suggested - use 6 oz. plain Chobani + 8 oz. honey Noosa)
- 1 pkg. dry Ranch Dip Mix (Suggested - Hidden Valley Ranch)

Boil pasta - approximately 8 min, until cooked through.

Drain, then cool pasta in the fridge.

Blanche broccoli, then dice. Combine broccoli, peas, crumbled bacon, cheese, and carrots in a medium mixing bowl.

Stir in cooled pasta.

In a separate small bowl, create the dressing by combining the dry ranch packet with the yogurt.

Slowly add in the yogurt ranch sauce to the pasta mixture, until reaching desired creaminess.

Serve cold.