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VVEC

POWER CIRCUIT

FEBRUARY 2022 | PUBLISHED FOR THE MEMBERS OF VERDIGRIS VALLEY ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE | A SUPPLEMENT TO OKLAHOMA LIVING | WWW.VVEC.COM



Serving Proudly

VVEC Recognizes Employees For Years of Service.

Through storms, technology advancements, and even a global pandemic, VVEC employees have worked through it all! In December at VVEC's annual Christmas Party, five employees were recognized for their years of service with the cooperative. Mark Coulter who serves as the Lead Meter Technician and Gary Yarbrough who serves as the System Mapping Technician were both awarded for 30 years of service.

Clifton White who serves as a Staking Engineer was awarded for 20 years of service. Justin Stowers who serves as the Information Technology Specialist was awarded for 10 years of service. Dillon Cox who serves as a Maintenance Lineman was awarded for 5 years of service. ■

**Thank You For Your
Service To VVEC and
Our Members!**

Washington Youth Tour

June 17-23, 2022

Essay Topic

In your words, explain how electric cooperatives originated and how we benefit from them in our communities.

Essay Guidelines

600-800 words
(typed, double spaced)



Scan for more
Youth Tour
information!

YouthPower Energy Camp

May 31-June 3, 2022

Essay Topic

What is the electric cooperative story?

Essay Guidelines

300 words minimum. Students may write individually or in a two-person team.



Scan for more
Energy Camp
information!



VVEC BOARD OF TRUSTEES

District 1: Jim Brackett - 720-4531

District 2: Jack Bogart - 371-9587

District 3: Vernon Lewis - 521-5461

District 4: John Hibdon - 847-2320

District 5: Jimmy Lambert - 760-7029

District 6: Dennis Lenox - 289-5961

District 7: Charles Huerter - 914-1498

District 8: Ken Howard - 724-9965

District 9: Buddy McCarty - 272-5134
or 272-5364

General Manager: Alice Lawson

CONTACT US

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., Mon.-Fri.

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McKenzie Loffer

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EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT

The Man In Orange

Boyd Schultheiss reflects on time at VVEC

Second career choices can be rewarding. In May of 1997, Boyd Schultheiss left the oil field after 17 years to join the VVEC team. Boyd began his career at VVEC as a groundsman and moved up to assistant foreman and bucket operator, and eventually becoming a crew foreman. After 10 years of serving in that position, he moved into the office as construction superintendent and retired from his current roll as powerline contractor coordinator on January 6, 2022.

During his 24 year tenure at VVEC, Boyd has served the cooperative and its members with a cooperative spirit and we will all remember him for his love of the OSU cowboys.

Boyd is looking forward to enjoying days of golfing and having more time to spend with his four grandkids. Best wishes to Boyd and wife Kelli in this new chapter of life. Enjoy!

"What I enjoyed most about my job was meeting new people."

- Boyd Schultheiss

Memories And Friendships That Last A Lifetime

Youth Tour is an amazing opportunity for students. Two former youth tour participants shared their experience with us, and told of how what they thought was just a trip to the Nation's capitol turned into a life long friendship. Taylor Holder and Ali Johnson participated in Youth Tour in 2014. Ali and Taylor then went on to spend four years of college together at Oklahoma State University. After college, both moved back to Southeast Oklahoma where they continue to support each other in their endeavors. Phone calls, lunch dates, and spending time together is still a permanent fixture as they continue into adulthood. When asked what was Ali's favorite activity that she and Taylor participated in together on Youth Tour, she replied, "My personal favorite activity was the nighttime private capitol tour with congressman Mark Wayne Mullin. He spent time with the entire group explaining his day-to-day responsibilities

and showing us very prestigious places within the capitol, such as the senate chamber." When asked what events were highlights of their time together after youth tour, Ali expressed they enjoyed attending OSU football games, concerts, and dancing at the famous Tumbleweed Dancehall. When asked if Ali had any advice for future Youth Tour participants, she stated, "Taylor and I were sponsored by the same electric cooperative, so we had a mutual connection prior to leaving for D.C. As the trip progressed, we realized that we were very similar and came from alike backgrounds. I would encourage future participants to find someone who shares their same beliefs, and create a bond with them."

Those interested in submitting an essay for Youth Tour can contact the VVEC Member Services Department, or view information online at www.vvec.com under the community programs tab. ■

**YOUTH TOUR & ENERGY CAMP
APPLY BY FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 25 AT 4 P.M.**



COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

VVEC Now Accepting Applicants For Grants

Adopt-A-School & Rural Fire Department

As an electric cooperative, VVEC's primary objective is to provide safe, reliable and affordable electricity to our members. However, we are also a concerned partner in the development of the local community. One of the ways VVEC demonstrates our concern for the community is by offering grants to schools and rural fire departments in our service territory. Each year teachers, school administrators

and fire department personnel are invited to submit an application for funds through VVEC's Adopt-A-School and Rural Fire Department grant programs. Applicants are asked to explain how they will use the funds to improve the classroom experience for students or to help protect residents' lives and property from fire damage. Classrooms are able to fund items that are not in their budget to enhance their

educational experience. Likewise, fire departments purchase tools and equipment they might not otherwise be able to afford. In turn, these purchases help improve the safety of the members of the community.

Grant applications are available on VVEC's website: www.vvec.com, under the "Community Programs" tab. Applications can be mailed or hand delivered to Misti Frazier at

P.O. Box 219, Collinsville, OK
74021.

This year's application deadline is
Friday, March 18th at 4 p.m.

Anyone with questions or those
who need an application mailed
to them can contact Frazier by
calling 918-371-2584, ext. 6226 or
by emailing her at mfrazier@vvec.com. Office hours are 7:30 a.m. to
4 p.m., Monday through Friday.

VVEC is happy to be able to offer
this program as a way to give back
to the community. ■

**"Grant monies are used to
help as many schools in our
service area as possible. This
is just one way VVEC gives
back to our **community**."**

- Misti Frazier



Willie is back! The beloved rural electric cooperative mascot is making a comeback to the Power Circuit. The new featured recipes will be coming from the first, second, and third editions of the Servin' Spoon cookbook! The Servin' Spoon cookbooks were created by Verdigris Valley Electric Cooperative for members beginning in the early 1970's. The Servin' Spoon trilogy was created by Mary Ann King, who in 1969 began writing the recipe column for VVEC's monthly newsletter. This month's recipe was submitted to the Servin' Spoon III by Betty Krepps of Owasso and is the perfect sweet treat for you and your Valentine! ■

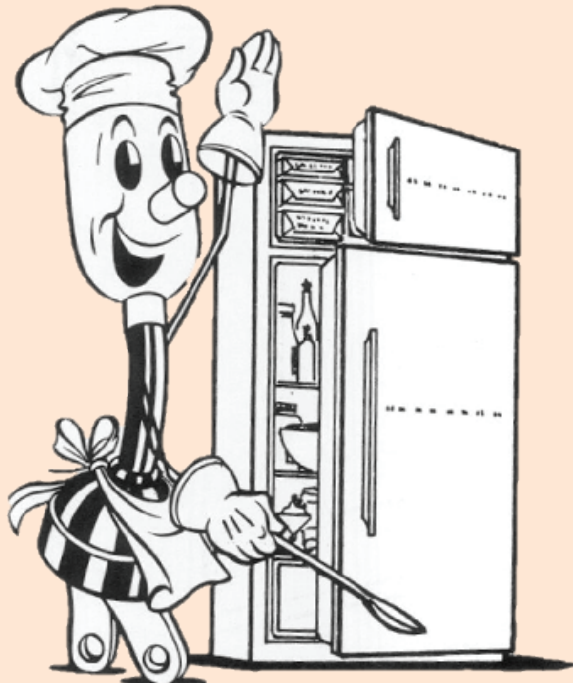


*HAPPY VALENTINE'S DAY
To Our Valued Members!*



Willie's Throwback Recipe

Layered Cherry Cake



- 1 can cherry pie filling
- 1 lb., 4 oz. can crushed pineapple slightly drained
- 1 lb. 5 oz. box white or yellow cake mix
- 1/2 c. nuts, finely chopped
- 2 sticks margarine
- Cool Whip (optional)

Lightly grease a 9 x 13 inch pan and spread pie filling evenly in pan. Spread pineapple over pie filling, sprinkle with dry cake mix, then with nuts. Thinly slice margarine and place over nuts. Bake in a 350 degree oven for 45 minutes. Tastes delicious when topped with Cool Whip.

CLASSIFIEDS

SUBMIT ADS to classified@vvec.com or send to Attn: Classified, P.O. Box 219, Collinsville, OK 74021. Ads must be in writing. Your account number, name, address and a phone number is required on all ads.

The deadline for all ads is the 1st of the month. Ads submitted by the 1st of the month will run in the following month's newsletter.

Classified ads are a free service to VVEC members only. As many ads as space allows will be included in each issue. VVEC reserves the right to delete or shorten items or descriptions.

■ Dog grooming. Professional, personalized, at your home. Certified master groomer with over 40 years' experience. Most dogs only \$40. Contact **918-381-1170**.

■ Crosby music box with wood cabinet. Play CDs, cassettes, records or radio. \$50. Contact **918-381-1170**.

■ Native Bluestem Prairie Hay. No chemicals. Square baled. \$8. Contact **918-504-6264**.

■ Old fashioned porcelain dolls. Most only \$20. Contact **918-381-1170**.

■ Bits, spurs and other tack. Contact Kenneth Dotham at **918-695-0344**.

■ Depression glass cameo "ballerina" green. Over 60 pieces. Contact Howard Denegar at **918-857-3336**.

■ Porcelain dolls. Many styles and types. Most dolls only \$20.00. Several Indian dolls \$30.00. Contact **918-381-1170**

■ White chenille bedspread. Full/queen. \$20. Contact **918-381-1170**.

COMING SOON: Calendar of Events!

VVEC will now feature a Calendar of Events in the monthly Power Circuit newsletter.

If you have an event you would like to appear, include the date(s), time, location and a contact number. Submit your event to classified@vvec.com or send to Attn: Classified, P.O. Box 219, Collinsville, OK 74021.

VVEC reserves the right to edit or omit events.

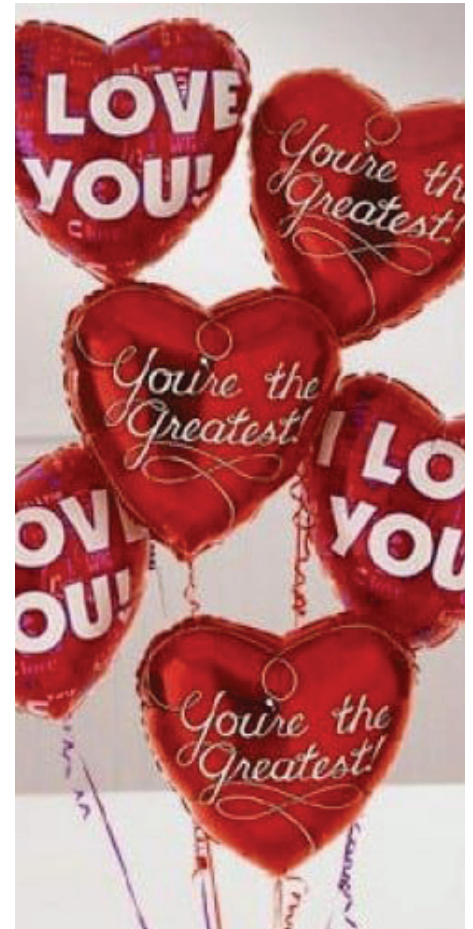
SAFETY TIP

Metallic balloons are great indoors and can brighten the bleakest and most dreary winter day. They are great at birthdays, graduations and other special occasions. However, you must know how to use and dispose of metallic balloons properly, or you could cause a power outage and damage to utility electrical equipment. Because of the metallic coating, they conduct electricity well and can short out circuits in your community's power system. You and your neighbors could lose power, traffic lights could go out, and entire blocks of homes and businesses could go dark. To prevent this, keep metallic balloons secured. When done with the balloons, deflate them and throw

them in the garbage. Do not release them. Never tie a metallic balloon to a child's wrist. If the balloon comes in contact with electricity, it will travel through the balloon and into the child. This could cause a serious injury or even death.

Metallic balloons have been known to float for several days before losing their helium and returning to Earth. If one lands within the fence of an electric utility substation, it can cause electrical fires and untold dollars' worth of damage after high transmission circuitry goes down. ■

Source: safeelectricity.org



RETIREMENT

Warm Wishes to Roger Pennick

Roger Penick, warehouseman for VVEC said goodbye to long time co-workers and VVEC members on January 3, 2022, after over 40 years of dedicated service to the cooperative and our members. Roger began his VVEC career in November of 1981. He started out as a groundsman and Digger Operator and eventually moved into the position of Service Lineman. This is where Roger met many of our members and worked until deciding to move into the warehouse where the work wasn't as physically demanding. In asking



Roger what he enjoyed the most about his time at the cooperative, he replied, "It's all of the people I've met, I've made a lot of friends, they're like family." In the same spirit, he replied that what he will miss the most is, "All of my friends...the guys and the office workers." Roger says he plans to

spend more time enjoying his hobbies of gardening, bowling, and golfing. He is also looking forward to having more time to spend with his three daughters, eleven grandchildren and one on the way. Roger and his wife Penni are looking forward to a cruise in the Spring. ■

WINTER RESIDENTIAL RATES

October through March usage;
November through April billing

Customer Charge | \$30.00

Energy Charge | \$.07772/kWh

A power cost adjustment (PCA) will be applied to all bills when the actual cost of power purchased exceeds or is less than 59.87 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 & employer.

IN CASE OF AN OUTAGE

- First, 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.
- Then, call the co-op at 371-2584, or 1-800-870-5948. 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, leave your information; every message will be answered.
- Download the SmartHub app at www.smarthubapp.com to report outages from your smartphone.



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for outage updates & more



**REPORT OUTAGES
WITH SMARTHUB**

Scan here to download

