

# The CIRCUIT

Ark Valley Electric Cooperative



\*\*\* Proudly Serving Rural Kansas for Over 75 Years

January 2015

## Nominations Committee

The By-Laws of your Cooperative provide that the Board of Trustees shall appoint a Committee on Nominations.

In keeping with this provision, the Board has appointed the following members to the 2015 Committee:

**Waldo Froese**  
1222 Buckskin Rd.  
Inman, KS 67546

**Steve Geesling**  
3491 N. State Road 14  
Kingman, KS 67068

**Randy Goering**  
22806 S. Mohawk Rd.  
Pretty Prairie, KS 67570

**Rodney Hurst**  
1319 N. Jordan Springs Rd.  
Plevna, KS 67568

**Damon Stauffer**  
18218 W. Boundary Rd.  
Kingman, KS 67068

**Brian Webster**  
212 E. Greenfield Rd.  
Hutchinson, KS 67501

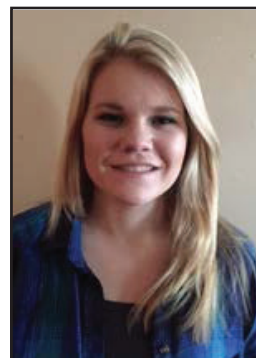
**Derek Zongker**  
30600 W. Illinois  
Sylvia, KS 67581

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## BROOKE MCNICKLE Announced as Winner of Trip/Scholarship Contest

Ark Valley Electric Cooperative would like to congratulate Brooke McNickle, winner of the 2015 Youth Tour Trip & Scholarship Contest.

McNickle will receive a \$1,000 scholarship to use in attending the college of her choice and a trip to Washington DC. She is the daughter of Keith and Sharilyn McNickle of rural Stafford. If you would like to hear the winning essay, McNickle will be presenting her essay to the membership during the 2015 Annual Meeting of the Members.



This coming June, McNickle will have the opportunity to join up with other cooperative winners from across Kansas and Hawaii during the Annual "Government in Action" Electric Cooperative Youth Tour held in Washington DC.

Kansas is one of the 45 states to send a youth delegation to the annual electric cooperative youth tour. Since 1964, the nation's electric cooperatives have collectively organized the trips for more than 40,000 high school juniors and seniors to visit U.S. congressional members, attend energy and grassroots government education sessions, and sightsee in Washington, DC. The group will learn about the US government and cooperatives' roles in it through visits with their senators and congressional delegation, meetings with youth from other states, and tours of museums, Capitol Hill, Arlington National Cemetery, etc.

"Ark Valley is proud to support the youth tour program and send our students to experience government in action," said Melinda Thomas, Youth Tour & Scholarship Coordinator. "We are helping develop future leaders, and we want them to understand where co-ops fit in tomorrow's world. Many do not realize, before participating in the contest and tour, how large cooperatives' roles are in this nation."

Ark Valley sponsors a trip for one student each year during the scholarship contest. For more information, call 620-662-6661.

Ark Valley would like to thank McNickle for the time and effort she put into the 2015 Youth Competition.



## 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

# Nominations Committee *continued...*

Judy Kinsler and Steve Schweizer will be up for re-election as of the date of the next Annual Meeting of Members on April 7, 2015. The Committee on Nominations met on Tuesday, December 30, 2014, for the purpose of making nominations for Trustees to fill these vacancies. The Committee will post a list of such nominations in the office of your Cooperative. Additional information concerning each candidate will be published in

the Annual Report, which each member will receive prior to the Annual Meeting.

Other nominations may be made by a signed petition of 15 or more members, not less than 15 days prior to the Annual Meeting. Such nominations shall also be posted in the Cooperative Office. Additional nominations may

be made from the floor at the time of the Annual Meeting.

The Board of Trustees consists of seven members. The present board members are: Steve Schweizer, Plevna: President; Keith McNickle, Stafford: Vice-President; Dan Schnurr, Sterling: Secretary; Joseph Seiwert, Pretty Prairie: Treasurer; Budd Fountain, Langdon; Larry Froese, Inman; and Judy Kinsler, Kingman.

An Annual Meeting of Members shall be held each year in Hutchinson, Kansas, usually between March 15th and April 15th, unless the Board of Trustees shall designate by resolution some other city, place, date, and/or time.

The Board resolved to host the next Annual Meeting of Members on April 7, 2015, at the North Sunflower Building on the State Fair Grounds in Hutchinson, Kansas.

**MARK YOUR CALENDARS  
for Annual Meeting 4/7/15!**



# Board Meeting *HIGHLIGHTS*

The Board of Trustees for the Ark Valley Electric Cooperative Association held its regular meeting for the month on December 29, 2014 at the Cooperative headquarters in South Hutchinson, KS.

The December meeting marked the last time General Manager, Bob Hall, would attend an Ark Valley Board Meeting. Hall ends his nearly 34-year career with Ark Valley on January 10, 2015. He started work as the Office Manager on March 16, 1981 and was promoted to General Manager on July 29, 1996. His successor, Jackie Holmberg, was also in attendance as the Board thanked him for his service and wished him well in his retirement.

The Board reviewed its expenses, including insurance premiums and property tax assessments. It was noted the Cooperative's insurance premiums will be 6.22% lower, or \$5,588, in 2015, but that is in part due to higher deductibles. Property tax assessments in Ark Valley's nine county territory increased by 3.91%, or \$24,183.41.

# Drawing Winner

**MARK CLARK** is the winner of our \$25.00 readership drawing.

Mark, to claim your prize, please contact Ark Valley by January 31, 2015 & give us the account number from your electric bill.

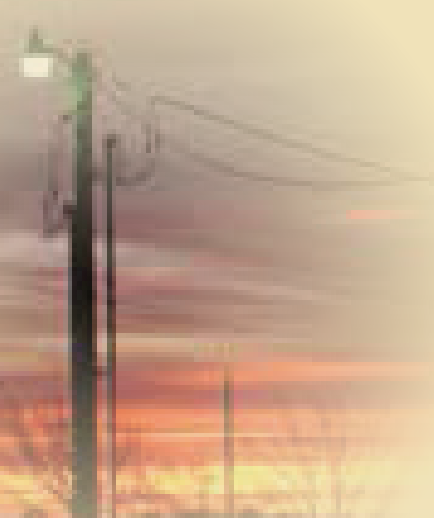
# Let's Look on the *Bright Side*

From dusk to dawn, security lights for homes, businesses, & farms let you look on the bright side with safety & convenience. That's because when you add a yard light from Ark Valley Electric, you're adding protection for your family & your property – plus hours to your evening for work and/or play.

At just pennies a day, a security light is not only a bright decision, it is very efficient & affordable. So look on the bright side, and call us today at (620) 662-6661 for information on how to get your light.

Metal Halide Light (100 watt).....\$115.00  
Service/Trip Charge.....\$30.00

\*Light must be installed on a pole, on the low-voltage side of the transformer. Cannot be installed on the transformer pole.



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](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](mailto:program.intake@usda.gov).