



the COOPERATOR

DECEMBER 2022 | For the members of Kay Electric Cooperative
A supplement to Oklahoma Living



Braman Chamber of Commerce and Agriculture board members Sally Johnston and Sharon Ray receive a K-UP grant check to fund tables and chairs for the Braman Community Center.

Creating a community gathering space

K-UP Grant benefits the Braman Community Center

The local school had always served as a gathering place for the Braman community. Not too many years ago, when the school closed, the town also forfeited its community center.

"We lost our school a few years ago, and with it we lost the ability to have a place to meet, host reunions, and community events," says Sharon Ray, a board member of the Braman Chamber of Commerce and Agriculture.

Over the last year, Ray and others on the Chamber board, have been working to

create the Braman Community Center. A \$2,500 grant from Kay Electric Cooperative's K-UP Foundation will provide tables and chairs for the revitalized space.

"It's such a blessing that we will be able to purchase tables and chairs that will stay in the building and not have to borrow them from a church or somewhere else," Ray says.

The space will provide seating for 100—a place where the community can once again gather for school reunions, showers, weddings, meetings, and more.



K-UP Fourth Quarter Grant Winners

Braman Chamber of Commerce and Agriculture - \$2,500 for community center tables, chairs

River Road Voluntary Fire Department - \$2,500 for gear lockers and new hydrant valve

Dearing House Child Advocacy Center - \$1,439 for computers/accessories and phone equipment

K-UP Foundation Financials

Nov. 1, 2021 – Oct. 31, 2022

Income:

Balance Forward - \$14,072.65
Member Contributions - \$27,266.48
Donations Received - \$394.20
Interest - \$14.69

Expenses:

Grants Awarded & Expenses - \$18,227.61

Balance: \$23,520.41

First-quarter grant applications are due January 3, 2023. Applications are available on our website: <https://www.kayelectric.coop/k>.



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 2,400 miles of line and more than 5,800 meters located in Kay, Grant, Noble, Osage and Garfield counties.

CONTACT US

Monday to Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.
580-363-1260 | 800-535-1079
300 W. Doolin Ave. | PO Box 607
Blackwell, OK 74631
www.kayelectric.coop

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.

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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.

MANAGER'S MESSAGE

The Cost of Power

By Jason Boesch, CEO


Your monthly Kay Electric bill is composed of line items which allow you to clearly see each component of the total bill. One of those items is called the Power Cost Adjustment (PCA). The PCA reflects the changes in the cost of producing electric power from our wholesale power supplier, Western Farmers Electric Cooperative (WFEC), which is largely due to changes in the cost of fuel for generation of electricity.

Wholesale power suppliers such as WFEC obtain their electricity from various sources, much of which they produce themselves, and some is acquired from purchased power contracts. For example, part of the power is produced at hydroelectric dams, and power purchased at this source fluctuates widely with the amount of rainfall. Wind generation is similarly impacted by the strength of wind during the month. Much of the traditional electric power is produced by steam generation plants which use coal, natural gas, and oil as fuels to produce the steam that turns the generators that produce the electric power. The Oklahoma Corporation Commission has developed a PCA formula to account for this which is used by most electric utilities in Oklahoma. 2345000

The adjustment passes on the difference between the actual cost of wholesale power each month and the base cost used in determining public rate schedules. The formula charges all consumers equally for current increases or decreases in the cost of producing electric power. An estimated base wholesale power cost per kWh is established in your initial contract, and then adjusted monthly on your bill to account for the actual differ-



ence. Therefore, your bill fluctuation isn't a change in your electric rate but is instead the changing costs of the fuel used to generate the electricity you use.

Members can calculate their own PCA each month by multiplying the "factor" (indicated as Power Cost Adjustment on the electric bill) by kWh used for the billing period. This "factor" changes each month, depending on the average price paid to the wholesale power supplier. The PCA is not used to make extra co-op revenue; instead it covers the monthly change in fuel cost itself. Kay Electric has designed our monthly bill to be as transparent and user friendly as possible. If you have any questions about your bill, don't hesitate to call our office so we can get you the information you need. 

CLOSED

Kay Electric offices will be closed Dec. 23-26 for Christmas & Jan. 2 for New Year's.
Happy Holidays!

LOCAL HIGHLIGHTS




Youth programs return for 2023!

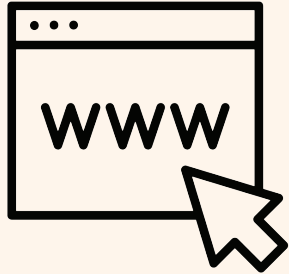
After a three-year hiatus, due to COVID-19, Kay Electric is excited to announce that youth programs will resume in 2023! Local eighth-graders and high-school juniors are invited to participate in our student essay contests.

Six eighth-graders will win a trip to Energy Camp in Hinton, Oklahoma. Two high school juniors will win a trip to Leadership Camp in Steamboat Springs, Colorado, and two will win an all-expenses-paid trip to Washington, D.C., as part of the National Rural Electric Youth Tour. Four runners-up will win cash

prizes. Judges will provide all students with valuable feedback on their essay submissions.

Visit www.kayelectric.coop/essay-contest to download an application. Essays are due by Friday, January 13 at 5 p.m. Questions? Please contact Cyndi Mitchell at 800-535-1079 or email cmitchell@kayelectric.coop.

Participants must go to school within KEC's service territory; you do not have to be a Kay Electric member to enter. Home-schooled students are encouraged to enter. 




Have you checked out our new website?

www.kayelectric.coop makes it easier than ever to pay your bill, report an outage, learn about scholarship programs, download important forms, and more!



Congratulations KEC communicators!

On Nov. 3-4, electric cooperative communications professionals from across Oklahoma gathered at the Oklahoma Association of Electric Cooperatives for two days of training. While there, Kay Electric received three awards for its communications efforts: best overall content, best annual report and best article. Congratulations to Cyndi Mitchell, director of communications, and her team! 



GOOD COOKIN'

Reindeer Chow



- 6 cups Rice Chex cereal
- 1 cup semisweet chocolate chips
- ½ cup creamy peanut butter
- 1 cup powdered sugar mixed
- 1 1/2 tablespoons cocoa powder
- 12-ounce bag Christmas M&M's
- 2 cups mini peanut butter cups
- 2 cups pretzel twists

Place the cereal in a large bowl. In a medium bowl, combine the chocolate chips and peanut butter. Microwave the chocolate mixture for 30 second intervals until melted; stir until smooth. Pour the chocolate mixture over the cereal and use a spatula to gently toss the cereal in the chocolate until completely coated. Place the powdered sugar and cocoa powder mix inside a resealable gallon sized plastic bag and shake to mix. Add the chocolate coated cereal. Seal, then shake until cereal is coated in the powdered sugar/cocoa powder mix. Spread the cereal out in a single layer on a sheet of parchment paper; cool completely until dry. Combine the cereal, M&M's, peanut butter cups and pretzel twists.

EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT

MARK MILLER

APPRENTICE LINEMAN



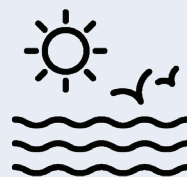
Mark Miller serves as an apprentice lineman at Kay Electric Cooperative. Born in Blackwell, Mark now lives north of Nardin with his wife, Ciara, and two children, Meeka, 10, and Cambrin, 7. He says his kids are his proudest accomplishment and adds that he rarely wants to do anything if he can't have his kids there with him. Mark says he enjoys the opportunity to work outside in nature every day and is grateful to his parents who taught him to be a good, hardworking man. When he's not working at Kay Electric, Mark can be found farming and ranching. Thank you, Mark, for your service!



ENJOYS FARMING
AND RANCHING



LOVES WORKING
OUTSIDE



DREAM VACATION:
THE BEACH

Images: courtesy flaticon

\$25 is hiding in this issue!

If you spot your account number hidden in these pages, please contact Kay Electric to claim a \$25 credit on your electric bill. If no account numbers are claimed, the prize money will carry over to the next month for a maximum bill credit of \$50. Call 800-535-1079 or email contact@kayelectric.coop to claim your prize.

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