

“Hotlines”

Published Monthly
for the Members of
Alfalfa Electric Cooperative, Inc.
Cherokee, OK
www.aec.coop



Watch for school children...



August, 2013

Number 8 Volume 68

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative



Area News Briefs

Summer is
almost over.
We suggest a
“day trip” with
the grandkids.

SEE
AEC
ON
FACEBOOK

KEEP YOUR
COOL!

Call AEC Services
for AC repair.
(580) 596-2638
OR
1-800-853-4969

**POWER
OUTAGE?**
(580) 596-3333
OR
1-888-736-3837

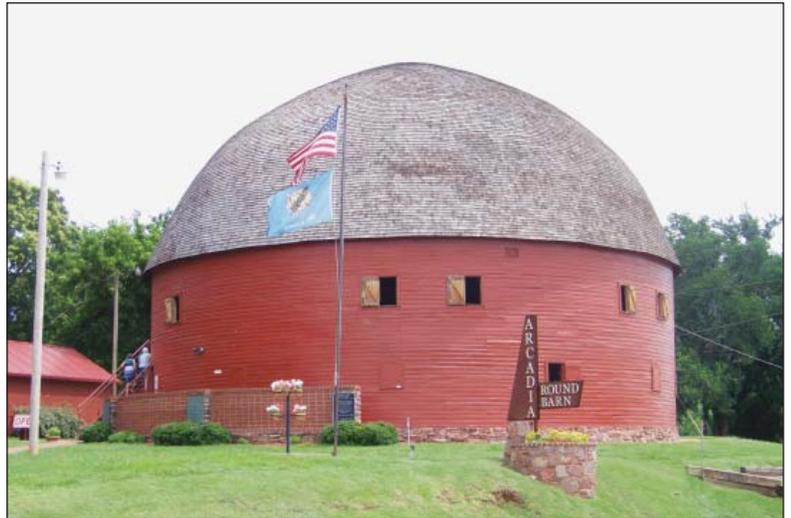
To place brief announcements
in “Hotlines” please call
(580) 596-3333 EARLY

1898 Round barn in Arcadia, OK shows designing genius

An unusual barn is worth visiting in the town of Arcadia (6 miles east of Guthrie off I-35.) Built in 1898 the barn shows a good imagination with a stroke of genius.

When the barn fell to ruin, Luther “Luke” Robinson, a retired building contractor from the Midwest City area saved the old round barn with the able help of a volunteer group known as the “over-the-hill gang”, so named because nearly all were over 65 years

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This unusual barn is worth touring on a quick trip to the small town of Arcadia. It is available to rent for weddings and parties but be advised: It is not air-conditioned.

Gross Receipts Tax Allocation pumps \$1,000,000 to area schools

Schools in AEC’s five Oklahoma counties and two Kansas counties benefit over \$1,000,000 from WFEC (Western Farmers Electric Cooperative) and AEC combined tax funds. Check out your school’s tax receipts on page 3.

ALTERNATING CURRENTS...

Helping AEC Members To Lower Electric Bills

By Terry Ryel

Alfalfa Electric Cooperative would like to let our members know about a way to help lower our member's bills. It is designed to help members become energy aware and lower their power bills by using energy more efficiently and by reducing the energy consumed during peak periods when prices are higher.

There are two major factors that affect the price of electricity – the price of fuel such as coal or natural gas needed to generate power, and the demand for power. The demand for electricity in Oklahoma is greater in the hot summer months between the peak period hours of 3 p.m. and 7 p.m.

To meet the demand for power needed at peak usage times, electric suppliers must produce the power themselves or purchase it on the market. Consequently, the costs are greater during peak time when demand is high. These higher costs are reflected in the power cost adjustment applied to the monthly bill for the co-op and its members. This is a volunteer based way to help take control of higher power costs.

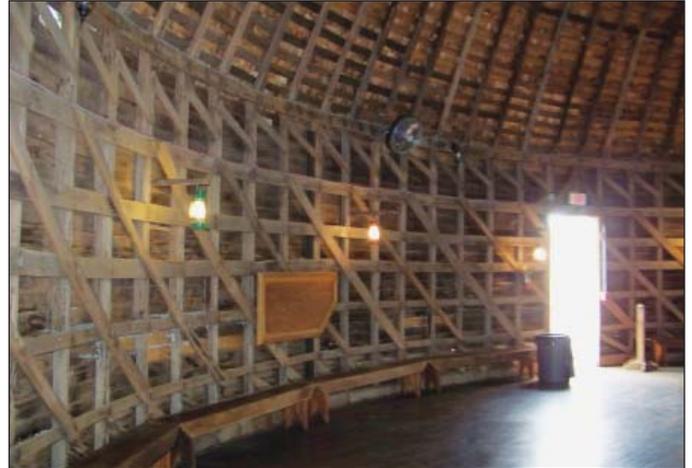
Here's how it works: When AEC determines that a peak situation exists, we will post a notification on our AEC Face Book Page. Members will be asked to help conserve energy by turning off lights or appliances that are not needed. Participating members will also be asked to adjust their thermostats a few degrees, delay the use of major appliances such as dishwashers, washing machines, clothes dryers and postpone hot water usage. The more participating members we have, the better for the cooperative in general. Prices are very high during peak periods and that increases the power cost adjustment on every member's bill. If we all become more energy aware and make a few modifications, we can make a difference. Check us out on Face Book or call Terry Ryel at 580-596-3575, EXT. 111.

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Round barn

of age. Most are gone now, including Luke.

Exit off Route 66 at Arcadia any day, Tuesday - Saturday for a free tour.



Sweating with the oldies...

In spite of the high temperatures and humidity expected this month your family members --young and old may have a few jobs they *must* accomplish outside regardless of the weather.

Since heat-related illnesses can actually cause death OSHA (Occupational Safety and Health Administration) includes the following information to review before tackling those outside tasks.

- Drink plenty of fluids - water is preferred over carbonated or alcoholic drinks.
- Work in the shade as much as possible.
- Wear light-colored, light-weight clothing that reflects rather than absorbs the heat. Light-weight clothing will dry faster when becoming wet with sweat.
- Workers must be in good physical condition to work outside in extreme heat; Weaknesses, fever, and ongoing health problems are magnified during such stress.
- The elderly can be especially vulnerable.
- Some medications warn patients about activities in direct sunlight.

- Pregnancy can also affect working in extreme heat conditions.
- Lack of conditioning. Is this the first experience working in extreme heat?
- Previous heat-related illness? Repeating a heat stroke or heat exhaustion is a real possibility.

Health Problems Caused by Hot Work Environments:

Heat Stroke: The most serious of heat-related health problems. Body temperature reaches 104 degrees or more. This is a medical emergency that could result in death!. Signs are a loss of consciousness and seizures. Subject may stop sweating. Call 911. Until medical help arrives move worker to shady area and remove as much clothing as possible. Wet worker with cool water. Place water-soaked towels and ice over body.

Heat Exhaustion: Next serious heat-related health problem. The signs are: headache, nausea, dizziness, weakness, irritability, con-

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**GROSS RECEIPTS TAX ALLOCATION
(FOR YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2012)**

School	WFEC	AEC	School	WFEC	AEC
Aline-Cleo	51,534	52,294	Hennessey	-	1,478
Alva	93,550	81,706	Kremlin	4,954	7,984
Burlington	75,153	54,800	Medford	18,500	49,377
Cherokee	46,559	50,152	Pond Creek	-	10,414
Chisholm	-	1,325	Ringwood	23,167	44,135
Cimarron	-	14,369	Timberlake	49,643	83,828
Freedom	40,721	44,860	Waynoka	42,880	37,288

Allocation totals are “rounded off” dollar figures only and based on the miles of electric lines within each particular district.

AEC paid ad valorem taxes to two counties in Kansas--Barber County received \$24,555 and Harper County \$9,348 respectively.
Total for WFEC - \$446,661. Total for AEC - \$534,010.



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Sweating with the oldies...

fusion, thirst, heavy sweating and a body temperature greater than 100 degrees. Workers should be removed from hot area and given liquids to drink. Remove extra clothing. Cool with cold compresses to the head, neck and face. Encourage frequent sips of cool water. Make sure someone stays with subject until help

arrives. If symptoms worsen call 911 and get help immediately.

Heat cramps: Replace body fluids by drinking water and/or carbohydrate-electrolyte replacement liquids (sports drinks) every 15 to 20 minutes. However, **workers should not drink more than a total of 12**

quarts of fluid in 24 hours.

Heat rash: Looks like red clusters of pimples or small blisters. Best treatment is powder. Do not use ointments or creams as the moisture may make the rash worse.

Visit www.osha.gov or call (800) 321-OSHA for more information.

Quench your August thirst with a trip to “Pops”

Are you craving a nice cold soft drink during the August heat? Maybe a long-ago taste from your youth that you still remember--root beer, cream soda or vanilla Coke?

Drive the grandkids to “Pops” on the old Route 66 Highway in Arcadia. Look for the giant electric pop bottle, just six miles east of Edmond, off Interstate 35. It is

not far off the beaten path when traveling to Oklahoma City and well worth the extra time. With 400 or 600 different kinds of soft drinks (depending on which employee you ask...) Pops is a trip back in time. Unusual flavors conjure up exotic places so plan on experimenting with a couple of those.

Comb through the alphabetically arranged beverage flavors and bring home a six-pack of tempting tastes from your own childhood with a least one from some beaconing place such as Brazil or Mexico. Just reading the names is an education. (What is guarana fruit, anyway?)



A tall pop bottle coaxes travelers into an amazing variety of thirst quenchers.

Hamburgers and hot dogs are served in a typical fifties atmosphere. (Sorry, the prices aren't 25 cents per hamburger as they were in the fifties but the sandwiches and malts are good copies.) Be sure to order the generous plate of cheese fries, too.

Stopping at Arcadia is well worth the time and is sure to spark some conversation with the grandkids about the “olden days.” A little nostalgia always tastes good.



The **Hotlines** is published monthly by Alfalfa Electric Cooperative, Inc.
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Bring home a variety of pop to savor on another sultry day.