

The CIRCUIT

Ark Valley Electric Cooperative



*** Proudly Serving Rural Kansas for Over 75 Years

February 2015

THANK YOU for Your Service



Ark Valley Electric Cooperative would like to thank Bob Hall for his thirty-three years of service to the Cooperative. The last eighteen of those years were served as General Manager. Hall retired on January 10, 2015.

Steve Schweizer, Board President, issued the following statement on behalf of the Board of Trustees: "We appreciate Bob's years of service to the Cooperative. We felt like he did an excellent job, and we're going to miss him."

Ark Valley extends thanks to Hall for his service, and wishes him well in his retirement.

Board Meeting Highlights

The Board of Trustees for the Ark Valley Electric Cooperative Association held its regular meeting for the month on January 25, 2015.

The Board reviewed and adopted the 2015 Annual Budget for the Cooperative. The Annual Budget is a planning document used to project Ark Valley's monthly revenues and expenses. The Board regularly examines costs to determine if the Cooperative is running efficiently. If cost overruns occur in one area or if revenues decline unexpectedly, spending is adjusted accordingly so the Co-op remains on a stable financial footing.

The Trustees examined the Cooperative's rate schedules, called tariffs. Tariffs establish what rates a member is charged according to their particular usage. Some of the Cooperative's tariffs are ambiguous and difficult to apply. A few tariffs currently don't have any members in their rate class. In order to clarify the tariffs and remove those that are no longer used, the Board will look into holding a possible rate hearing to make these technical changes during the next regular monthly meeting.

Kansas Electric Cooperatives, Inc. held its annual conference in Topeka from January 24th - 26th. Ark Valley staff and Board members attended portions of the event to participate in training seminars, which were instructed by National Rural Electric Cooperatives Association staff. Strategic planning issues were among the topics discussed.

The next regular Board of Trustees meeting will be held Tuesday, March 2, 2015 at the Cooperative's headquarters in South Hutchinson.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS
for Annual Meeting 4/7/15!
(6:30pm in Hutchinson:
See next issue for more details.)

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
April 2015					
			1	2	3
		7	8	9	10
5	6	14	15	16	17
12	13	21	22	23	24
19	20	28	29	30	Notes:
26	27				



Want to Become a Lineman?

Ark Valley Electric Cooperative is offering its members a \$1,000.00 SCHOLARSHIP to any graduating senior, high school graduate, or recipient of an equivalent degree (GED, etc.) that plans to enroll in a Kansas line school.

(Must be a member or have parents that are members of Ark Valley Electric to qualify.)

If interested, call (620)-662-6661 or pick up an application from your School Counselor.

Applications must be returned to Ark Valley Electric by March 16, 2015.



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

(620) 662-6661
www.arkvalley.com

Great Comfort. Great Savings.



Make your home more efficient and comfortable with a new Geothermal Heat Pump or Electric Water Heater.

Home Equity Line of Credit

As low as **3.50%** A.P.R.*

Fund your new system with a loan from HCU with great rates and pay **no origination fee!***

Plus, great rebates from AVEC.

It is easy to begin:

- 1- Apply at www.hcu.coop/arkvalley
- 2- Use promo code "AVEC".



**HUTCHINSON
CREDIT UNION**

Where people are worth more than money

*APR = Annual Percentage Rate. Annual Line of Credit fee of \$20 will apply. Variable APR may change quarterly but will never be higher than 18%. Subject to credit approval. Your primary residence secures this line of credit. Offer only available for new first mortgage loans directed to AVEC for rebate items.

hcu.coop • 800.428.8472 • 620.669.0177

SAFETY AWARD

Employees Honored for Safe Work Practices

The employees of Ark Valley Electric Cooperative were honored recently for their safe working practices.

Ark Valley's employees worked a total of 34,173 worker-hours last year without a lost-time accident. They also have worked a total of 527,205 worker-hours since the last lost-time accident in 2000.

The Cooperative was honored in Topeka during the 73rd Annual Meeting of Kansas Electric Cooperatives, Inc. (KEC), the statewide association for the electric cooperatives that serve in Kansas.

In order to receive the award, Ark Valley's employees must go a complete calendar year without missing a full day of work due to an injury or accident.

"This award is well deserved and speaks to the dedication and professionalism of all of our employees," said Jackie Holmberg, General Manager.

Drawing Winner

GARY THOMPSON is the winner of our \$25.00 readership drawing.

Gary, to claim your prize, please contact Ark Valley by February 28, 2015 & give us the account number from your electric bill.

Ark Valley Offers REBATES!

The efficiency requirements and rebate amounts are as follows:

Water Heaters

- Less than 60 gallons must have a minimum Energy Factor (EF) of 0.93, or 0.91 for over 60 gallons.
- The rebate is \$100 for a non-lifetime and \$150 for lifetime water heaters.

Air Source Heat Pump

- Minimum unit size of 2 tons.
- Must have a minimum Seasonal Energy Efficiency Ratio (SEER) of 14.5.
- Must have a minimum Heating Seasonal Performance Factor (HSPF) of 8.2.
- Rebate amounts are \$100 per ton for a 14.5 SEER, \$150 per ton for a 15.5 SEER, and \$200 per ton for 16.5 SEER and above.

Ground Source Heat Pump

- Minimum unit size is 2 tons.
- Open loop - Must have a min. Coefficient of Performance (COP) of 3.6 and a minimum Energy Efficiency Rating (EER) of 16.2.
- Closed loop - Must have a minimum COP of 3.3 and a minimum EER of 14.1.
- Rebate amount is \$125 per half-ton (\$250.00 per ton).

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.