



the COOPERATOR

NOVEMBER 2024 | For the members of Kay Electric Cooperative
A supplement to Oklahoma Living



Left: A team from Kay Electric at Shoot for the Nations on Sept. 27. Above: Lane Smith, Western Farmers Electric Cooperative, winner of the pheasant hunt raffle, receives the prize from KEC CEO Jason Boesch.

Shooting for international electrification

Sporting clays shooting event helps bring first-time electricity to families in Guatemala

In a world where electricity powers nearly every aspect of our lives, it's hard to believe 770 million people still live without it. Some members on Kay Electric's lines remember the days before electricity and know the transformative impact electrification had on their own lives and communities.

Oklahoma's electric cooperatives are on a mission to bring that life-changing power to families across the globe through international electrification projects. One way co-ops raise funds for these missions is the annual Shoot for the Nations fundraiser. Each fall, participants gather at Silverleaf Shotgun Sports in Guthrie, shooting clays to support the Oklahoma Energy Trails Foundation—a not-for-profit 501(c)3 dedicated to bringing electricity to underserved communities abroad.

This year's Shoot for the Nations, held on


Sept. 27, gathered more than 400 participants from Oklahoma's electric cooperatives and affiliated vendors. During the event, 69 teams traveled to various stations and shot at 50 targets in different positions, all while raising \$69,096 for electrification missions in Guatemala.

According to Anna Politano, director of public relations at the Oklahoma Association of Electric Cooperatives, when co-ops sponsor a project, they're responsible for all expenses including materials, equipment, airfare, meals and lodging for the lineworkers.

"To date, Oklahoma's electric cooperatives have facilitated first-time connection to electricity for nearly 900 homes and businesses," Politano says. "Giving back is part of the co-op DNA. These projects take us back to our roots and gives us an opportu-

nity to pay it forward, investing in quality of life for generations to come."

A team from Kay Electric including CEO Jason Boesch, Kris Perkins, Heath Lambert, Chris Young and Grant Rigdon participated in Shoot for the Nations 2024. In addition, KEC board vice president Verl Brorsen donated one of the event's raffle prizes, a pheasant hunt at Bluestem Hunting in Perry. 112703

Shoot for the Nations 2025 is scheduled for Sept. 26. Learn more at <https://oaec.coop/co-op-difference/energy-trails/shoot-for-the-nations/>. 



Scan here to watch a video recap of Shoot for the Nations 2024.



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 2,263 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.
580-363-1260 | 800-535-1079
300 W. Doolin Ave.
Blackwell, OK 74631
www.kayelectric.coop

REPORT AN OUTAGE

Call 800-535-1079 or report via 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.
- Pay by phone: 800-535-1079.
- Pay in person at Kay Electric or use our 24-hour payment drop box at 300 W. Doolin Ave. in Blackwell.
- Pay via automatic draft of your bank account or credit card. Sign up at www.kayelectric.coop.

Kay Electric 2025 Youth Programs

Leadership Camp

Two juniors will win a trip to Cooperative Youth Leadership Camp in Steamboat Springs, CO.



Youth Tour

Two juniors will win an all-expenses-paid trip to Washington, D.C.



Energy Camp

Four eighth-graders will win a trip to Energy Camp in Hinton, OK.

Cash Prizes!

Four runners up in the junior contests will receive cash prizes.

Apply at www.kayelectric.coop/youth by **Jan. 10, 2025.**

Students attending school within KEC's service territory, including home schooled students, are eligible. Contact Desiree Masterson-Whitehead at 580-363-1260 or email dwhitehead@kayelectric.coop with questions.



Daylight Saving Time ends Sunday, Nov. 3

Don't forget to set your clock back one hour *and* replace your smoke alarm batteries!

LOCAL HIGHLIGHTS



Congratulations, Bart!

Kay Electric's newest trustee, Bart Cardwell, recently received his Cooperative Director Program Certification from NRECA. Board President Max Hohmann presented the award to him in September. Thank you for your hard work and dedication to Kay Electric!



Kay County Free Fair

In September, Kay Electric hosted a booth at the Kay County Free Fair. Kay Electric employees including Nathan Mayer (pictured above) enjoyed visiting with members. Thanks to everyone who came out!

Thanksgiving tips for safety and savings

The holiday season is around the corner, and we're here to help you get prepared for a season of safety and savings! Check out these tips to help you enjoy the festivities while keeping your home safe and efficient.

Safety first

Before you deck the halls, check electrical cords and light strands to make sure they aren't frayed or damaged. Double check the lights you use outside to make sure they're rated for outdoor use.

While festive, candles can create fire hazards and should never be left unattended. One of the best ways to safeguard your


home is to test smoke alarms regularly.

'Tis the season for savings

Spending more time indoors with a few more guests in the home can really impact home energy use. Since heating and cooling makes up the majority of home energy consumption, the thermostat is one of the best places for savings. Lower the heat a few degrees, especially when you have family or friends stopping by.

You can also save energy by decorating with LED holiday lights. LEDs are the most efficient lights available, and they last much longer than traditional bulbs. There's no denying one of the best parts

of the holiday season is the food. There are many ways to save in the heart of your home, but one of the best approaches is to cook with smaller countertop appliances, such as air fryers, slow cookers and toaster ovens. These handy appliances consume a fraction of the energy used to heat the oven, creating the perfect recipe for mealtime and energy savings.

We hope you'll implement some of these safety and energy-saving tips into your holiday plans. From your friends at Kay Electric Cooperative, we wish you a Happy Thanksgiving! 

GOOD COOKIN'

Green Bean Casserole

Ingredients

- 2 10-ounce cans of cream of mushroom soup
- 1/2 cup milk
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 1/2 teaspoon black pepper
- 24 ounces frozen green beans
- 6-ounce can of french fried onions

Instructions

Preheat the oven to 350°F. In a large mixing bowl, combine the soup, milk, salt and pepper. Stir in the green beans and half of the french fried onions. Pour mixture into a casserole dish. Bake for 30 minutes, stir the mixture and top with the remaining french fried onions. Bake for 10 more minutes. Serve hot.



ENERGY EFFICIENCY TIP OF THE MONTH

If you're heading out of town during the holiday season, remember to set your home to vacation mode. You can save energy while you're away by lowering your thermostat a few degrees or creating an "away" schedule with a smart or programmable thermostat. Newer water heaters include a vacation mode setting to help you save on water heating costs, or you can simply lower the temperature manually. Small actions can also stack up to energy savings. Unplug devices that consume energy when they're not in use, including phone chargers, toothbrush chargers, TVs and gaming consoles.



November Office Closures

Nov. 11 - Veterans Day

Nov. 28-29 - Thanksgiving



\$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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