

The CIRCUIT



*** Proudly Serving Rural Kansas for Over 75 Years

November 2017



Ark Valley Electric would like to wish everyone a Happy Thanksgiving, and also remind members that the office will be closed on November 23rd & 24th. If you need to report an outage, please call 1-888-297-9212.

Veterans Day is November 11th



Ark Valley would like to thank all military veterans for their service.

Drawing Winner

BILL HOFFMAN is the winner of our \$25.00 readership drawing. Bill, to claim your prize, please contact Ark Valley by November 30, 2017 & give us the account number from your electric bill.

We're On Facebook!



Like our page and get updates on outages and other information.

Ark Valley By-Laws for Nominations

The following excerpt from our by-laws details how trustees are nominated.

SECTION 4.03. Nominations. It shall be the duty of the Board of Trustees to appoint, not less than thirty (30) days nor more than one hundred twenty (120) days before the date of a meeting of the members at which Trustees are to be elected, a committee on nominations consisting of not less than five (5) nor more than eleven (11) members who shall be selected from different sections of the service territory so as to ensure equitable representation. No member of the Board of Trustees may serve on such committee. The committee, keeping in mind the principle of geographical representation and diversity of rate classes, shall prepare and post at the principal office of the Cooperative at least twenty (20) days before the meeting a list of qualified nominations for Trustees; but any fifteen (15) or more members acting together may make other nominations by petition not less than fifteen (15) days prior to the meeting, and the Secretary shall post such nominations at the same place where the list of nominations made by the committee is posted. The Secretary shall mail with the notice of the meeting or separately, but at least ten (10) days before the meeting, a statement of the number of Trustees to be elected and the names and addresses of the candidates, specifying separately the nominations made by the committee and also the nominations made by petition, if any. Nothing contained herein shall, however, prevent additional nominations from the floor at the meeting of the members. Notwithstanding anything contained in this section, failure to comply with any of the provisions of this section shall not affect in any manner whatsoever the validity of any election of Trustees.

Any members interested in having his or her name on the ballot for a trustee position should contact the Ark Valley office at 620-662-6661, and the names will be forwarded to the nomination committee. Trustee candidates must be an AVEC member with a bona fide residence served by the Cooperative.

Manage Your Bill with SmartHub

Ark Valley offers the latest technology to help you manage your electric account with a free online application called SmartHub.

It's simple and quick to make a payment or view your hourly energy usage data. You can compare bills and find out what day of the week or hour of the day you typically use the most electricity.



Go to www.arkvalley.com to start managing your account today.

Board Meeting Highlights

The Board of Trustees for the Ark Valley Electric Cooperative Association held its regular meeting for the month of September on September 25, 2017.

The matter of general capital credit unretired balances was addressed by the Board. The General Manager, Jackie Holmberg, presented a spreadsheet report entitled Statement of Margins and Members Equity. As of the month of September 2017, Ark Valley had \$18,344,094.64 in previously allocated, but not yet retired, patron

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Ark Valley Electric Cooperative
10 East 10th Avenue, South Hutchinson, KS 67505

(620) 662-6661
www.arkvalley.com

Cold Weather Rule Starts

- (1). The provisions of the Cold Weather Rule establish the disconnection procedures for any Residential Customer of the Cooperative throughout the cold weather period, which extends from November 15 through March 15.
- (2). The Cooperative shall not disconnect a Customer's service between November 15 and March 15 when the local temperature is forecast to drop below 32 degrees within the following 24-hour period unless:
 - (a). It is at the Customer's request;
 - (b). The service is abandoned;
 - (c). A dangerous condition exists on the Customer's premises;
 - (d). The Customer violates any rule of the Cooperative that may adversely affect the safety of the persons or property, including the physical integrity of the Cooperative's delivery system; or
 - (e). The Customer causes or permits the unauthorized interference with, diversion or use of (meter bypass), the Cooperative's electric service situated or delivered on or about the Customer's premises. In any of these situations, the Cooperative may disconnect the service immediately. Electric service disconnected under (c), (d), or (e) above may be restored as soon as possible after the physical problems as defined in (c), (d) and (e) above have been corrected and all applicable fees, costs, and security deposits have been paid.
- (3). Responsibilities of the Cooperative. The Cooperative will send (1) written notice mailed first class at least five (5) days prior to termination of service. A Customer may not be disconnected until a 24-hour forecast above the activating temperature is predicted.



On the day of disconnection, the Cooperative must receive a 24-hour forecast above the activating temperature. If the temperature is then forecast to be below the activating temperature, the disconnection may not be carried out. Instead, the Cooperative must wait for another 24-hour forecast above the activating temperature, but further notice to the Customer will not be required.

The Cooperative will, in the five (5)-day written notice, also inform the Customer of the existence of the Cold Weather Rule and that the Customer can avoid disconnection by bringing the Customer's electric bill current.

...Highlights Continued

capital dating back to 1997. As such, the Cooperative has lived up to its 20-year capital credit retirement policy.

Holmberg presented three options on the spreadsheet on how some of the outstanding capital credit balances could be retired, how much each scenario would cost, and how each retirement would impact the Cooperative's equity level. Last year when the Board retired capital credits, the Board used approximately five percent (5%) of the Cooperative's total margin and equity as the amount to retire, and Holmberg suggested using the same approach this year. After the Board discussed the various scenarios, it approved a motion to retire all outstanding capital credit balances from 1997 (\$604,748.17), 25% of outstanding capital credit balances from 1998 (\$217,623.86), and 30% of the Cooperative's outstanding capital credit balances for 2016 (\$410,513.12). The total amount of the capital credit retirement equals \$1,232,885.15. The capital credit retirement checks will be processed and mailed to members by mid-December.

Ark Valley employees celebrated the retirement of Mike McAllister. Mike worked for the Cooperative for 47 years as both a lineman and the warehouse manager during his career. Mike's family and co-workers hosted a surprise party for him. Congratulations, Mike!

ATTENTION High School Juniors & Seniors

Ark Valley Electric Cooperative is offering two scholarships and one all-expense-paid trip to the Cooperative Youth Leadership Camp for qualified juniors or seniors.

Eligibility

The student's parent(s) must be a member of Ark Valley Electric and either a junior or senior in high school to apply. Ark Valley members may nominate students they know are eligible.

You Could Win

- ▶ **First Place:** A \$1,000 College Scholarship and an all-expense-paid trip to Steamboat Springs, CO.
- ▶ **Second Place:** A \$500 Scholarship.

To Apply: 1. Submit a written copy of a 5-10 min. speech on the present and future value of the electric co-op to its members and community. **OR** 2. Submit a multimedia video or power point on a list of topics provided on the application. Finalists will be asked to present to a panel of Board Members and Co-op staff. **Essays, videos, and power points must be received at Ark Valley by 5:00 p.m. on December 1, 2017.**



Drew Krehbiel, 2017 Winner

The Ark Valley Electric Cooperative Association, Inc. is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

If you wish to file a Civil Rights program complaint of discrimination, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form, found online at http://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint_filing_cust.html, or at any USDA office, or call (866) 632-9992 to request the form. You may also write a letter containing all of the information requested in the form. Send your completed complaint form or letter to us by mail at U.S. Department of Agriculture, Director, Office of Adjudication, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20250-9410, by fax (202) 690-7442 or email at program.intake@usda.gov.