

The Circuit!

www.se-coop.com
April 2011

A PUBLICATION OF SOUTHEASTERN
ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC.

In this Issue:

- Capital Credit Distribution
- Right-of-Way Clearing
- Spring into Energy Efficiency
- Special Notices
- Special Olympics Recap

Visit:

ourenergy.coop
togetherwesave.com
energystar.gov



A group from Achille getting ready to perform Toy Story's "You've Got A Friend In Me."

SEC Lends Support to Area 13 Special Olympics

In keeping with our dedication and commitment to community, Southeastern Electric proudly helped sponsor the Area 13 Special Olympics again this year. The meet was held on March 10th, at the Choctaw Events Center in Durant. The co-op provided 150 medals that were handed out to every hard working participant. Kevin Ashley, Public Relations Assistant, served as a volunteer judge alongside Beverly Jackson, Mike Woodruff, Donnie Hyde, and Ken Golden.

Mark Webb, the Master of Ceremonies, announced the events which included singing, dancing, acting, instrument talents, and comedy acts. Spectators could also view artwork created by the participants in the Art Show.

True talent and courage were evident as every brave participant got up on stage and amazed the crowd.*** *See more photos of the fun and excitement in the "2011 Special Olympics Recap" on page 4!*

Preventative Maintenance Rebate in Full Swing

A very beneficial program for SEC members is being offered March-June of this year. You might have heard of this rebate in a past newsletter or remember it from previous years.

It is called the Preventative Maintenance Rebate Program (PMRP) and is designed to prevent expensive future maintenance to heat and air units as well as making the units more energy and cost efficient. The rebate will give up to \$70.00 per residence to have your HVAC system serviced by a certified technician.

The PMRP will be offered from March 1, 2011 through June 30, 2011. It is only available for SEC

members who currently have an active account. A HVAC system must be in service for 48 months (4 years). Applicants are eligible for one PMRP annually per residence however, a single unit can only be rebated once every 36 months.

The maintenance service must be performed by a certified HVAC technician. An invoice and PMRP Application of completed work must be provided to SEC.

An application can be found online or they can be picked up at the office at your convenience.

For more information or if you have any questions about this program, please call Member Services direct line at 580-745-9463.***

The Circuit!

Composed by:
Kevin Ashley

Published by:
Southeastern Electric
Cooperative, Inc.
P.O. Box 1370
Durant, OK 74702

General Manager:
Larry Speaks

Contact us at:

(580) 924-2170

After hours at:

(580) 924-1315

Toll Free at:

(866) 924-1315

Office Hours

Monday-Friday
8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.

Website

www.se-coop.com

Tip of the Month

Electronics account for 8.1 percent of your home's energy use. Cut costs by plugging items into a power strip and then turning off the strip when not in use. "Smart" power strips are another good option-when one master device like a TV is turned off, it cuts power to other selected items (DVD Players, gaming consoles, stereos, etc.).

**Source- U.S. Dept. of
Energy**

SEC Board Approves Capital Credit Distribution

During the last week of March, Southeastern Electric Cooperative mailed out over 7,000 Capital Credit checks thanks to the direct action taken by the Board of Trustees. During February's board meeting, Trustees authorized the distribution of over \$350,000.00 in Capital Credits for the years of 1968 through 1972.

As you may know, SEC is a non-profit organization. Your rates are set to bring in enough revenue for the Co-op to perform. We subtract the operating expenses from the total amount of revenue collected during the year. This result is referred to as the "margin."

These margins are then "allocated" or assigned, to members who purchased electricity from the cooperative during the year in which the margin was generated. This allocation is based on the proportion of electrical sales for that year. Capital Credits are "retired" and refunded at the discretion of the Board of Trustees whenever the Board determines that the

financial condition of the Co-op will not be impaired.

This year's Capital Credit checks will be distributed in the following manner: \$350,000.00 will be applied to the remainder of 1968, all of 1969, 1970, 1971, and 53% of 1972. SEC's Accounting & Billing departments will oversee this huge endeavor. Literally thousands of checks were sent out to members in a matter of a few days.

Please note that members do not receive lump-sum refund checks upon discontinuing service with SEC.

We work very hard every day to keep your rates as low as possible. It is our pleasure to be able to give something back to you, the member.***

Right-of-Way Clearing Set for May

Southeastern Electric Cooperative, Inc. has contracted again this year with Progressive Solutions LLC, located in Marshall, Arkansas, to begin the annual vegetation spray management program on the Cooperative's right-of-ways. This marks the third year of a scheduled five-year comprehensive spray program to cover all of Southeastern Electric's service territory.

The areas that will be affected during this year's spray program will be those areas served by the Coleman substation and north of the Durant

substation. Areas will include Millburn, Fillmore, Coleman, Boggy Depot, Emet, Bee/Butcher Pen, Nida, Kenefic, Caney, Caddo, Hopewell, Mt Carmel and surrounding areas.

Progressive Solutions will use a mixture of three herbicides. These are: Accord XRT II®, Tordon K® manufactured by Dow AgroSciences, and Lineage Clearstand® manufactured by DuPont. The chemicals being used have been tested for toxicological effects on many animal species including, fish, earthworms, birds, and mammals. These products have

(See "Clearing"pg. 3)



Five Ways to Spring into Energy Efficiency

Spring marks a perfect time of year to make your home more energy efficient. Here are five quick tips that will save both energy and money:

1. **Seal cracks and gaps around your home.** As you put away your storm windows consider adding weather stripping around leaky doors and caulking around window frames. TogetherWeSave.com, a website sponsored by Touchstone Energy® Cooperatives, the branding program of the nation's not-for-profit, consumer-owned electric co-ops, shows how easy it is to use a caulking gun to seal up leaks around vents, ductwork, and windows. A typical member at Southeastern Electric can save more than \$200 annually by taking this simple step.

2. **Change filters regularly.** Change furnace and air conditioner filters monthly. Dirty filters restrict air flow and reduce the overall efficiency of your heating and cooling system by making it work harder on hot summer days.

3. **Clean the refrigerator inside and out.** Now's a good time to not only throw out that leftover fruitcake from the holidays but check the temperature settings on your refrigerator.

Clearing

also undergone field and laboratory testing before being registered by the EPA. Results of these tests show no threat to people, pets, or livestock. The tested products being used will actually encourage the growth of grasses and low growing vegetation.

The vegetation spray management project is necessary for safe and reliable electric service. The primary cause of blinks and outages occur when any object (organic or living) comes in contact with the power lines. Proper maintenance of our electric service is of great concern for South-

eastern Electric. A program such as the annual vegetation spray provides this assurance along with reducing the risk of safety hazards.

Ideally, a refrigerator's temperature should be between 37 and 40 degrees for maximum operating efficiency. When it's time to replace that old refrigerator, be sure to buy one that's ENERGY STAR rated. These energy-efficient appliances can save SEC members as much as \$100 a year based on calculations from the TogetherWeSave.com.

4. **Think sun block.** TogetherWeSave.com points out that by pulling down the shades on your windows this spring and summer, you could save about \$35 a year. Your local hardware store likely carries lots of inexpensive window coverings. Best of all, by blocking the sun, your house will stay cool and comfortable year-round.

5. **Enjoy spring breezes.** Use a clothesline during warmer months and let sunlight and breezes dry clothes naturally. This will reduce your electric bill by not running a dryer, and add a genuine clean scent to your family's laundry.

You can learn more about ways to lower your monthly energy bill by visiting TogetherWeSave.com or by calling the energy experts at Southeastern Electric at 580-745-9463.***

Identifiable by their blue uniforms, Progressive Solutions personnel will be treating vegetation within the Cooperative's right-of-way. The crews are licensed in the state of Oklahoma and are trained to safely provide this service to our area. The spraying is scheduled to begin in May with weather permitting. If you have any questions about the procedures in your area, call our offices for information. ***

Questions about SEC's Rebates or Programs?

Get answers by calling Member Services Direct Line:
580-745-9463

Ask for
Jim Coleman
or
Kevin Ashley

Remember:
SEC Offers
New Options
when it comes to
Paying Your Bill!

- E-Billing
 - Online Bill Pay
 - Traditional Statement Billing
 - Pay Over-the-Phone
 - Bank Draft
 - Pay at the Bank
- Call **580-924-2170**

for more information.

2011 Special Olympics Recap



Mike Woodruff, Beverly Kilpatrick, and Ken Golden pose for pictures after the event.



Cece Brown standing next to her award winning art.



A proud artist shows off his *First Place* "Police Lion."



Kevin Ashley, SEC's Public Relations Assistant, getting ready to present awards.