

“Out of the Gate” Reception

Oklahoma’s 55th Legislative Session reconvened on Feb. 2nd. Over the course of the next few months, our state legislature will write new laws and amend existing ones.


This year, there were a record number of new legislators. In order to help them make informed decisions regarding policies that affect rural citizens served by Oklahoma Cooperatives, it is important to establish relationships. We believe it is imperative that we let them know how cooperatives make a difference in our communities.



Pictured above: Left-Right: Senator Rick Brinkley, Representative Earl Sears, Trustee Chuck Huerter (standing), Trustee John Hibdon.



Pictured above: Left-Right: Trustee Jimmy Lambert, Guest Gaye Gardner, Senator Marty Quinn, Trustee Dennis Lenox.

The “Out of the Gate” legislative reception was held this year on February 9th. The reception provided all Oklahoma Cooperatives the opportunity to get acquainted with area legislators and discuss legislative issues concerning electric cooperatives and their members. 

VVEC is Now on Facebook

VVEC has opened a Facebook page to inform its members of events that pertain to VVEC. You can follow the link that has been activated on our website or search Facebook for Verdigris Valley Electric Cooperative. “Like” us to get the latest updates and events.



Find us on:
facebook®

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VVEC 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 - Vickie Chamberlain

VVEC offices will be closed Friday April 3, 2015 in recognition of Good Friday. Call 918-371-2584 or 1-800-870-5948 if you need to report an outage.

Winter Residential Rates

October through March usage, November through April billing

Customer Charge	\$25.00
Energy Charge	
1st 1,000 kWh	\$0.0738/kWh
Over 1,000 kWh	\$0.0678/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.




Pictured L-R: Chub Brewer, Katelynn Perkins, Shelby King, Samantha Johnson, Amanda Thornbrugh, Ryan Harrington, Jimmy Brackett, Jacob Johnson, Tanner Belden, Hannah Becker, Marissa Harvick & Bryan Kile.

VVEC makes donation to Nowata FFA Chapter for the Nowata County Spring Premium Sale

VVEC presented a \$400 donation to Nowata Schools for the Nowata County Spring Premium Sale. The event was held Thursday, March 12th at the Fair Building. A Chili Dinner started the evening at 5 o'clock and the sale began at 7 p.m.

A \$400 check for the sale was presented to Ryan Harrington, Nowata Schools Vo-Ag Instructor, by VVEC Trustee Jimmy Brackett and Chub Brewer, Member Services Representative.

Mr. Harrington, speaking for himself and the Nowata FFA Chapter, wished to publicly thank VVEC with these words of appreciation. "We would like to express our gratitude towards VVEC with the donation of \$400. It will directly benefit the students in their future endeavors and supporters like VVEC help make sure students are able to continue." 

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.



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POSTMASTER - send address changes to Power Circuit, P.O. Box 219, Collinsville, OK 74021.

Lineman Appreciation Day

Glen Campbell sang about them, or at least one from Wichita. They are the heart of your cooperative. Neither snow nor sleet nor gloom of night can keep the “lineman” from his rounds. This well-known mantra fits the lineman even better than the postman. In fact, when the weather gets tough, your cooperative linemen have to get tougher. Inclement weather is when they do some of their best work!

In 2013 the U.S. Senate passed a resolution to declare April 18th as National Lineman Appreciation Day.



Electric linemen do not often receive the recognition they deserve. They work all hours of the day (and night), often in hazardous conditions, far from their families, going above and beyond to restore power to their communities. Our linemen, as well as linemen from all across the nation, truly deserve this special day of recognition. 

Energy Efficiency Tip

Want to reduce your summer cooling costs up to 10%? It's as easy as planting deciduous trees on the south and west sides of your home. Evergreen trees and bushes can also be used to reduce energy costs in the winter. Just be sure to put them on the north side of your home to slow down those icy winter winds. For more ideas visit TogetherWeSave.com.

--Touchstone Energy



**Know what's below.
Call before you dig.**

One free, easy call gets your utility lines marked
AND helps protect you from injury and expense.

Call 811 or visit call811.com for more information.

Common Ground Alliance



Dates to Remember.....

Applications for VVEC's Adopt-A-School and Fire Department grant programs are due by 4 p.m. Wednesday, April 30, 2015.


Questions about these programs can be directed to Misti Frazier, 918.371.2584 ext. 6226.

Storm Season

When your power goes out, VVEC is on the job! VVEC has 46 phone lines. We have dispatching 24/7, 365 days a year. Our service department is never closed. We never “take the phone off the hook”. If the line is busy, it just means we are taking a lot of calls. “Why is my electric off?” “How long will it be off?” These are the questions we hear most often. However these questions are sometimes very hard to answer.

So often, when the electric goes off there is nothing visible that stands out as the problem. A piece of equipment may have failed internally; a tree may have blown down that is now clear of the line. When a breaker opens or a fuse blows, we cannot simply go out and kick it back in. The voltages we are working with are too dangerous to handle that way. We must look a line over from start to finish. This can take some time to drive or walk miles of line. Many times dispatch doesn’t know the status of a restoration until just before it is energized.

Phone numbers to use to contact the office are (918) 371-2584 and (888) 870-5984. The 888 number will not work from local exchanges. Members will get a message that it is not a working number. During a major outage you may still get a busy signal when a feeder is off with 1500+ members out of electric with a large number of them trying to call. More calls can be answered if the automated system is used to report outages.

Use our website (SmartHub) to report your outage for a very simple and efficient way to report the outage. Another easy way to report an outage is to use the SmartHub app on your iphone or android phone. 



RECIPE

Grandma’s Hot Water Chocolate Cake with Icing



Chocolate Cake

1 ½ cups sugar 1 ½ cups flour
½ cup Crisco oil 2 tbsp cocoa
½ tsp salt

Mix all ingredients with 1 cup very hot (not boiling) water.

Mix 1/2 cup hot water with 1 1/2 tsp soda (let fizz)

Mix all ingredients together

Add 1 egg 1 tsp vanilla

(Will be thin)

Lightly grease and flour a 9 x 9 cake pan.

Bake at 350 for 25 to 30 minutes.

(For insulated pan 35 to 40 minutes).

Chocolate Icing

1 cup sugar
¼ cup cocoa
¼ cup butter
¼ cup milk

Bring to a boil. Boil for 3 to 4 minutes.

(Test by dropping small amount into cold water until it forms a ball).

Stir until smooth and thick and add 1 tsp vanilla.