

the **COOPERATOR**

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

Kay Electric goes electric!

Kay Electric purchased its first electric vehicle, a Ford Mustang Mach-E, delivered in September 2022. This month we're featuring a Q&A with KEC CEO Jason Boesch. He shares more about the vehicle as well as considerations for members thinking about purchasing an EV of their own.

Q: What was Kay Electric's motive for purchasing an EV?

A: Kay Electric now has members with electric vehicles, and we have a growing interest and questions from our membership on the topic. Each time a member adds an EV to our system, we must evaluate the home usage and capacity to handle that extra load. Upgrading the transformer size, and sometimes the secondary drop, will be a regular occurrence on our side of the meter. The member might need an electrician to upgrade the circuit breaker panel on their side. All of this requires a familiarity to knowledgeably answer these questions, which is why Kay Electric purchased our own Ford EV for daily use around town, driving

Q: For members considering an EV, what is important to know?

to the post office, the

bank, and general

errands.

A: A couple of the biggest factors to consider are charging times and locations. If you charge at home, your regular 120-volt outlet is very limited for charging high-capacity EV batteries, where a full charge is measured in days, not hours. Most will need an electrician to upgrade your garage with a 240-volt plug if you want a full charge overnight.

Second, public chargers are currently more available in larger metro areas, and even then are not nearly as available as will be needed long-term. Out-of-town trips with an EV require extra

planning to ensure charge station availability. Most EV cars come equipped with on-board navigation to help locate chargers; there are many smartphone apps which aid in this as well.

Q: What are some ways driving an EV might benefit Kay Electric members?

A: Deciding to go EV will be a personal preference, similar to opting for a car, pickup, or SUV. However, many manufacturers have stated they will no longer

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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

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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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produce gasoline vehicles in a not-sodistant future of about 10 years. There are also states such as California that have banned the sale of gasoline vehicles by 2035. Federal or activist pressures could advance a timeline where EVs become a primary option, by default.

Q: What are some possible drawbacks of owning an EV?

A: Charging times during the day, referred to as "time of use," will be important so member bills remain economical. The cost of power is highest in late afternoon between 3 and 7 p.m., so EVs should be charged outside of that time period.

O: Are there tax credits available?

A: EV buyers will need to consult with their tax preparer, but tax credits are available, especially with passage of recent federal legislation. Capacity of the battery, vehicle weight, and whether the EV is assembled in the U.S. will vary the amount of credit, among other factors.

Q: Can KEC members check out the co-op's EV?

A: We welcome members to drop by and take a look at our new Ford EV! Be careful though—you might just like it a little too much and decide to start your own EV shopping.

Want to learn more about EVs?

Check out the EV info on our newly redesigned website: www.kayelectric.coop/evs





LOCAL **HIGHLIGHTS**









Top left: In November, we honor KEC employees who have served in the U.S. Armed Forces (from left): Tracy Shannon, Marine Corps; CEO Jason Boesch, Army; and Jacob Barr, Navy. Happy Veteran's Day to KEC members who have served our nation!

Top right: KEC Director of Engineering Doug Worley represented Kay Electric at the Kay County Free Fair in September.

Bottom left: Cooperative Principle #7, Concern for Community, was in full swing on Sept. 30 as Team Kay Electric participated in the Shoot for the Nations clay shoot in Guthrie. The fundraising event benefited the Oklahoma Energy Trails Foundation, a nonprofit that supports basic electric utility infrastructure in

under-served rural areas around the world. Pictured from left to right are Shoot for the Nations volunteer Jacob Boesch, KEC CEO Jason Boesch, linemen Matt McConnell, Kris Spencer and Jacob Barr, and Director of Operations Heath Lambert.

Bottom right: On Sept. 8, members of Kay Electric's staff sat down with Tanner Roberts from Sen. James Lankford's office to discuss issues related to electric cooperatives. Pictured from left to right: KEC Director of Engineering Doug Worley, Northwest Oklahoma Field Rep Tanner Roberts, KEC CEO Jason Boesch and KEC COO J.D. Soulek. Not pictured: Director of Operations Heath Lambert and Director of Communications Cyndi Mitchell.

GOOD **COOKIN'**

Pumpkin French Toast Casserole

For the casserole:

- 1 loaf French or Brioche bread
- 1½ cups milk
- 1 cup pure pumpkin (not pie filling)
- 5 large eggs
- ¼ cup granulated sugar
- 1 tablespoon pumpkin pie spice
- 2 teaspoons vanilla extract

For the topping:

- ½ cup all-purpose flour
- ½ cup brown sugar
- 2 tablespoons granulated sugar
- 1 teaspoon pumpkin pie spice
- 1/3 cup chopped pecans
- 1/3 cup unsalted butter, melted

Preheat oven to 350°F. Grease a glass 9-by-13 inch baking pan. Cut the loaf of bread into small cubes and place in pan. In a large bowl, whisk together the casserole ingredients; pour over the bread and stir to coat bread evenly. Combine streusel ingredients in a small bowl; crumble over casserole. Cover with foil and bake 40 minutes. Remove foil and continue baking for 15-20 minutes, or until an inserted toothpick comes out clean.



EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT

DAVE CHILDERS

DIRECTOR OF ACCOUNTING

Dave Childers serves as director of accounting for Kay Electric, a position he has held

for five years. He says he enjoys working with—and caring for capable, dedicated co-workers and members. "I've worked in just about every type of business structure there is, and the 30 years in the electric cooperative industry have, by far, been the best," he says. When he's not working, Dave enjoys spending time with his family: his wife, Deborah, three sons, Carson, Mason and Bryson, and his great-niece, Olivia. He also enjoys hunting, fishing, pickleball, and watching sports. His claim to fame is that he once benched Dennis Rodman in an intramural softball game! He adds that his greatest inspiration in life has been Jesus Christ, who forgives and loves self-sacrificially. Thank you, Dave, for your service!



TEAMS: SOONERS. STEELERS, CARDINALS



PLAYS **PICKLEBALL**



DREAM VACATION: ALASKAN CRUISE/FISHING

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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