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August 2009

Hot Watts

PUBLISHED BY COOKSON HILLS ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC.

Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative



Energy Efficiency
Top of the Month

Replacing just four 75-W incandescent lightbulbs with four 23-W compact fluorescent equivalents will save almost \$200 over life of the bulbs.

—Source: Alliance to Save Energy

Save the Date!



Cookson Hills Electric Cooperative Annual Meeting will be held Saturday, September 19th at the Sallisaw High School Gym.



Cookson Hills Electric District Meetings Scheduled for August

Cookson Hills Electric Cooperative will hold district meetings during August for those members who live in District 2, District 4, and District 6.

William R. Wilson currently serves as the trustee representing

Cookson's District 2, William T. Mills serves as the trustee of District 4, and Joe Ogle serves as the trustee of District 6.

Your cooperative holds district meetings in order for you to elect your representatives to the Cookson Hills Board of Trustees. These local meetings are essential to Cookson Hills, a democratically controlled utility, owned by those who receive its services. The elected officials represent the member-owners. Cookson Hills Electric holds

trustee elections at the district meetings, and attending gives you, as a co-op member, the opportunity to choose who will represent you on your co-op's board of directors.

A seven member board of directors governs Cookson Hills, which divides its service area into seven districts with one trustee representing each district for a three year term. The board establishes policy and monitors cooperative finances and procedures. The board has set the following dates and times for the 2009 District meetings: District

2 meeting will be held at 5:30 p.m. on Aug. 11, 2009, at the Cookson Hills Electric office in Sallisaw; District 4 meeting will be held at 4:00 p.m. on Aug. 12, 2009, at the Keota School cafeteria; District 6 meeting will be held at 5:30 p.m. on August 12, 2009 at the Kinta School. Cookson Hills Electric will send notices to cooperative members in each of these districts. If you have questions about the district meetings, please call 800-328-2368.



Trustee William R. Wilson



President William T. Mills



Trustee Joe Ogle

District Meeting Schedule

- Aug. 115:30 p.m. District 2 meeting at Cookson Hills' Sallisaw office.
Aug. 124:00 p.m. District 4 meeting at Keota School cafeteria.
Aug. 125:30 p.m. District 6 meeting at Kinta Schools.

Hot Watts

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Cookson Hills Electric Cooperative, Inc.
Hot Watts informs members in parts of
seven Eastern Oklahoma counties about
Cookson Hills' programs and issues.
Cookson Hills Electric Cooperative
continually strives to provide quality
electrical service at a reasonable cost
for its members.

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Joe Falleur Vice President/District 3
Kenneth Kelley Sec.-Treas./District 5
William R. Wilson Director / District 2
Ellis Sappington Director / District 7
Rocky Woods Director / District 1
Joe Ogle Director / District 6

Bill V. Wilkinson - Attorney

Larry Mattes - Editor

Cookson Hills welcomes members to
submit photos, and articles which will
be subject to Cookson Hills editing.

Any submissions must be received
before the 12th of the month prior to
the publication date.

**If You Find Your
Account Number Hidden
in This Issue of *Hot Watts*
You'll Receive a \$25 Credit
on Your Electric Bill**

Satisfying our Energy Appetite

Requires a Diverse Menu

We're in the middle of a green revolution in America, with towering wind turbines and bright solar arrays dominating headlines as the future of electric generation. No doubt, those technologies will certainly take on a bigger role in "keeping the lights on." But despite media hype, they won't totally replace "conventional" sources for producing electricity, such as coal, natural gas, and nuclear power, any time soon.

To meet growing demand for electricity, electric co-ops will continue to mix and match generation resources, finding the best way to balance environmental concerns while ensuring 34200 delivery of affordable and reliable power. And because federal climate change legislation will likely boost the price for every kilowatt generated by fuels that emit carbon dioxide, notably coal and natural gas, nuclear power may very well become an attractive option once again.

For starters, nuclear power doesn't release carbon dioxide in the air. It's also reliable (available 24/7), unlike other renewable energy options that are dependent on breezes or daylight. In the past, nuclear power has faced opposition because of waste and safety concerns. However, commercial nuclear reactors have been operating since the 1950s. In addition, other countries have jumped on the nuclear bandwagon in a big way,

and perfected the technology. Over the past 40 years, for example, France built enough nuclear power stations to provide two-thirds of the nation's energy, and in the process recycled the radioactive waste created—using it over and over again as fuel.

In the United States, largely because of added construction costs imposed on nuclear plants following the Three Mile Island accident in 1979, no new nuclear facilities have been ordered and built from scratch since 1973. That's a long drought. However, utilities are ready to break ground on 26 nuclear reactors in 16 states, with another 11 reactors in the planning stages. These new reactors, if built, will run much more efficiently and generate more power.

Even with a nuclear renaissance, coal will remain a keystone of electric power in the U.S. More than half of the nation's electricity is generated by coal; the goal is to burn it as cleanly as possible.

So the next time you hear someone talk about nuclear power or clean coal, remember both of these fuels are key to keeping power affordable and reliable. We will have to mix and match our resources if we want to find a balanced, sustainable solution for our energy future, while keeping our electricity affordable and reliable.



Kendall Beck
General Manager

Expert Tips Home Cooling Tips

- Clean or change air conditioner filters monthly. Make sure any outside air conditioner compressor is free of dirt and debris. The flow of air is the key to cooling, so don't make your system work harder than needed.
- Cook meals, run the dishwasher and dry clothes during the cooler times of the day.
- Use fans to keep air moving. A ceiling fan uses only about as much electricity as a light bulb - far less than an air conditioner.
- Close drapes and shades during the day to keep heat out of your house.



On Co-op Lines

You don't have to travel far for a relaxing weekend getaway or an extended vacation. Fin and Feather Resort operating on Cookson Hills Electric lines since the early 60's has what you're looking for. The Fin and Feather Resort started in the 1960's when Les and Jerrie Manns bought the resort with the idea to fix it up a little and sell it. Little did they know it would someday become an Oklahoma institution.

Nestled among the rolling hills of Oklahoma's Green Country at the southern end of beautiful Lake Tenkiller, Fin and Feather Resort is conveniently located 11 miles north of US Interstate 40, just north of Gore. The area is widely known for its beautiful clear water and surrounding lush greenery and is a favorite vacation destination for anyone who enjoys the beauty and serenity — not to mention adventure — of the great outdoors. The Fin specializes in family outings and reunions of all sizes, church retreats for adults and youth, corporate meetings, weddings, banquets, and other special occasions.

"Last season, we opened our brand new, bigger and better Soda Steve's," said Lezli Pool, Bill and Bonnie's daughter, Les and Jerrie's granddaughter. The restaurant was upgraded to accommodate its rapidly growing following.

Soda Steve's features an extraordinary one-of-a-kind menu from awesome burgers, grilled sandwiches and hot dogs, Texas toothpicks, homemade root beer, cream soda and their world famous cheese fries.

But don't forget the original dining hall, which was recently given its new name after the women who started it all, "Nannie's at the Fin."

"We are very excited to introduce an additional style of service at Nannie's," said Pool. "Another service style further accentuates our eclectic style of dining here at the Fin. Not only do we have menu service and still have our popular weekend buffets, we added weekday evening buffets from Wednesdays Seafood buffet to Thursdays Dad's Backyard BBQ buffet," added Pool.

As a family owned and operated resort for nearly half a century, Cookson Hills Electric Cooperative is proud to have the Fin & Feather Resort on Co-op lines.



*Fin & Feather 41st Annual Fall Festival
Arts & Crafts Show, will be held September 25-27, 2009*

For more information on Fin & Feather Resort and Soda Steve's be sure to visit their website at www.finandfeatherresort.com

Local winners return from electric cooperative-sponsored youth tour



While traveling through Baltimore, the group spent time at Inner Harbor. On June 17th, the young Oklahomans met with more than 1,500 other Youth Tour winners from across the nation at a dinner-dance hosted by the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association. The tour is coordinated each year by the Oklahoma Association of Electric Cooperatives.

“Other highlights of the



Jade Edwards of Roland, daughter of Jeff and Dawn Edwards; Andy Blake of Muldrow, son of Shawn and Donna Blake; Gabriel LaBounty of Warner, son of Sherry LaBounty; and Samantha Wheeler of Porum, daughter of Charles and Tressa Wheeler have recently returned from an eventful, fun-filled week in Washington, D.C.

The 24th Annual Rural Electric Cooperative Youth Tour began June 12, 2009, with a “Get Acquainted Banquet” in Oklahoma City. The 73 young winners, representing 25 of the states’s rural electric system, departed for the nation’s capital the next morning.

“In my opinion, the most exciting part of the trip was seeing the capitol building for the first time. It was amazing to think of all of the history that occurred there,” said Edwards.

In addition to seeing all the historical monuments and taking photos of the White House, the Oklahoma winners toured the Library of Congress, The U.S. Holocaust Museum, The Pentagon, Mount Vernon and enjoyed a riverboat cruise on the Potomac River. The group also hosted a congressional summit for the Oklahoma Delegation, aides and guests, assisted by Congressman Frank Lucas and his staff.

trip was the Potomac cruise and visiting the Hard Rock Cafe. I would also like to thank NRECA, OAEC and Cookson Hills Electric Cooperative for sending me on this wonderful trip,” said Andy Blake.



Congratulations

Steven Kerr of Edmond is Cookson Hills’ June online survey winner.

Our Energy, Our Future®
A Dialogue With America
www.ourenergy.coop

June’s “Our Energy, Our Future” promotion, electric grill winner was **Sue Davis** of Whitefield.

Watch for Annual Meeting news in the September issue!