



K-Up Foundation Raises Over \$24K for Local Communities

Second and third quarter grants awarded

The Kay Electric Community Foundation (KECF) board met in April and July to review the grant applications submitted for the second and third quarter of 2017. Grants totaling \$19,300 for these two quarters have been awarded to eleven recipients. KECF has awarded \$24,300 in grants so far in 2017.

Most Kay Electric Cooperative members participate in K-UP, in which electric bills are rounded up to the nearest dollar. The amount rounded up can be as little as one cent and is never more than 99 cents a month. On average, each participating member contributes around \$6 a year.

The funds are pooled and administered by the KECF boards of directors, which meets quarterly to consider grant applications. The board consists of President Jared Grell, Vice-President Barbara Regier, Secretary/Treasurer Candy Oller, Director Sue Streller, and Director Rose Mary Hoemann. There are also three non-voting advisory board members: KEC's CEO Tim Rodriguez, COO JD Soulek, and Director of Communication Services Cyndi Mitchell.

The second and third quarter grants for 2016 include:

Applications for K-Up Foundation grants are due October 2, 2017. For details and application forms, visit:

<http://www.kayelectric.coop/content/foundation>

Blackwell Softball Association will use the \$150 grant to help fund insurance, shirts and equipment.

Blackwell Youth Football League's \$1,500 grant will be used to help purchase new helmets.

Ponca City Charity Angels will use their \$1,700 grant to help purchase AmTrykes for the handicap.

Regional Food Bank of Oklahoma will use the \$2,000 grant to help fund the Food for Kids Backpack Program.

Blackwell High School Band's \$800 grant will be used to help purchase marching band mellophones.

Leadership Blackwell – Class of 2017 is using their \$2,500 grant to build a shelter at the baseball field.

Survivor Resource Network is using their \$2,500 grant to purchase forensic interview supplies and equipment.

Shidler Volunteer Fire and Ambulance will use their \$2,500 grant to repair & replace fire and rescue equipment.

Blackwell OK Okies 4-H Club received a \$650 grant to help purchase equipment and supplies for competition.

Blackwell Wrestling Club will use the \$2,500 grant to help purchase wrestling mats.

Kaw City Volunteer Fire Department received a \$2,500 grant to help purchase storage for their gear.

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www.kayelectric.coop



Convenient Bill Paying Options

-  Pay online using our secure site at www.kayelectric.coop
-  Pay via telephone during office hours by using a major credit card at **800-535-1079**
-  Pay in person at KEC or use our 24-hour payment drop box in Blackwell



BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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- District 3.....Ron Shoffner
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- District 5.....Mike Lebeda
- District 6.....Brady Hostetler
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- District 8.....Dr. Tim Blanton
- District 9.....Verl Brorsen

General Manager/CEO
Tim Rodriguez

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Rebates Make It More Affordable To Save

Kay Electric Cooperative (KEC) wants to encourage members to make their homes more energy efficient. KEC energy efficiency incentives can help you increase the level of insulation in your home and reduce the cost associated with installing an energy efficient heat pump or electric water heater.

KEC offers the following incentive rebates:

Attic Insulation: Kay Electric pays 50 percent of installing additional insulation up to \$500.

Heat Pump: KEC offers a rebate of \$1,000/ton (up to 5 ton max) on closed loop ground source heat pumps (GSHP) (15.9 EER/3.3 COP) and open loop GSHP systems (18 EER/3.6 COP).

Water Heaters: Rebates up to \$300 on natural gas/LP conversion to electric systems, new or additional installations, and new manufactured home units.

For complete details and rebate forms, please visit www.kayelectric.coop or call KEC at 800-535-1079.

\$25 is hiding in this issue!

Please read your newsletter carefully. If you spot your account number hidden in these pages, please contact Kay Electric immediately 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.

800-535-1079
contact@kayelectric.coop

Putting Things In Perspective

Harvey teaches us what is truly important

Everyone has heard of the devastating floods that hammered southeast Texas the last week of August. Sometimes Mother Nature rears her head and all we can do is get out of her way. Floodwaters are damaging and can ruin just about anything. Our hearts go out to those who lost everything and have to start over.

We Oklahomans have lived through our share of disasters. The 2002 ice storm is probably the worst natural disaster most of us have lived through.

When life throws big obstacles at us it tends to put things in perspective. These experiences teach us what is truly important. Of course, our families' safety is ultimately important.

In United States, virtually anywhere we choose to live has access to electricity and clean water. That's not the case around the world. According to the World Energy Outlook 2016, approximately 1.2 billion people lack access to electricity. A study by the United Nations reports that nearly 800 million people are without clean drinking water. I can't imagine living without these two essential necessities, although I do take them for granted. As Americans we are

truly blessed to live in this great country. The individual stories we hear about rescue efforts in southeast Texas are a testament to our ability to pull together to help one another.

As winter approaches, I encourage you to prepare for storms that could create havoc in our lives, even for just a short while. Being safe during a possible long-term outage is important. Be prepared by having an adequate supply of drinking water available, canned foods, flashlights with fresh batteries, weather radio, car cell chargers, and emergency numbers, just to name a few. Although the likelihood of a massive ice storm such as 2002 is slim, we must think ahead



By Tim Rodriguez, CEO

KAY ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE

The Kay Electric system is certainly stronger than it was 15 years ago, but no electrical structure is invincible when confronted by an enormous storm. As we enter the winter season, please be weather prepared.

Kay Electric Cooperative is your utility and we are here to help those desiring to live and work in rural Oklahoma. If we can be of assistance to you with your energy needs, please let us know. ACCT#227707

Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month



Cooler temps will be here soon! No matter what kind of heating system you have in your home, you can save money and increase your comfort by properly maintaining and upgrading your equipment. Contact a professional to inspect your system before the winter chill arrives.

SOURCE: US DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY



KEC Salutes Co-op Month

Commitment to Community is reason to celebrate

Kay Electric Cooperative is joining 30,000 cooperatives nationwide in October to celebrate National Co-op Month, which recognizes the many ways cooperatives are committed to strengthening the local communities they serve. “Co-ops Commit” is the theme for this year’s celebration, spotlighting the ways cooperatives meet the needs of their members and communities.

“Delivering safe, reliable, affordable power is Kay Electric’s top priority,” said Tim Rodriguez, CEO of the co-op. “But we are also invested in our communities because we are locally owned and operated. Revenue generated by Kay Electric helps Main Street, not Wall Street.”

Rural America is served by a network of about 1,000 electric cooperatives, most of which were formed in the 1930s and 40s to bring electricity to farms and rural communities that investor-owned power companies ignored due to higher costs involved in serving low-population and low-density areas.

In addition to providing the vital power co-op members depend on, Kay Electric provides leadership opportunities for teens through programs such as Youth Tour and Cooperative leadership Camp, promotes energy savings through rebates on heat pumps and water heaters, and makes grants available to local organizations through its K-Up Foundation.

Community Grants

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Foundation grants will be awarded primarily to the following projects and organizations: Programs, projects and organizations that are important components of a community’s overall quality of life, with emphasis on public safety, health care, senior citizens affiliated organization and projects, self-sufficiency, and basic human needs. Educational, youth programs and volunteer fire departments will also be considered for grants. All applicants need to reside in KEC’s five county service territory: Garfield, Grant,

Kay, Noble, and Osage Counties. KECF is collecting around \$2,400 a month from its members and employees to fund the grants.

Applications for 2017 fourth-quarter grants are due October 2, 2017. Download program details and applications at <http://www.kayelectric.coop/content/foundation>.

To visit with Kay Electric representative about the K-Up Foundation, please call 800-535-1079.

Vampire Loads

Don’t let them drain your energy.

The little vampires who ring your doorbell on Halloween aren’t the only ones you should be afraid of. Electricity vampires are lurking all over your house—all year long.



Electrical vampires are appliances and electronics that continue to pull electricity, even when they are turned off.

According to the US Department of Energy, vampires account for up to 5 percent of the energy in your house.

To save you from a witch hunt, here is a list of the most likely vampires in your house:

- Computers, modems, routers, printers and other related equipment.
- Your flat-screen TV. The larger it is, the more energy it uses, even when turned off.
- Home theater equipment, including surround-sound devices.
- Your cable or satellite TV box.
- Anything with a digital time display, like your microwave oven or DVD player.

If an electrical device has a continuous display, such as a digital clock, charges batteries, or has a remote control, such as your TV—it’s a vampire.

The best way to stop these vampires is to unplug them when you’re not using them. You may also consider purchasing power strips so you have to pull just one plug to stop a group of electronics from using vampire electricity.

Safety on the Farm

Tips for working near power lines

A great deal of farm work takes place around power lines and sometimes the push to get the work done can lead to tragic outcomes.



“The things people see every day can fade from view so it’s easy for farmers and their employees to forget about the power lines overhead,” says Richard McCracken of the Safe Electricity Advisory Board. “But failure to notice them can be a deadly oversight.”

- To stay safe, review with all the farm activities that take place around power lines and go after these safety tips with your employees.
- Keep equipment at least 10 feet away from power lines – above, below and to the side – a 360-degree rule. Inspect the height of farm equipment to determine clearance.
- Use care when raising augers or the bed of grain trucks around power lines.
- Use a spotter when operating large machinery near power lines. Don’t let the spotter touch the machinery while it is being moved anywhere near power lines.
- Be careful not to raise equipment such as ladders or poles into power lines. Non-metallic materials such as lumber, tree limbs, ropes and hay will conduct electricity depending on dampness, dust and dirt contamination.
- Never attempt to raise or move a power line to clear a path.
- Don’t use metal poles to break up bridged grain inside bins. Know where and how to shut off the power in an emergency.
- Use qualified electricians for work on drying equipment and other farm electrical systems.
- Know what to do if your vehicle or equipment comes in contact with a power line: Stay on the equipment, warn others to stay away and call 911. Do not get off the equipment until the utility crew says it is safe to do so.
- Make sure farm employees are informed of electrical hazards and trained in proper procedures to avoid injury.

If you have questions about farm electrical safety, please call KEC at **800-535-1079**. For more tips, please visit www.SafeElectricity.org.

Recipes

No Bake Peanut Butter Pie

Contributed by Anita Denney, Newkirk

INGREDIENTS

- 1 8 oz. pkg cream cheese
- 1 ½ cup powdered sugar
- 1 cup creamy peanut butter
- 1 tsp vanilla
- 1 cup milk
- ½ to 1 tub Cool Whip
- 1 graham cracker crust
- 1 T. chopped salted peanuts

DIRECTIONS

In a mixing bowl, combine cream cheese and sugar. Beat at medium speed until smooth.

Add peanut butter, milk and vanilla. Mix well. Fold in Cool Whip.

Spoon mixture into crust and sprinkle with chopped nuts.

Chill 3 hours before serving. HIDDEN ACCT#1324000

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-Grandpa

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