



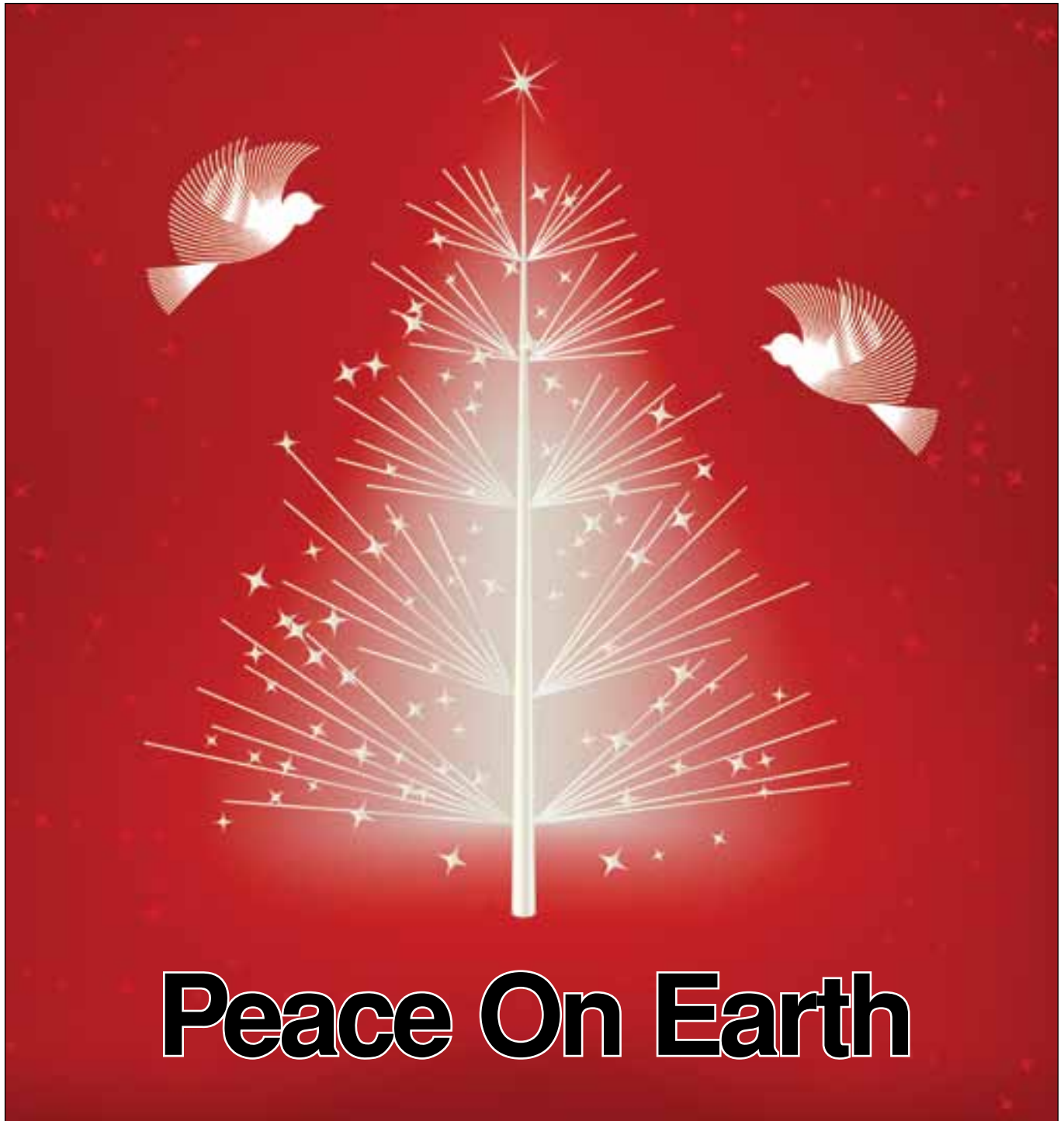
# SALT RIVER ELECTRIC

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative



A Publication For Members Of Salt River Electric Cooperative Corporation

Randy Burba, Editor



## Salt River News

A monthly publication for the 46,000 members of the Salt River Electric Cooperative Corporation, serving Bullitt, Nelson, Spencer, and Washington County, plus portions of six surrounding counties, since 1937.

### **Headquarters Office:**

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### **Office Telephones:**

Bardstown: 348-3931  
Bullitt County: 543-3083  
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## **On Page 1A**

The men and women of Salt River Electric wish all our customers a happy and healthy holiday season. As family and loved ones gather for Christmas this year, our thoughts and prayers go out to those who will not be home for the holidays. The most famous Christmas poem of all, on pages 32D & 32E, goes out to the child in all of us.

## Salt River Electric Rates

Rate	Description	Charge	Energy Charge
1,2	Farm & Home	8.49	.08279
3	Outdoor Lighting	11.36	.08725
5	Residential Mktg.		.04967
6	Outdoor Lighting	10.21	Mercury Vapor
		9.68	Sodium Vapor
		12.97	Sodium Vapor
		17.36	Sodium Vapor
		10.73	Decorative UG
		17.34	UG Merc Vapor
		21.42	UG Merc Vapor
		10.89	OH Durastar
7	Large Power	6.43(D)	.06924
8	Commercial	11.42	.08913
9	Large Power LLP-1	6.42(D)	.06924
11	Large Power LLP-3	5.77(D)	.05896
12	Large Power LPR-1	8.62(D)	.05019
13	Large Power LPR-2	8.62(D)	.05019
36	Large Power LPR-3	8.62(D)	.05019

learn the

LINGO

What is a transformer?

A transformer is a device used in the transmission or distribution of electricity that increases or decreases voltage.

# 2009 Is A Tough Year For The Co-op; Will New Year Bring Brighter Days?

It's been the kind of year an electric co-op might like to forget.

It began with a historic ice storm that knocked out power for every one in three Kentuckians, many for as long as two weeks.

And although crews—including every available employee at Salt River Electric and more than 200 total workers from seven additional states—worked marathon hours to get service restored as soon as possible, workers spent months getting the system back to pre-storm conditions.

As things turned out, the storm wasn't the only energy issue during 2009.

Last year's economic downturn continued throughout the current year, straining budgets and forcing everyone to seek ways to conserve—both energy and money. Salt River Electric employees witnessed some of the pain caused by financial difficulties as the co-op

worked with customers struggling to pay their bills.

In national energy policy, proposals to reduce greenhouse gas took the form of plans to add huge costs to the use of coal, which provides nearly all of the electricity in our state.

Taken all together, the past 12 months have certainly included tough times, but the year end also offers a chance for clear perspective. And what better time for perspective than December and the coming of Christmas.

It's also a good time to count our blessings.

After the ice storm, which caused an inconvenience to many and misery to some, we saw our communities come together in remarkable ways.

Line workers and other co-op employees put in long and difficult hours to get the lights back on. That goal was finally achieved

with the help of many Salt River customers and the assistance of hundreds of linemen, equipment operators, and tree trimmers who arrived from other states.

Kind words and cards of thanks came in from hundreds of customers immediately after the storm and during the weeks of recovery that followed. Every kindness was much appreciated by the men and women working here.

As the old year ends there is no benefit to denying the difficulty of our times. But it's also good to look back and reflect on the value of the good that gets us through.

As Christmas approaches at the end of the month, let's remember the many reasons we have to be thankful.

It's a good time to reach out and help others, and to praise the spirit and community of those around us. It's also a good time to look ahead for a better 2010.



# 'Twas The Night

Clement Clarke Moore's famous poem, which he named *A Visit from St. Nicholas*, was written on Christmas Eve, 1822, during a sleigh ride home from Greenwich Village after buying a turkey for his family. It was first printed on Dec. 23, 1823, by a New York newspaper.

Since then, the poem has been reprinted thousands of times, and in many homes around the world the story is recited as a traditional family event on Christmas Eve.

Prior to the creation of the poem, St. Nicholas, the patron saint of children, had never been associated with a sleigh or reindeer.

Because of this "mere trifle" as he called it then, Moore almost single-handedly defined our now timeless image of Santa Claus.

Moore died in 1863 and is buried in Trinity Cemetery in Washington Heights, New York. He was 84 years old.



# Christmas Poem

**By Clement C. Moore**

*'Twas the night before Christmas, when all through the house, not a creature was stirring, not even a mouse. The stockings were hung by the chimney with care, in hopes that St. Nicholas soon would be there.*

*The children were nestled all snug in their beds, while visions of sugar plums danced in their heads. And Mama in her kerchief, and I in my cap, had just settled our brains for a long winter's nap.*

*When out on the lawn there rose such a clatter, I sprang from my bed to see what was the matter. Away to the window I flew like a flash, tore open the shutters and threw up the sash.*

*The moon on the breast of the new fallen snow, gave the lustre of mid-day to objects below. When, what to my wondering eyes should appear, but a miniature sleigh and eight tiny reindeer.*

*With a little old driver so lively and quick, I knew in a moment it must be St. Nick. More rapid than eagles his coursers they came, and he whistled and shouted and called them by name.*

*"Now Dasher, now Dancer, now Prancer and Vixen! On Comet, on Cupid, on Donner and Blitzen! To the top of the porch, to the top of the wall, now dash away, dash away, dash away all!"*

*As dry leaves that before the wild hurricane fly, when they meet with an obstacle, mount to the sky. So up to the house-top the coursers they flew, with the sleigh full of toys and St. Nicholas too.*

*And then, in a twinkling, I heard on the*

*roof the prancing and pawing of each little hoof. As I drew in my head and was turning around, down the chimney St. Nicholas came with a bound.*

*He was dressed all in fur, from his head to his foot, and his clothes were all tarnished with ashes and soot. A bundle of toys he had flung on his back, and he looked like a peddler just opening his pack.*

*His eyes, how they twinkled, his dimples how merry, his cheeks were like roses, his nose like a cherry. His droll little mouth was drawn up like a bow, and the beard of his chin was as white as the snow.*

*The stump of a pipe he held tight in his teeth, and the smoke it encircled his head like a wreath. He had a broad face and a round little belly, that shook when he laughed like a bowl full of jelly.*

*He was chubby and plump, a right jolly old elf, and I laughed when I saw him in spite of myself. A wink of his eye and a twist of his head, soon gave me to know I had nothing to dread.*

*He spoke not a word, but went straight to his work, and filled all the stockings then turned with a jerk. And laying his finger aside of his nose, and giving a nod up the chimney he rose.*

*He sprang to his sleigh, to his team gave a whistle, and away they all flew like the down of a thistle. But I heard him exclaim as he drove out of sight, "Happy Christmas to all, and to all a good night!"*

**Editor's Note:** This most famous of Christmas poems is dedicated to the child in all of us. Merry Christmas from all the men and women at Salt River Electric.

*Put*



## A Message From Your Salt River Cooperative

*Around  
Electricity*

### Scout Out Fake Electronics

While an artificial Christmas tree can be a safe and beautiful alternative to a fresh evergreen, the lights you put on it should be the real deal.

More than a million counterfeit electrical products have been recalled in recent years, according to the Electrical Safety Foundation. Don't make the potentially hazardous mistake of putting any of them on your tree—or under it for your loved ones to open.

Counterfeit products like extension cords, power strips, and batteries have shown up on the shelves of even legitimate retailers. While these fakes can seem like great bargains because of their lower price tags, they may have been made without key components or in compliance with safety standards.

This season follow these tips to help spot counterfeit products:

- \*Look for a certification mark from Underwriters Laboratories (UL) or another product safety agency.

- \*If a bargain seems too good to be true, it probably is. Products may be cheap because they are counterfeit or defective.

- \*Shop only at established vendors that purchase from legitimate distributors.

- \*Check the packaging for grammatical errors or misspellings.

- \*Avoid no-name products or brands you have never seen before.

And please be careful this Christmas.

## Electrical Fires Often Occur In December, Ruining The Holidays

December can be the happiest, homiest month of the year. It can also be the most dangerous.

More electrical house fires occur around the holidays than any other time, according to the U.S. Fire Administration. Lighting, heating, and appliance use increase in the winter as we spend more of the day indoors and welcome visitors to our homes.

Electrical system failures and appliance defects are sometimes the culprits in electrical fires. But much more often, faulty wiring and overloaded circuits or extension cords are to blame. In both cases, the fires are preventable.

Other preventable fires are traced to misused or poorly maintained cords, such as those under rugs, frayed and overloaded into sockets.

Taking the proper precautions and using electrical cords safely can greatly reduce your risk of fire. Take these actions to help rid your home of risks:

- \*Check for outlets and light switches that are hot to the touch; a licensed electrician should replace any you might find.

- \*Have an electrician inspect your wiring if you frequently blow fuses. The heat from an overloaded electrical circuit makes the fuse blow.

- \*Replace all worn, frayed, or damaged appliance cords immediately. Frayed wires can cause fires.

- \*Do not force a three-prong plug into a two-slot outlet or remove the third prong. The third prong minimizes the risk of electric shock.

- \*Never overload extension cords or wall sockets. Invest in power strips that protect your electronics from power surges.



and a Happy New Year

*from*

**Salt River Electric.**



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**SALT RIVER ELECTRIC**

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*The power of human connections*

[www.touchstoneenergy.com](http://www.touchstoneenergy.com)

We're adding the finishing touches  
to the power of the future

## DIAL 1-800-221-7465 FOR OUTAGES

If you live within Salt River Electric's service area, you'll want to remember this vitally important number. Study it, memorize it, cut it out and paste it by your telephone . . . do whatever is necessary to dial this 24-hour hotline whenever the power fails at your home or place of business.

Salt River Electric dispatchers are on call 365 days a year, including Sundays and holidays, so we can meet your needs whenever power outages occur. Line crews are also on the ready to respond to outages as quickly and efficiently as possible.

When power outages do occur, please check your breakers first to be sure nothing has gone wrong inside your home. Then call **1-800-221-7465** to report a problem. The dispatcher will need your telephone number, service address, and the name listed on your electric account. Always report any additional information, such as downed lines in your area, when you call. The dispatcher will then immediately call out a service truck to respond to your outage.