

McCloud Church Offers Much-Needed Helping Hand After Tornado

Coming out of storm shelters and safe rooms, climbing out from under the stairs, and bathtubs, McCloud residents found a much different world than the one they knew when they sought cover from a deadly tornado May 19.

Trees were broken and blown over, buildings were demolished, cars and trucks were thrown about as if a juvenile Mother Nature had thrown a temper tantrum and no longer wanted to play with them.

The amount of loss was enormous, including two deaths in the area.

"People were rushing to check on their homes and property, and their neighbors, but there was a sense of shock. They didn't know what to do or where to go because their homes weren't there anymore," says Jeff Cockroft, a member of McCloud's Emmanuel Baptist Church. "We just knew we had to do something."

That 'something' his small country church provided proved to be the helping hand so many area residents needed.

Church members were immediately dispatched to the local grocery store, which was still standing, with \$138 to buy as much peanut butter, jelly, bread and bottled water as they could buy. What became of that initial effort is reminiscent of the loaves and fishes

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Supplies for tornado victims are stacked up in front of the Emmanuel Baptist Church, McCloud. The church's disaster relief ministry began helping area residents, first responders, and restoration crews within hours of the tornado.



By George

As I write this we are under the threat of another day of severe thunderstorms, lightning, hail, damaging winds and possible tornadoes. Last week – May 19 and 20 – were difficult days for Oklahomans. Canadian Valley Electric Cooperative and many of its members experienced firsthand the fury and impact of an Oklahoma tornado those days. As the storm came through Bethel Acres, the western part of Shawnee and on across the system, about 3,000 Canadian Valley Electric Cooperative members lost electric power. Many lost much more.

After four days electric service had been restored to virtually all of the Canadian Valley Electric Customers whose home was still in condition to receive electricity. As of today, approximately 80 Canadian Valley Electric Cooperative customers' homes are still not in a condition to receive electricity or are completely destroyed. Many of these have lost that which had taken a lifetime to put together. Alone they cannot recover their losses.

The loss of young lives at the schools of our neighbors to the west touched us all to do "something." And many, many from all across the nation are doing something. That is especially heartening. The following column appeared in the *Shawnee-News Star* on Sunday, May 26, 2013. It was written by Brian Blansett, publisher of the paper. Brian is a member of Canadian Valley Electric Cooperative. I have asked his permission to reprint his column here. I know Brian well and know that this comes from the heart.

By Brian Blansett: "My cousin lost his home to the tornado in Moore on Monday. No injuries, but everything

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In Case of Trouble

1. Check for blown fuse or tripped circuit breakers.
2. Check with your neighbors. Ask if their electricity is off and if they have reported it.
3. If not call the office and report the trouble.

| | <u>Read</u> | <u>Billing date</u> | |
|---------|-------------|---------------------|--------------------|
| Cycle 1 | 26th-31st | 5th | 1-1/2% penalty is |
| Cycle 2 | 6th-11th | 15th | applied 20 days |
| Cycle 3 | 16th-21st | 25th | after billing date |

Operating Statistics for April

| | 2012 | 2013 |
|------------------------------|-------------|-------------|
| Operating Revenues | \$4,029,716 | \$4,398,225 |
| Wholesale Cost of Power | \$3,027,658 | \$3,450,063 |
| Percentage WPC is of Revenue | 75.13 | 78.44 |
| Revenue per Mile of Line | \$778.39 | \$846.95 |
| Consumers per Mile of Line | 4.59 | 4.60 |
| KW Peak Demand - This month | 160,468 | 130,242 |
| Billing kW demand | 115,112 | 109,236 |
| KW Peak Demand - YTD | 160,468 | 146,172 |
| KWh Purchased - This month | 54,866,500 | 58,809,720 |
| Taxes Paid | \$83,833 | \$93,933 |
| Interest on Long Term Debt | \$182,853 | \$178,057 |
| System Load Factor | 47.5 | 62.7 |

New Services Staked in May

During the month of May 40 new services were staked. The total new services staked in 2013 is 172. This compares to 175 for the same period in 2012.

By George *Continued from page 1.*

they owned was gone. So on Wednesday when he and his wife could finally get out and about, they went to buy some clothes. At the checkout, the clerk struck up a conversation and found out they were tornado victims. At which point the stranger in the line behind them reached around, swiped his credit card and said: "it's on me." Here in Pottawatomie County, officials say they have about all the volunteers and supplies they can use other than a few very specific things. More and it would cause a problem. Even blood donors are being asked to come back later. Locals have certainly responded to the tornado tragedies with open hearts and wallets, as have people from across the state and nation. Everything from church groups showing up with chainsaws to kids in Texas sending toys. And so it's gone this week. Generosity in a crisis. It's a trait not just of people in Oklahoma, but of the entire nation. Through the tragedies that have visited our state, we in Oklahoma have repeatedly seen the best that the human mind and spirit can offer. From the Murrah Building bombing in 1995 to May 3 tornado in 1999 to the tornadoes here and in Moore last week, relatives, friends, neighbors, communities and an entire state have bonded in unity and emotional support for victims and their families. I think that's an instinct in people everywhere, but perhaps it is stronger in Oklahoma because we're not that far removed from our pioneer past, when communal support was essential for survival. And what of the people around the country who donated and sacrificed to help people they'll never meet? Moved by the devastation, they sent everything from toys to diapers to food and building supplies. Those things can't bring back loved ones or restore loss, but they remind us that there is deep goodness in a world that can be dark and cruel."



FINANCIAL STATEMENT

| | |
|--------------------------------|--------------|
| BEGINNING BALANCE 4/30/13..... | \$193,071.66 |
| DEPOSITS..... | 8,048.56 |
| INTEREST INCOME | 10.49 |
| CHECKS ISSUED | -17,435.37 |
| APPROVED, NOT YET PAID | 10,293.99 |
| BALANCE 5/31/13..... | \$173,401.35 |

Church Offers Helping Hand

Continued from page 1.

story in the Bible.

"We began making sandwiches, and then going out into the community to hand them out," says Cockroft.

The church's disaster relief ministry moved from the congregation's prayer request to a functioning program.

Cockroft serves as the ministry's coordinator. An energetic man, Cockroft says he felt God tap him on the shoulder last October and beckon to him to leave his career in management with J. C. Penney and go to work for Him.

Committing personal time and talents to the service of others runs deep in the Cockroft family. Son Josh not only serves as the church's praise and worship leader, but he also serves as State Representative from District 27.

During the first three days following the tornado, the church was without electricity, but that didn't keep them from preparing and serving three meals a day. Cockroft says they used generators and grills to prepare the food, and moved tables out onto the lawn.

They loaded up vehicles and began driving throughout the area delivering food.

"People were hesitant to leave their

belongings and property, and we understood that," he says. "So we took food and water to them." He says they developed routes and delivered to folks within a 10 to 15-mile radius of the church.

Between 6,000 and 8,000 meals a week were prepared.

"Those people are amazing," says Gerald Rounsaville, a 36-year CVEC serviceman/lineman who works the McLoud-Bethel Acres area. "They restore your faith in mankind."

Rounsaville says "They would pull up and ask if you needed anything. They'd have snacks, candy bars, Gatorade, water, sandwiches, fresh fruit, biscuits with sausage and gravy, cinnamon rolls. I'd tell them I was okay, but then I'd come back to my truck to find a pile of food they'd left for me. And they did that for everyone they ran across."

He says he knew the church wasn't asking for donations, but he left them some money each time he ate there, and so did several of the Mid-Western Electrical contractors helping CVEC with its restoration efforts.

Pastor James Bond agrees the church didn't solicit donations, but found it didn't need to. "We received donations from 30 to 35 states, from Washington to Delaware."

He adds they also received help from people in Sweden, the Ukraine and Australia. They received 700 chicken sandwiches from Tyson Chicken, and 500 personal pan pizzas from Papa John's.

As the church became a distribution center not only for meals, but for supplies, people donated such needed items as bottled water, gloves, masks, safety goggles, and trash bags.

Bond says they found people were as generous with their time as they were their money and gifts.

"We have volunteers who have given up a week of their vacation to come and help us," Cockroft says. With enthusiasm in his voice, he tells of two ladies from Iowa, 48 people from Clarksville, TN, a young family who told him their two children asked if the family could come help in Oklahoma instead of going on vacation, volunteers from Colorado and Georgia, a group of between 100 and 120 who has already committed to helping for three weeks in July, just to mention a few.

"Things have quieted down a little now, and basic needs are being addressed, but the rebuilding is going to take years, and we're going to be here," Bond says. "People experienced with this type of disaster tell us it's going to take years to come back from this. So our ministry is going to be here to help. We have plans to build a large building where we can offer supplies, but we are also going to offer spiritual help."



McLoud's Emmanuel Baptist Church was without electric service for three days immediately following the May 19 tornado, but that didn't prevent church members from preparing and serving meals to anyone needing to eat. Those first few days food was prepared and served outside around picnic tables and under tents. Once electric service was restored, everything was moved indoors where there was light and air conditioning (above photo.)

CVEC offices will be closed Thursday, July 4 in celebration of Independence Day. We will be open during regular business hours Friday, July 5.

Find Your Hidden Account Number and Win \$25

If you find your account number hidden in this issue of The Electralite, you could win \$25.

In order to win, the account number must 905360500 be your own.

You need to report finding the number to us by the 15th of the month.

And you need to report finding it by phone, mail or in person. Good luck!

Trading Center Classifieds

Each CVEC member family is limited to ONE free classified ad per month. The form below must be used. The length of the ad cannot exceed three lines on the form. Ads run only one time. Area codes are not used unless outside the 405 area.

All INFORMATION BELOW MUST BE COMPLETED

Name _____
 Address _____
 Account # _____ Phone # _____

Classified must be received by the 5th of the month to appear in the following edition of The Electra-Lite.

Automobiles

1989 GMC Sierra short/wide, no reverse, motor good, \$900, 382-5002.

1981 GMC 1-ton Sierra Duley flatbed (wood), 350, 4-BL., 4 sp., runs good, good farm/firewood truck, 356-9665.

1987 Dodge S/B, 318, runs great, great fixer-upper, \$1,200 OBO, 240-0746.

1999 Pontiac Bonneville, 4-dr., not running, make offer, 918-617-0652.

1969 Rambler, 2-dr., post, \$1,000; 1963 Impala and Bel-Air parts, 598-5757.

1994 Buick LeSabre, 4-dr., good motor & body, no rust, good 2nd car, as is, \$3,500, 567-7921.

1968 Chevy 396 short block, 188 dome pistons, forged crankshaft, fresh build, \$995, 598-2260.

1998 Chevy Suburban, runs good, good condition, \$3,000, 941-3388.

Farm

16' gooseneck trailer, \$800, 382-5002.

Large 6' round stock tank, \$100, 306-6830.

180 amp AC Forney welder, \$125; 28' fiberglass Werner ladder, \$150; porta cable door hinge set, \$75, 454-2046.

MTD rototiller, Briggs & Stratton 5.5 hp, \$100, 454-0510.

16' car-hauler trailer, \$800, 631-1505.

1066 International tractor w/ duals & less than 1,000 hrs., 580-925-2644.

2600 Ford diesel tractor, 6'x10' trailer, automatic stock tank, 16' open stock trailer, 964-2622, 740-3664.

65 hp, M.F. dal, 8' front end loader, brush hog, trailers, grader, racks, goat round bale feeder, drill, misc. equip., 918-866-2468.

500-gal., propane tank, \$500, 279-3897.

Bermuda grass equip., 2 sprig trailers, 2 2-row spriggers, digger, manure spreader, \$3,000, 784-2190.

Cub Cadet series 2000 riding mower, \$550; MinniKota trolling motor, Endara thrust, 36-lbs., \$200, 205-8101.

1715 Ford 4WD loader, 5' bucket, back hoe, 14" bucket, brush hog, box blade w/rippers, \$10,500, 356-2135.

Miscellaneous

Four plots in Garden of Love, Resthaven Cemetery in Shawnee, \$2,250 ea., 650-4415.

Used wood lap siding, lumber & cast iron tub, 382-2243.

Two life-like mannequin heads, \$25 ea., 273-1845.

HP 940 XL high capacity ink

cartridges, new, unopened in boxes, cyan & magenta, \$20 ea., 964-5530.

Pillsbury canister set, never used, \$125, 306-6830.

Large collection of *Playboy* magazines, 1964-1985, 1 from 1999, 8 from 2000, \$200 OBO, need to sell, 567-9073.

Buy, sell & repair clocks, 513-2986.

Three AC, 10K BTU, 12K BTU & 25K BTU, Iron Master wood cook stove, 580-925-2644.

16" Meade Starfinder Dobsonian telescope w/stand, laser starfinder & viewfinder, \$900, 826-8049.

Flat sheets of cardboard & assorted, free, you pick up, 356-2626.

Red metal bunk beds, twin on top & full on bottom, nice, \$65, 878-6697.

Four Bridgestone tires, 185-65-15, no flats, \$60 ea., 454-2408.

Five plots, nice location in Fairview Cemetery, \$400 ea., 273-1645.

Pets/Livestock

Boer goats, solids, paints, & traditionals, show & breeding prospects, 598-5238

Boer goats, solids, paints, & traditionals, show & breeding prospects, 598-5238.

Hereford bulls, stout, growthy, gentle, out of efficient productive cows, 12 mos. - 3 yrs., \$1,200-\$2,000, 598-1920.

Quail, pheasant, Chukars, wild turkeys, 964-5235.

Angus & cross pairs, most will be 3 in 1, also a few bred cows, 5-6 yrs. old, a few older ones, 918-617-1700.

Baby Guineas, \$3 ea., 50 or more, \$2 ea., NPIP-inspected flock, 250-0309.

Bantam chicks, ducks, Guineas, chickens, roosters, 598-6711.

Real Estate

25 acres, 28'x60' DW, GC land, 4 ponds, good grass, some pecan trees, 2 water wells, 1.5 miles from Paden, in country, minerals also available, \$85,000, 918-716-0714.

Saloon-style house to be moved off property, ref. & stove included, new wiring, plumbing, \$5,000, 598-1202.

RENT - 2 BDR house in the country north of Prague, central H&A, carport, storage bldg., \$400/mo., 380-4451.

New homes north of Shawnee, starting in the \$130,000s, 590-6776.

205 acres, mostly timber, has 2 houses w/running water, sewer, & electric, \$1,500/acre, 918-261-3099.

Two lots, 3 BDR, 2 BA, deck, handicap accessible, well, cellar, garage, carport, Davenport, \$53,000, 918-866-2468.

RV/Marine

Camper shell, fits long, wide bed, \$100, 382-5002.

2007 Honda VTX motorcycle, 1 owner, new tires, Mustang seat, Kuryakyn grips levers, hyper-charger, chrome fork covers, sissy bar, luggage rack, Cobra pipes, saddlebag brace, quick disconnect windshield, 14,000 miles, \$6,000, 567-9294.

37' Challenger RV, as is, \$5,000 OBO, 631-1505.

30' 1987 Ford Escaper Class C motor home, new carpet, newer refrigerator, queen bed, new tires, good condition, runs great, 761-1132.

Aluminum Jon boat, strong trolling motor, new battery, \$550 firm, 431-9555.

14' camper w/AC & new refrigerator, \$950 OBO, 279-3897, 788-5910.

1975 17' Poontoon boat, 1955 Evidrude motor, 580-925-2644.

22K 5th wheel hitch, \$200, or trade for riding mower, 249-0909.

Paddle boat, \$125, 454-0510.

Services

Stumps ground out, handy man jobs, toilets, sinks, vanities, sheet rock patching, 356-2247.

Wanted

Flat bottom pond boat, 567-2895.

Used cattle or goat panels, used T-posts, 997-5627.

Someone who works on telephones or phone jacks; little girl's wooden outdoor doll house, 878-6697.

Someone to do part-time odd jobs, must be hard worker & dependable, will pay cash, 275-8173.

Two-seater go-cart in good condition, 932-4256.

Twin bed or futon, apf. washer & dryer, 434-9274.

1955-1957 Chevy or a 1930s project to fix up, 918-689-6969.

Plan to Attend Your Annual Meeting

Mark your calendars now to attend your 74th CVEC Annual Meeting. It will be held **Saturday, Sept. 14 at the Shawnee Heart of Oklahoma Expo Center.**

Look for more information in the August issue of the Electralite.