

The CIRCUIT

Ark Valley Electric Cooperative



*** Proudly Serving Rural Kansas for Over 75 Years

August 2016

Holiday Office Closing



Our office will be closed on Monday, September 5th, in observance of Labor Day. If you experience an outage please call 888-297-9212.

School Starts This Month



Please drive carefully and watch for school buses stopped for children on the roadway!

Help Us Celebrate!!!

In honor of Kansas Electric Cooperatives Day, Ark Valley will be serving popcorn and cookies to our members on August 18th. Stop by our office and help us celebrate!

SmartHub Maintenance

Our online payment system, SmartHub, will experience some down time on the evening of August 24th for some internal maintenance. The exact time of the maintenance is unknown at this time, but it should last for about 5 - 6 hours during which SmartHub will be unavailable. We apologize for any inconvenience this may cause!

Electric Cooperatives Day

On Friday, July 29, Governor Brownback signed a proclamation declaring August 18, 2016 as Electric Cooperatives Day in Kansas. August 18th marks the 75th Anniversary of Kansas Electric Cooperative's Charter.

WHEREAS, reliable and affordable electric service is a critical component in the quality of life we enjoy in the Great State of Kansas, and;

WHEREAS, electric service brings efficiency, comfort and convenience and is essential for the production of goods and service by agriculture, business and industry, and;

WHEREAS, Kansas citizens began forming electric cooperatives in 1938 in order to extend electric service to areas in rural Kansas that incumbent utilities chose not to serve, and;

WHEREAS, the electric cooperative business model features member ownership of their energy provider and an extraordinary record of service and commitment to the community, and;

WHEREAS, in order to meet a growing list of service needs that could be accomplished more effectively and efficiently as a group, the electric cooperatives in Kansas chartered an association on August 18, 1941, known as the Kansas Electric Cooperatives, Inc., and;

WHEREAS, Kansas Electric Cooperatives, Inc., is celebrating the 75th Anniversary of that charter with strong membership engagement accessing a growing list of services, and;

WHEREAS, the formation and success of Kansas Electric Cooperatives, Inc. demonstrates that, by working cooperatively, Kansans can solve problems and improve the future of our state.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Sam Brownback, Governor of the Great State of Kansas, do hereby proclaim August 18, 2016, as:

Kansas Electric Cooperatives Day in the state of Kansas, and urge all citizens to join with us in recognizing and commending the membership of Kansas Electric Cooperatives, Inc., for their commitment to serving the people of Kansas with safe, reliable and affordable electric service for home and business and for their everyday contribution and commitment to improving the lives of our citizens throughout this great state.

Internet Survey Winners

The completed internet surveys have been collected and tallied! Two participating members were chosen from a drawing to receive a \$50.00 credit on their energy bill. The winners of the drawing are:

Gordon Enns of Inman, Kansas
and
Kenneth D. Pike of Stafford, Kansas



Congratulations to the winners, and you will see a \$50.00 credit on your next energy bill! Thank you to everyone who completed the survey. The information will be very helpful to the Board of Directors as they analyze the results. We will update you on any developments as they become available.



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

(620) 662-6661
www.arkvalley.com

AMI Meter Update

Meter Installation Update

A few months ago Ark Valley Electric began installing a new automated metering infrastructure (AMI) across our service territory. Our crews and contractors have installed the supporting infrastructure and more than 70% of the new meters. They should have them all installed by the end of August.

Benefits of AMI Meters

As we continue the conversion process, we would like to remind our members of the benefits of this new technology. Implementation of the AMI System will result in improved operational efficiencies at Ark Valley and enhanced member services. This new metering infrastructure will help Ark Valley continue to provide reliable electricity at a competitive price, while providing these improvements:

- Improved outage management system
- More accurate billing
- Reduced meter reading costs
- Power quality improvement
- Safer and more efficient daily operations
- Transformer loading analysis

Access Usage Information on SmartHub

In addition to these improvements, installation of these new meters will allow members the ability to access their usage data down to the hour, on a daily basis on their SmartHub accounts. Accessing this data will put a wealth of information at your fingertips, allowing you to make informed decisions about your energy usage and compare usage to previous days, months and years.

Implementation of this new technology will provide these benefits and many more to you and your cooperative for years to come, ensuring that reliable and competitively priced electricity is a part of our future.

Board Meeting

Highlights

The Board of Trustees for the Ark Valley Electric Cooperative Association held its regular meeting for the month of June on June 27, 2016.

Last month, the Board agreed to have the staff conduct a mail-in survey of the Cooperative's members to gauge their interest in having broadband internet service. Staff sent out the surveys to the members and 790 had been returned. The survey results will help measure the current availability of internet service within the Cooperative's service territory and how competitive the price of the internet service is. The results of the survey will be presented to the Board at its July meeting.

Ark Valley, in conjunction with the Kansas Electric Cooperatives (KEC), was scheduled to hold a meet-and-greet for area legislators, Trustees and Cooperative staff on June 29th. The purpose of the event was to educate policy makers on issues facing its members and the electric industry. Because the Governor called a Special Session, and KEC believed the Special Session would conflict with the meet-and-greet, the event was canceled. In order to better interact with area legislators and help build a grassroots effort aimed at addressing rural electrification needs, Ark Valley staff will instead meet with the legislators one-on-one after the election cycle has ended.



Ark Valley Electric

Nex-Tech Wireless® Grandstand Entertainment

Fri. Sept. 9 - Andy Grammer w/ special guest Rachel Platten*
Sat. Sept. 10 - Gabriel Iglesias*
Sun. Sept. 11 - Justin Moore w/ special guest Clare Dunn*
Mon. Sept. 12 - Demolition Derby
Tue. Sept. 13 - Hitmakers Reunion Tour featuring Restless Heart w/ Suzy Bogguss & Billy Dean*
Wed. Sept. 14 - Crowder*
Thur. Sept. 15 - Hairball*
Fri. Sept. 16 - Lynyrd Skynyrd*
Sat. Sept. 17 - Jake Owen w/ special guest Old Dominion*
Sun. Sept. 18 - Outlaw Truck & Tractor Pull

*Gate admission included when purchased through Aug. 20

FREE at the Fair

FREE PARKING
FREE SHUTTLES
from FREE Public Parking Lots
FREE TRAMS
on the fairgrounds

Connect with the Fair Online

twitter.com/kansasstatefair
facebook.com/kansasstatefair
pinterest.com/kansasstatefair
instagram.com/kansasstatefair

ADMISSION

Adults (13-59)
\$7 before Sept. 9
\$10 starting Sept. 9

Seniors (60+)
\$4 before Sept. 9
\$6 starting Sept. 9

Children (6-12yr)
\$4 before Sept. 9
\$6 starting Sept. 9

Season Fair Pass
\$40 (Valid for 1 Gate
Admission per day.)



Drawing Winner

HAVEN GOLF CLUB % LINDA FOOS is the winner of our \$25.00 readership drawing.

Linda, to claim your prize, please contact Ark Valley by August 31, 2016 & give us the account number from your electric bill.

Kansas State Fair Discounts

Jr. Squeal Deal - \$20 (\$29 Value)
Blast Pack for 2 - \$35 (\$49 Value)
AstroHawg Family Pack - \$75 (\$103 Value)
Discounts available thru Thur. Sept. 8

Check out the details online
www.kansasstatefair.com
1-800-362-FAIR

**KANSAS
STATE
FAIR**

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.