

The CIRCUIT

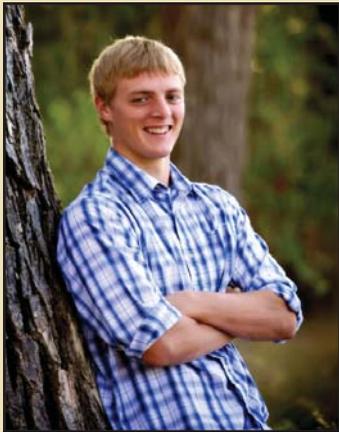
Ark Valley Electric Cooperative



*** Proudly Serving Rural Kansas for Over 75 Years

April 2015

Cannon Burns Receives Lineman Scholarship



Cannon Burns, son of Jerry and Becky Burns of Plevna, is this year's recipient of the \$1,000 Lineman Scholarship.

Ark Valley awards this scholarship to members or member's children who plan to attend one of the 3 Kansas Line Schools-which are Dodge City Community College, Manhattan Technical College, or Pratt Community College.

To compete for the scholarship, participants must submit an application, a description of their activities/interests and why they want to become a lineman, and two letters of recommendation-one from a teacher/employer and one from a non-relative. The winner is then chosen by a panel of judges.

Winners receive \$500 each semester during their first year, after providing proof of their full-time enrollment. The scholarship is spread out over the two semesters, in order to encourage the student to stay with the program.

For more information on the scholarship, you can contact Misty Merideth at 620-662-6661.

Lineman Appreciation Day April 13th

They wake up before the sun, pour steaming cups of coffee, and kiss their family goodbye. After swinging by the office to get the day's orders, they climb into their trucks and head out. Our lineworkers form a solid team with one job: to deliver safe, reliable electricity. But that job can change in a million ways when rough weather steps in.

We often take power-and the men and women who provide it-for granted. Let's take a moment and stand in their boots.

Linemen have to work safely, smart, and efficiently-all while 40 feet in the air wearing sturdy, thick rubber gloves. On a typical day, our lineworkers maintain electrical distribution lines or build service to new homes and businesses in central Kansas. They have a lot on their plates. But when our dispatch center calls crews with a problem, everything else takes a backseat.

Power restoration takes precedence on a lineworker's to-do list. These brave men are always on call. Can you imagine getting a call at 3 a.m. telling you to work outside during bad weather? Not many people are willing to face storms. Our lineworkers face harsh elements daily, all to serve you.

Lineworkers also focus on safety; their own lives and those of coworkers are on the line. Job safety is important to everyone, no matter your occupation. But for lineworkers, there can be no slip ups or careless actions. Mistakes can cost a limb or life. When you put your life in the hands of co-workers every day, they become more than colleagues. They're family.

To be ready to respond no matter the situation or weather conditions, linemen are highly trained. At Ark Valley, lineworkers go through regular training to ensure they can work safely with various kinds of equipment. The equipment gets tested regularly, too. Their safety is Ark Valley's first priority.

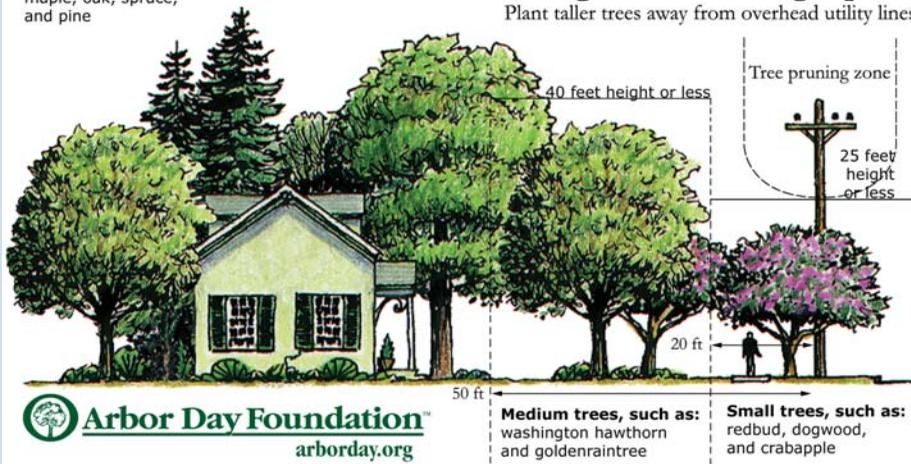
These highly skilled men light our homes and businesses every day. They endure harsh weather and long hours, all to make our lives better. Today (and every day), please take a moment to thank them. Ark Valley's lineworkers are the heart of the Co-op Nation, proud and strong.



Tall trees, such as:
maple, oak, spruce,
and pine

Plant the right tree in the right place

Plant taller trees away from overhead utility lines



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(620) 662-6661
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Board Meeting Highlights

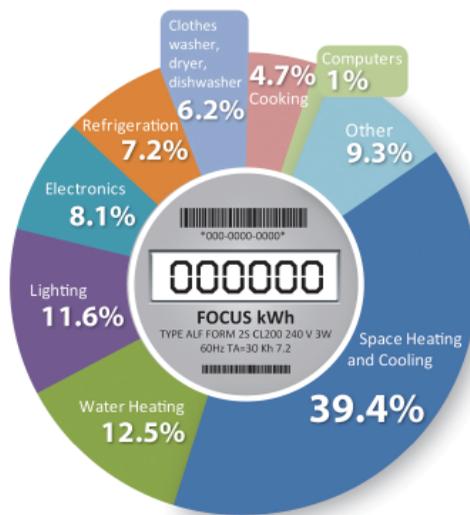
The Board of Trustees for the Ark Valley Electric Cooperative Association held its regular meeting for the month of February on March 2, 2015.

The Board reviewed the Independent Auditor's Report and Financial Statements from September 1, 2013 to August 31, 2014 submitted by Schmidt & Company, LLC. An audit of the Cooperative's financial situation is performed each year. The result of the audit, as has been consistently the case, found the absence of any material financial errors on the part of Ark Valley.

The new General Manager, Jackie Holmberg, compared the 2014 income and expenses to the 2013 income and expenses. She informed the Board the Cooperative was on firm financial ground. The comparison showed the Cooperative's total margin increased by over \$170,000.00, or 9.5%, and the net tier increased approximately 0.2%.

Since the 2014 income and expenses were finalized, the allocation of the Cooperative's margin could be made to its members in the form of capital credits. The Board reviewed the 2014 Capital Credit Application and found \$1,774,406.73 in capital credits derived from Ark Valley, and \$173,788.63 in capital credits derived from its electric supplier, KEPCo. The total amount of capital credits available for allocation amounted to \$1,948,195.36

How Your Home Uses Electricity



Source: 2009 Buildings Energy Data Book, U.S. Department of Energy, Table 21.5. Represents an all-electric home. Updated February 2011.

Drawing Winner

BILL L. ROHLMAN is the winner of our \$25.00 readership drawing.

Bill, to claim your prize, please contact Ark Valley by April 30, 2015 & give us the account number from your electric bill.

ARK VALLEY CUSTOMER NOTIFICATION, PURSUANT TO KSA 66-104d(g)

The Ark Valley Electric Cooperative's Board of Trustees is giving notification to all its members that a rate hearing will be held on May 18th, 2015 at 7:00 pm at the Cooperative's headquarters at 10 East 10th Street, South Hutchinson, KS. The meeting will be open to all Ark Valley customers. The Board will address two proposed changes. It will address clarifying the existing three-phase service tariff and removing from the rate schedules the public building and church service tariff.

The proposed three-phase rate change will clarify that the tariff only applies to customers that contract for a demand of less than fifty-one kilowatts (51kW), and/or where the customer's measured or calculated demand is not in excess of fifty kilowatts (50kW). As for the public building and church service tariff, nobody has utilized that tariff for several years, so it has become obsolete to the Cooperative's rate schedule and should be removed.

If the Board adopts the proposed changes and certain conditions are met, members may have the right under K.S.A. 66-104d(g) to request the Kansas Corporation Commission review the rate changes. If you have questions about the specifics of the change or whether the proposed change will affect you, please feel free to contact the Cooperative's staff by either stopping by the Cooperative's headquarters at 10 East 10th Street, South Hutchinson, KS, or calling 620-662-6661.

Ark Valley Adds To The Lineman Team

Ark Valley Electric Cooperative has recently hired a new journeyman lineman, Ryan Keith, of Holyoke, Colorado.

Keith graduated with an Associates Degree in Animal Science from Nebraska College of Technical Agriculture in Curtis, Nebraska and has received a Certification in Lineworker from Mesa State in Grand Junction, Colorado.

When asked why he came to Ark Valley, Keith replied, "I wanted to get back to the area around Hutchinson because my sister lives close, and to enjoy a smaller company." He and his wife, Karman, are in the process of settling in the Hutchinson area with their four children. Their family enjoys camping, fishing, and just being outdoors with each other.

Ark Valley is excited to welcome Keith to the team.



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.