



**VVEC**

# POWER CIRCUIT

AUGUST 2023 | PUBLISHED FOR THE MEMBERS OF VERDIGRIS VALLEY ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE | A SUPPLEMENT TO OKLAHOMA LIVING | [WWW.VVEC.COM](http://WWW.VVEC.COM)



**SPEARHEADING SUMMER STORM POWER OUTAGE  
RECOVERY EFFORTS**



**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

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# Spearheading Summer Storm Damage



As the scorching summer sun beats down, severe storms can often disrupt the tranquil serenity of the season. The repercussions of summer storms can be felt most intensely in the form of power outages, leaving communities in distress. In the early morning hours of June 18th, Father's Day, severe storms with high winds rolled through Northeastern Oklahoma. Outage notifications began coming in at 12:17 am. However, amidst the chaos and darkness, Verdigris Valley Electric Cooperative emerged as a beacon of hope, tirelessly working to restore power and bring relief to affected areas. Through our dedicated efforts, VVEC has proven our commitment to customer service and community welfare. One of the defining characteristics of VVEC is our swift response to power outages caused by the summer storms. The storm hit hardest in our service areas of Rogers and Tulsa counties resulting in 78 broken poles and other infrastructure damage leaving us with over 20,000 meters without power. Equipped with a robust emergency response plan, the cooperative sprang into action, mobilizing their skilled personnel and resources to address the situation promptly. By assessing damage and outage numbers by service area, VVEC was able to dispatch crews and equipment strategically, ensuring a rapid and efficient restoration process. Safety remains a paramount concern for VVEC during power outage recovery efforts. Their highly trained linemen adhere to rigorous safety protocols to protect themselves and the community while working in hazardous conditions. By meticulously assessing the situation and identifying potential risks, VVEC ensures that our restoration efforts proceed smoothly without compromising the well-being

of our workers or residents. During challenging times, effective communication becomes crucial for providing updates and support to affected communities. VVEC utilizes social media and our website to keep customers informed about outage status, estimated restoration times, and safety reminders. In the wake of summer storms, the tireless efforts and dedication of Verdigris Valley Electric Cooperative shined through as we worked diligently to restore power and offer solace to our members. Most all power had been restored on Tuesday, June 20th with the last service being restored on Wednesday, June 21st . With a strong focus on safety, efficiency and collaboration, VVEC has proven to be an invaluable resource during times of crisis. As we navigate the uncertainties of severe weather, we can take pride in knowing that VVEC remains steadfast in our mission to provide reliable power and unwavering support to the communities we serve.



**VVEC is thankful and appreciative  
of our members for their patience  
during this restoration process.**



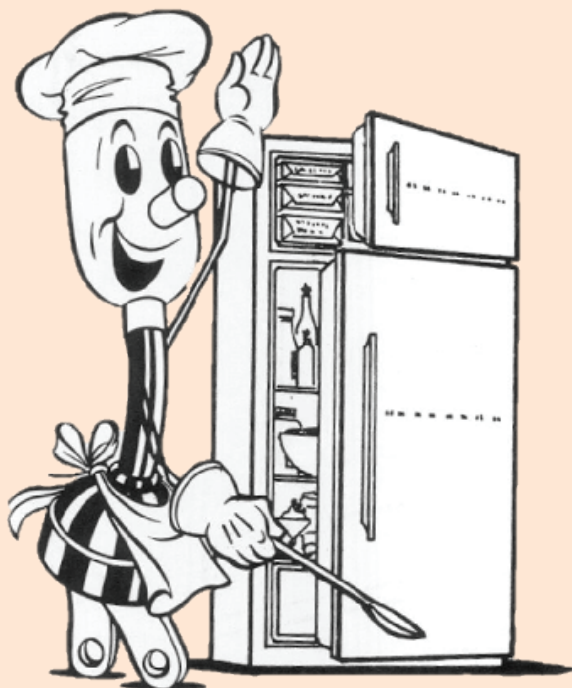
**SAVE The Date**  
**12 Oct 5pm**  
**VVEC ANNUAL MEETING**  
 Bartlesville Community Center  
**MUSIC, FOOD, AND PRIZES**



**Happy**  
**Labor Day**  
 ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

VVEC offices will be closed on  
 Monday, September 4, 2023.  
 Offices will resume regular hours on  
 Tuesday, September 5, 2023 at 7:30 a.m.

# Willie's Throwback Recipe



## Chuck Wagon Cookies

- 1/2 c. shortening
- 1/2 c. brown sugar
- 1/2 c. white sugar
- 1/2 c. peanut butter
- 1 c. peeled, grated apple
- 1 1/2 c. flour
- 1 tsp. soda
- 1/2 tsp. salt
- 1/2 tsp. cinnamon
- 1 egg
- 1/2 tsp. vanilla

Cream shortening, sugars, peanut butter and egg. Sift dry ingredients; add to creamy mixture. Add apples and vanilla. Shape into balls, size of walnut, flatten on a cookie sheet with fork or thread spool. Bake at 350 degrees for 10 minutes.

Submitted by: Pearl Finney of Collinsville,  
 Published in The Servin' Spoon II

**SUBMIT ADS** to [classified@vvec.com](mailto: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.*

## Think Safety As Your Student Moves Into The Dorm

It's the time of year when college campuses are preparing for students moving all of their worldly possessions into their home away from home – the dorm! While this is an exciting time for the students, it can be a nerve-racking time for parents. Safe Electricity reminds parents and students to keep electrical safety in mind.

- \* Don't overload outlets, extension cords, or power strips.
- \* Use power strips with over current protectors. This will shut off the power if there is too much power being drawn.
- \* Only purchase and use electrical products tested for safety. Some common approved safety labels include UL, CSA, and MET.
- \* Keep all electrical appliances and cords safely away from bedding, curtains, papers, and other flammable material.
- \* Make sure outlets around sinks are equipped with ground fault circuit interrupters (GFCIs) before use. If they are not, contact the resident assistant, campus housing staff, or landlord.
- \* Unplug small appliances when not in use and all electronics when away for extended periods.
- \* Always use microwave-safe containers. Glass, ceramic containers, and plastics labeled "microwave-safe" should always be used. Metal and aluminum foil can damage the microwave or start a fire. If the microwave is damaged in any way, do not use it.



- \* Never disable a smoke detector; and never ignore a fire alarm or assume it is a drill. Every time a fire alarm sounds, residents should calmly and quickly follow practiced procedures and immediately exit the building.
- \* When planning to move into a shared space like a dorm or university housing, Bob Wilczynski, assistant director of housing at the University of Illinois has a few insights. "Communicate with your roommates before shopping for items for the room. Often times when there is no communication room's end up with multiple refrigerators and microwaves, which can lead to a circuit overload in a small space."

Wilczynski adds that you should check with your university's housing department on their specific housing laws. Many colleges across the U.S. ban cooking appliances from on-campus housing, including hot plates, coffee makers, and microwaves. Many of these institutions provide a designated area for the use of these products.

For more information on dorm safety, visit [SafeElectricity.org](http://SafeElectricity.org).

Professional personalized dog grooming at your home. Over 40 years experience. Most dogs only \$40. Contact 918-381-1170

JBL Stereo Speaker, Sony Turntable, Sony CD Player, Onkyo Reciever, Curtis Mathis Cassette Player. \$400 for all. Contact 918-381-1170

Three gallon Hardy Hibiscus plants in bloom colors of various reds, pinks and white survive Oklahoma winters on Collinsville acreage. Come select your own. \$30. Contact 918-504-6264

Antique 1930's Home Caner for canning vegetables \$25. 6 yds 53" med. brown velvet, upholstery material-original \$35 per yard - \$50. Contact 918-335-1659

Peachicks \$50. Contact 918-288-6543

ANTIQUe Bassett Oak Two Tier Hutch and Matching Dining Table. 5'x6' with 6 matching chairs. Two captain chairs. Elephant Legs. Very heavy. Must sell. Asking \$1500. 918-344-6374 please send text

Beautiful Pre-ban Turtle Hide Cowboy Boots Size 9.5. \$300 (obo). 918-344-6374. Please send text.

Dogloo Igloo Large Dog House. Excellent Condition. \$100. 918-344-6374

# Incumbent Trustees Seek Re-election

This fall, members in Districts 1, 3 and 5 will cast ballots for VVEC board trustees at their district meetings. Regular elections will be held for Districts 1, 3 and 5 and elected representatives will serve a standard, three-year term.



District 1 - Jim Brackett

Jim Brackett has been a VVEC member since 1973 and has been on the board as a trustee since 2010.

He and his wife, Pam, live in the South Coffeyville area where they have a cow-calf operation. Brackett worked for VVEC and retired after a 33-year career. They have four children and numerous grandkids.

“I appreciate the opportunity to serve as a board trustee and represent the members of District 1,” he says.



District 3 - Vernon Lewis

Vernon Lewis has been a member of VVEC since 1968 and was elected to the board of trustees in 1984. He also represents VVEC on the Oklahoma Association of Electric Cooperatives board of directors.

Lewis completed certification as a cooperative director from the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association in 1998 after completing the required number of continuing education classes offered to board trustees. He has also earned his Board Leadership certification and the Gold Certificate.

Lewis and his wife Sara live in the rural Claremore area. He has two granddaughters. Lewis is a retired Sunday School teacher at Owasso First Assembly. “I enjoy being on the VVEC board of trustees with the other board members and representing the members in District 3,” he says.



District 5 - Jimmy Lambert

Jimmy Lambert has represented the members of District 5 since May 2008. He has been a member of VVEC since 1995.

A graduate of Owasso High School, Lambert is a former Collinsville Firefighter and for 38 years, he along with his brother, owned Lambert’s Auto Salvage in Collinsville. He is currently the owner and operator of Lambert Property Service.

He and his wife Gaye live in Tiawah. They have five sons together and three grandchildren. Gaye owns and operates Uptown Salon in Owasso.



# TRIP OF A LIFETIME

YOUTH TOUR WINNERS RETURN HOME



The Youth Tour 2023 trip to Washington, DC was an incredible and transformative experience for the participating students. They embarked on a journey filled with historical significance, cultural exploration, and civic engagement. Visiting iconic landmarks like the Capitol, the White House, and the National Mall, the students gained a deeper understanding of American history and the democratic principles that shape our nation. Before flying out to Washington, all Youth Tour participants from electric cooperatives across the state gather for a banquet with their families and representatives from their cooperative. This is the kickoff event and where participants meet for the first time, networking and building friendships to grow over the course of the trip.



# Thank You!

To our linemen,  
We want to take a moment to express our heartfelt gratitude for your unwavering dedication and heroic efforts in keeping our communities powered, especially during challenging times. You are the unsung heroes who work tirelessly, often in treacherous conditions, to restore electricity and bring light back into our lives.



## SUMMER RESIDENTIAL RATES

April through September usage;  
May through October billing

**Customer Charge** | \$40.00

**Energy Charge** | 1st 2000 kWh | \$.082790/kWh  
| over 2000 kWh | \$.08789//kWh

A power cost adjustment (PCA) will be applied to all bills when the actual cost of power purchased exceeds or is less than 62.088 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](http://www.smarthubapp.com) to report outages from your smartphone.