



the COOPERATOR

JULY 2023 | For the members of Kay Electric Cooperative
A supplement to Oklahoma Living



Left (from left to right): Students Lillie Lewer, Nyla Evans, Sydnee Benson and Kira Widener represented Kay Electric at Energy Camp 2023. Kay Electric Director of Communications Desiree Masterson-Whitehead (far right) served as a chaperone. Above: Energy Camp 2023 activities.


Energy Camp 2023 empowers young leaders

Students build skills while experiencing electric cooperatives in a new light

Each summer, more than 80 eighth-graders from across the state gather at Canyon Camp near Hinton, Oklahoma, for Energy Camp. The four-day experience—held May 30-June 2 this year—is designed to teach leadership skills while giving students a glimpse into the world of rural electrification.

Campers participate in team building activities, hear from motivational speakers, learn about electrical safety, electric vehicles, the life of a line worker and more. A highlight of the camp is the opportunity to climb an electric pole and ride in a bucket truck.

This year, Kira Widener, Lillie Lewer, Sydnee Benson and Nyla Evans represented Kay Electric at Energy Camp 2023. The four students submitted winning essays in Kay Electric's essay contest last winter.

Learn more about Energy Camp at www.kayelectric.coop/essay-contest. 



LOCAL HIGHLIGHTS

OUR MISSION

Founded in 1937, Kay Electric Cooperative remains focused on our primary mission: to provide safe, affordable and reliable power for our member-owners. Today, our service territory includes 2,269 miles of line and more than 5,900 meters located in Kay, Grant, Noble, Osage and Garfield counties.

CONTACT US

Monday to Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.
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REPORT AN OUTAGE

Call 800-535-1079 or use Kay Electric's SmartHub at www.kayelectric.coop or download the SmartHub app for smartphone or tablet.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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EASY WAYS TO PAY YOUR BILL

- Pay online using SmartHub at www.kayelectric.coop or download the SmartHub app for smartphone or tablet.
- Pay over the phone: 800-535-1079.
- Pay in person at Kay Electric or use our 24-hour payment drop box located at 300 W. Doolin Ave. in Blackwell.
- Pay via automatic draft of your checking or savings account or major credit card. Sign up for auto-pay online at www.kayelectric.coop.



Blackwell Business of the Month

The Blackwell Chamber of Commerce selected Kay Electric as the June 2023 Business of the Month. We are grateful for this honor!



Director Gold Credentials

In May, Kay Electric CEO Jason Boesch (center) presented Board President Max Hohmann (right) and Secretary/Treasurer Ron Shoffner (left) with NRECA's Director Gold Certificate. The Director Gold credential recognizes board directors committed to continuing their education beyond the Credentialed Co-op Director and Board Leadership Certificates. Congratulations, Max and Ron, for your hard work and dedication to Kay Electric!

Students & Teachers of the Month

On May 11, Kay Electric hosted the Blackwell Middle School April and May students and teachers of the month and gave them a tour of KEC's facility. Congratulations students and teachers!



Please help us reduce peak use

SUMMER OF SAVINGS

As summer heat rolls in, follow these tips to reduce consumption between 3 and 7 p.m.

We all know the summer heat brings a spike in electricity use. But did you know that *when* you use electricity often matters as much as *how much* electricity you consume?

Kay Electric's summer load control season will run from June 20 to September 9, though not all days within this time frame will be peak days. During this time of year, we remind members to make a conscious effort to spread their electrical usage throughout the day, rather than during peak usage periods, 3 p.m. to 7 p.m. Wholesale power is more expensive during this time, which means increased

usage by our members increases Kay Electric's power costs.

To keep our wholesale power costs as low as possible, we encourage you to make simple adjustments during peak periods that will help us keep costs down (see tips below).

It might seem strange for a company to encourage consumers to use less of their service. At Kay Electric, our end goal remains keeping power as affordable as possible and inconveniences to you at a minimum. Outside of peak periods, we encourage you to use all the electrical

power you want. 228901

On the hottest days, Kay Electric will share peak alerts to remind members to curb their electricity use. Get peak alerts by taking the following actions:

- ✓ Like KEC's Facebook page to view daily posts, including peak alerts.
- ✓ Follow us on Instagram.
- ✓ Check our website, www.kayelectric.coop.
- ✓ Tune in to FM stations 100.7, 99.3, 104.7, or 107.1, or 1230 AM. 



Raise the thermostat on your air conditioner two degrees during peak periods.



Use a fan to feel cooler without adjusting the thermostat. Turn it off when you leave the room.



Save household projects such as vacuuming, ironing and running power tools for the weekend or during off-peak hours.



Prepare extra meals on the weekend, and use the microwave to heat them up through the week.



Install programmable thermostats to help control the amount of energy used and reduce costs.



When possible, run large appliances after 7 p.m. or on the weekend. Use cold water for laundry.



Use a timer or manually operate a pool or spa pump and heater during off-peak times only. Cover your pool to save heat.



Use our SmartHub app to learn when your usage typically peaks and make adjustments to your usage.

GOOD COOKIN'



Strawberry Lemonade Creamsicles

Yields four popsicles

Ingredients:

- 20 ounces Milo's Lemonade
- 1 cup sliced strawberries
- 1/4 cup sweetened condensed milk

Instructions:

1. Divide strawberry slices evenly between each compartment of an ice pop mold, about 4 slices per cup. Set aside.
2. Whisk together Milo's Lemonade and sweetened condensed milk in a large liquid measuring cup.
3. Pour mixture into prepared ice pop mold over the sliced strawberries.
4. Insert sticks and freeze until completely set, at least 4 hours.



EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT

PAYDEN DAY

STAKING TECHNICIAN

In 2016, Payden Day began working at Kay Electric as a part-time warehouse employee. After two years, he started working as a lineman, a position he held for five years. For the last two years, he's worked as a staking technician. The aspects of the job Payden enjoys most are talking with members and learning their stories, and working during inclement weather events. Payden was born in Ponca City and now lives in Tonkawa with his wife, Emily, his daughter Maylee, 4 and sons Kasen, 2, and Arlo, 2 months. He says two of his proudest accomplishments are being a dad and a journeyman lineman. When asked who has inspired him he says his friends and family: "Sometimes it's about learning what not to do, rather than what to do. I am the youngest and I have always observed my family and learned from them," he says. "I would like to thank God for putting me where I am today. Without him, I am nothing." Thank you, Payden, for your service!



LIKES TO HUNT
AND FISH



DREAM VACATION:
ALASKA



ENJOYS
GOLFING

\$25

 is hiding in this issue!

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