

“Hotlines”

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



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

October 2015

Number 10 , Volume 70 A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative



AREA NEWS BRIEFS

October National Cooperative Month

**AEC is proud to be a part
of America's cooperative
network.**

October 4-10 Fire Prevention Week

**Install smoke alarms in
every bedroom, outside
each separate sleeping
area, and on every level of
your home.**

October 31 Halloween

**Be safe and watch out
for trick-or-treaters.**

**COOLER WEATHER IS IN
THE FORECAST. TIME
TO GET YOUR HEATING
SYSTEM CHECKED. CALL
AEC SERVICES, INC.
(580) 596-3333 or
1-800-853-4969**



Keith Ellerbeck and Travis Barton spend time in their go-karts after a full day's work at Alfalfa Electric. Keith and Travis race their karts at Alva Speedway.

Alva Speedway racers

By Robyn Turney

Last year, Alfalfa Electric's Keith Ellerbeck and Travis Barton discovered one of northwest Oklahoma's best-kept secrets – Alva Speedway. Located at the Wood's County Fairgrounds, Alva Speedway will be completing their second year of racing the first week of November.

The Speedway is for go-kart racers and fans of all ages. There are racing divisions for men, women, and even kids starting at age 5. One of the favorites is

the “Run What You Brung” division.

The family-owned business was the dream work of Stetson Vore. Stetson and his sister Sadie were racing fans for several years and had been racing in Kansas. Their desire for a local track has become a family business with parents Shannon and Shane joining in the fun.

The Alva community, as well as surrounding communities, welcomed the idea and have been very supportive. The go-kart races are a fun, affordable

ALTERNATING CURRENTS...

Robyn Turney
Communications
Specialist



Something New

Next month's *Hotlines* will undergo a slight change and maybe even a name change in the "ALTERNATING CURRENTS" section. After a great deal of thought and discussion, this section will be used to highlight an AEC employee.

As a member, it is important and a bit interesting to get to know the people who work for you. Alfalfa Electric has several really neat employees with very interesting jobs and hobbies. I would like to help the members get to know their employees by collecting some facts and interesting information for publication in this very spot each month.

AEC employees are much more than just linemen, engineers, accountants, and such. They are real people with unique hobbies, unusual pets, and, of course, darling children and grandchildren. While there are many employees who grew up in this area, others have come from states far away.

Choosing an employee from a different departments, I will feature one employee each month. As I have mentioned before, one of the reasons I took this job a year ago was because I thoroughly enjoyed the people who worked at Alfalfa Electric. In the months to come, I will help members get acquainted with their AEC employees. It should then become very clear why I love my job and my fellow employees.

means of entertainment. For the admission of \$5, fans can enjoy an evening of competitive racing without the drama of other types of racing. With a \$15 wrist band that covers insurance through National Karting Alliance, fans can even go into the pit to see the go-karts and the drivers.

The races begin at 7:00 in the evening and are usually over by 10:30. The evening begins with the singing of the National Anthem, which is open to local talent. Each night features a Trophy Girl who presents the winning trophies and poses for pictures with the winners. Contact Shannon Vore through the Alva Speedway Facebook page if you are interested in either of these positions.

The racing begins with 10-lap (each lap is 1/6 of a mile) heat races, which determines the starting positions for the feature races. Seven trophies are awarded for these races. With no money being awarded except for special races, the event is just good clean competition. Drawings for random prizes are throughout the night, and during the intermission, kids participate in special events.

Last year Travis Barton, AEC's Clearing Crew Chief, started watching the races early in the season. By mid-season, he had bought his first go-kart on Craig's List. His passion for the Speedway began to rub off on his family. There are now 7 go-cart drivers in the Barton family; Travis's wife Deeon; 3 children Devin, Thayer, and Jordan; a sister, and his father now enjoy Alva Speedway behind the wheels of the 6 Barton go-karts.

Travis races for the fun and the enjoyment but found out quickly that the karts can be high maintenance. "Between races, I make some adjustments to the karts like changing the oil, checking the fuel lines, changing spark plugs, and, of course, checking the tires. You can

spend as much money as you want on these go-karts, just like a car."

A new go-kart frame runs anywhere from \$1,000-\$3,000, but used karts can be found for \$1,000-1,500. Then other items like a seat, tires, and a motor must be added. Travis prefers finding used carts and fixing them up himself.

Keith Ellerbeck, Apprentice Lineman, enjoys his job, which requires hands-on learning in different locations outdoors, but on weekends he can be seen at the track. Keith starting driving go-karts with Stetson Vore while they were in high school. After spending time at the Speedway, Keith bought his first kart from Stetson last year. Burlington fans and Coach Turney would recognize the number "30" on his kart, as it is Keith's basketball number from high school.

Keith won one race last year and placed second in a race this year. "If you make a mistake, it's all on you. Racing is competitive to me – some days more than others; however, it is still enjoyable and relaxing."

Racing time has dwindled since the birth of his second son Clayton, but Keith isn't complaining. Family time is important to him. His wife Samantha and sons Brantley and Clayton spend time at the Speedway in the pit with Keith. Although he just bought an enclosed trailer for the go-kart, he doesn't see another kart in the future. When Brantley and Clayton get a little older, they might change Dad's mind about one or two more go-karts. Who knows? Samantha might even want one of her own soon.

Spending time at Alva Speedway has been both relaxing and exciting for Keith and Travis. Both families look forward to the entertainment. To check out this local attraction, visit Alva Speedway's Facebook page, or better yet, head on out to the track. A night of refreshing recreation is there for the taking.

Once again the post office has determined that these capital credit checks were undeliverable. AEC would like your help in finding the rightful owners. Please call (580) 596-3333 and ask for Christy Schanbacher or Gina Waugh if you have current contact information for the following individuals or their heirs. This individual list will continue along with the list of businesses in the November *Hotlines*.

Achenbach, Donald	Blunk, Monte	Cantrall, Thad	Cross, Ronald L.	Ellis, Everett
Adams, Shanna	Board, Edith	Cantrell, Retta	Cross, Stanley	Ellis, Jack
Albright, Kristine	Boatman, Ray	Carmichael, Jack	Cunningham Jr., W.A.	Ellis, Wilma
Aldridge, Ray	Boehs, Roy	Carpenter, Evelyn R.	Cyrus, Clyde H.	Elson, Doris M
Alviso, Gilbert	Boerner, Paul	Carpenter, Ron	Dame, Leroy	Ent, Carolyn J
Ames, Doris	Boesch, Jason	Carr, Tony	Darr, Debra	Escue, Dick
Anaya, Joyce	Bond, Sheree	Carver, Edward	Daskalakis, Judy	Evans, Geraldine
Anderson, Allen	Bowles, Alice	Case, Louis	Davenport, Helen	Felsch, Donald A
Anderson, Marilyn	Bowling, Ernest	Caywood, Banna	Davidson, Lanny	Fields, Roger R
Andrews, Janet	Bowling, Raymond	Caywood, Mike	Davis, Floyd S.	Fiscus, Harold
Arnold, Dennis	Box, Lloyd E	Clark, Beryl	Davis, Lacada M.	Fishback, Bart
Bailey, Pat	Boyce, Allen	Clark, Naaman	Davis, Naomi	Fisher, Kenneth (Mrs)
Baker Sr, Corbin	Boyce, Evelyn	Clarke, Thomas R.	Davis, William H.	Fisher, Leonard
Barber, David	Boyle, Viola	Clegg, Wenzella	Dearmond, Earl	Fitzgerald, Paula
Barefoot, N.V.	Bradford, Lynnette	Cloyd, Curt R.	Denny, Don D.	Flackman, Susan K
Barkley, William	Bradford II, Michael	Cloyd, W.R.	Detwiler, Wendell	Flake, Ernest L
Barnard, Jack	Bragg, Lawrence	Cobb, C.C.	Dew, J.C.	Flyingout, Jesse
Barnard, Virgil	Brent, Walter L.	Cobb, Gary	Dickerson, Brandy	Ford, Donald
Barron, James	Brickman, Larry	Coldwater, Nina C.	Dickson, Troy C.	Foster, F S
Bartlett, Thomas	Briles, Kenny	Coldwell, June - Jilliana Trust	Digman, Richard	Foster, J Wayne
Battles Jr, Richard	Brinson, Kenneth	Coles, Kendell	Dillard, Susan	Fox, Ralph
Bauder, Gail M.	Broce, Herman	Collins, Vernon	Dillon, Robert	Fraire, Cipriano
Bay, Bryan	Brower, Robert C.	Combs, Kenny	Dittmer, Bruce D.	Francis, Carmen
Beard, Evah	Brown, C. Jay	Cook, Geraldine	Donnan, Dave	French, Donna
Beierman, Harold	Brown, Dallan	Cook, M. Vanora	Dorris, Milton	French, Lucille
Bell, Grace	Brown, Judy	Corbin, Marvin	Dotterer, Don	Fuerniss, Mark E
Bell, Paul	Brown, Olen R.	Corder, Ellen	Dryer, Art	Fuller, Pearl
Bender, Curtis L.	Brownson, Beulah	Cornish, Edith	Dubbs, Dean	Fuson, E.L.
Bergdall, W.D.	Bruce, Lela M.	Courtright, Wilma	Duel, Maxine	Gammon, Mildred
Bergner, Lovella	Buchanan, Jim	Cox, Herbert E.	Dugger, Michael	Garner, Ruby Blew
Bettencourt, Misty	Bumgarner, Virgil H.	Cox Sr, Don	Dupus, Ralph	Garrett, Nadine
Bevis, Darrin	Burke, Sharon	Craig, Kathleen	Ebersole, Bob	Garrett, Tommy
Biberstein Jr, Frankie	Burks, Belinda	Craighead, Tammy	Eck, Agnes	Gates, Tony
Biby, Mona	Burrows, Dennis	Cramer, Johnnie G.	Eck, Ollie W	Gauley, Shane
Blalock, Donald	Bush, Roger R.	Cramer, Loren	Edwards, F James	Geis, Wanda
Blew, Gladys	Calhoun, Gladys	Crawford, Cory	Elam, David	George, Evert L
Bliss, Chester	Canfield, Gary	Cromwell, Roy	Eledge, Trenton	Gibson, Janet
Bloesser, James	Cannon, Elizabeth	Cross, Mike	Elliott, Dale	Gieswein, Jack

Good month to get involved

More than 29,000 businesses in the U.S. are organized as cooperatives, including the utility that provides your home with electricity. Those businesses employ more than 850,000 people. Cooperatives are owned by their customers, and they call those customers “members.” That makes you a member of Alfalfa Electric Cooperative.

The 900 U.S. electric cooperatives are just one kind of member-owned business. Some examples of others

are farmer-owned cooperatives, food co-ops, housing cooperatives, and credit unions.

Here’s what makes cooperatives like Alfalfa Electric unique: they are not-for-profit and run by volunteers (AEC’s Board of Trustees) who are members just like you. Members of AEC are part-owners of the utility that brings electricity to their homes. In fact, any cooperative member can run for Alfalfa Electric Cooperative’s board of directors and be part of the decision-making process.

Cooperatives have a special responsibility to support the areas in which their members live and work. Co-ops stand as a driving force in their communities.

Every October since 1930, not-for-profit cooperatives have celebrated Cooperative Month. Help Alfalfa Electric Cooperative celebrate by committing to be more active. Attend meetings and participate in voting. As an AEC member-owner, you have the right.



The **Hotlines** is published monthly by
Alfalfa Electric Cooperative, Inc.
PO Box 39, 121 E. Main,
Cherokee, OK 73728
www.aec.coop

Staff

Colin Whitley

Chief Executive Officer
and General Manager

Greg Goetz

Manager of Engineering
and Operations

Gail Ridgway

Manager of
Office Services

Brandon Wright

Director of Engineering

Christy Schanbacher

Director of Accounting

Terry Ryel

Manager of Marketing
and Public Relations

Jim Daub

Director of Operations

Kyle Hadwiger

Attorney

Robyn Turney

Communications Specialist
Hotlines Editor

Board of Trustees

Dennis Ferrell

President - Burlington, OK
District 1

Doug McMurtrey

Vice President - Cherokee, OK
District 2

Dr. Carl Newton

Sec. Treas. - Cherokee, OK
District 8

Debbie Ferguson

Freedom, OK
District 3

Steve Eck

Sharon, KS
District 6

Joe Hise

Cleo Springs, OK
District 7

Joe Waggoner

Nash, OK
District 5

John Regier

Ringwood, OK
District 4

GROSS RECEIPTS TAX ALLOCATION FOR YEAR ENDED IN DECEMBER 31, 2014

SCHOOL DISTRICT	ALFALFA ELECTRIC OKLAHOMA GROSS RECEIPTS TAX ALLOC	WESTERN FARMERS OKLAHOMA GROSS RECEIPTS TAX ALLOC
ALINE-CLEO	129,361.34	78,496.93
ALVA	196,643.22	147,600.53
BURLINGTON	132,981.72	122,301.16
CHEROKEE	121,512.53	70,919.64
CHISHOLM	3,170.43	0.00
CIMARRON	34,376.85	0.00
FREEDOM	108,669.99	62,027.29
HENNESSEY	3,534.99	0.00
KREMLIN	19,144.98	7,545.98
MEDFORD	119,307.50	28,179.99
POND CREEK	24,828.98	0.00
RINGWOOD	106,847.16	35,287.61
TIMBERLAKE	202,308.25	75,616.31
WAYNOKA	90,513.91	65,314.96
TOTALS		693,290.40
BARBER COUNTY	34,162	
HARPER COUNTY	11,766	