

The CIRCUIT

Ark Valley Electric Cooperative



*** Proudly Serving Rural Kansas for Over 75 Years

July 2015

Ark Valley Welcomes New Lineman



Ark Valley Electric Cooperative has recently hired a new journeyman lineman, Ryan Walton, of Hutchinson, Kansas.

Walton grew up in Sterling and graduated from Pratt Community College with an Associates Degree in Applied Science, where he also attended additional classes pertaining to line work. Walton has been an EPT instructor for Pratt Community College and was previously employed as a journeyman lineman at Kiwash Electric Cooperative in Cordell, Oklahoma.

When asked why he came to Ark Valley, Walton replied, "Every time anyone ever asked where I wanted to work after graduation, I always said Ark Valley Electric. Why? Because their reputation for quality work is very well known." He and his wife of 5 years, Krystal, have a 5 month old son, Wyatt. Their family enjoys hunting, fishing, sports, and visiting Colorado.

Ark Valley is excited to welcome Walton to the team.

Drawing Winner

MYRON RATZLAFF is the winner of our \$25.00 readership drawing.

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

McNickle Attends Electric Cooperative Youth Tour

Brooke McNickle, of Stafford, was selected by Ark Valley to attend the 55th annual Electric Cooperative Youth Tour to Washington, D.C., from June 11-18. She joined more than 1,700 high school students to tour important historical sites, learn about our nation's government, and to develop their leadership skills.

The 37 Kansas delegates first met in Topeka where they heard from several youth tour alumni. Brant Laue, Chief Counsel for Gov. Sam Brownback, sponsored by C&W in 1978; Representative Steven Johnson, District 108, 1983 Youth Tour Delegate; and Representative Kyle Hoffman, District 116, 1989 Youth Tour delegate, spoke to the students at a kick off banquet in Topeka before the youth departed for Washington, D.C.

While in our nation's capital, the students met with Congressmen Tim Huelskamp and Mike Pompeo, and Congresswoman Lynn Jenkins. They also visited with Senators Pat Roberts and Jerry Moran. On Wed., June 17, Sen. Moran gave a short speech about the youth tour program on the Senate Floor.

As part of his speech, Moran said, "Electric Cooperatives are more than just poles and wires. They're about people and communities." Moran added, "Recognizing that youth are the future of those communities is what the rural electric cooperative program is all about."

This trip opens the eyes of many students to future possibilities in leadership roles, while building lifelong friendships. "Meeting the senators and hearing how they started into politics" is one way the trip impacted McNickle. "I will remember the amazing people that I had the opportunity to meet," she stated.

The youth toured the U.S. Capitol, Holocaust Memorial Museum, the Smithsonian museums, Mt. Vernon, Arlington National Cemetery, several memorials, along with seeing the Broadway musical Disney's Newsies at the National Theatre and attending a professional ballgame at the Nationals Stadium. The delegates also attended the NRECA Youth Day that brought together 1,700 youth from 43 states.

Ark Valley Electric sponsors the Youth Tour each year as part of our strong commitment to the community and our mission to help the future generations to become leaders. If you have a student who will be a high school junior or senior this fall, please encourage them to apply for the 2016 Youth Tour competition. For more information, contact Misty Merideth at 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 on May 18, 2015 immediately following a rate hearing.

At the rate hearing, the Board heard two issues from staff. The first matter was whether to remove the Public Buildings and Church Service rate class from the Cooperative's tariffs. Since no members utilized the rate, the Board felt it was necessary to repeal the tariff.

The second issue concerned the clarification of the Three-Phase Service tariff. The existing tariff language was ambiguous as to when a load qualified for the Large Power rate or the Three-Phase Service rate. The original intent of the tariff, and the proposed change to language, would not allow a load above 50 kW to receive the Three-Phase Service rate. After hearing from staff and Cooperative members, the Board agreed to clarify the Three-Phase Service tariff so that any member using more than 50 kW would be moved to another rate class. This change guarantees that smaller electric users are not subsidizing large commercial loads.

At the regular monthly meeting, the Board was updated on the new distribution generation. The Cooperative purchased a turnkey distribution generator that has been located by the Arlington substation. The large diesel generator will operate during peak summer load hours to help shave Ark Valley's coincidental demand. By doing so, it will save the Cooperative money on its wholesale power bill.

What is Peak Load Management?

Your household and family members are consuming electricity at any given time. This is known as "load." And all of the electric consumption from all our consumer-owners is added up at any given time to determine the total load for the whole system.

There comes a time, every day, when the system reaches its peak. That's when all of you, all at once, are using the most electricity. Summer time is when the Cooperative experiences its maximum peak load on the system. This usually occurs between the hours of 3 p.m. and 9 p.m. and on the days that the temperature reaches 95 degrees or more.

Peak Load is monitored closely to determine the amount of power required to fulfill this demand. This peak load also is the determining factor in establishing the yearly rates at which the Cooperative has to buy its power.

The way to help keep electric rates stable is to reduce this peak. It's what we call "load management." There are some things you can do at home that can help.

Since the late afternoon to early evening is the peak time for us, you can help by using major appliances, such as the washer and dryer in the morning, or later on in the evening. When preparing dinner, remember that slow cookers and other small appliances consume less electricity. By helping to keep the maximum load down, you can help your cooperative save on the cost of its purchased power. This, in turn, means lower costs for you – the consumer.

Vacation Savings Tip

Unplug all of your electronic devices—computer, monitor and printer, TV and cable boxes, DVD player, microwave, and digital clocks. Any electronics with digital displays, instant-on features, or remote controls will consume energy even if they're not in use.



Ark Valley Electric

Nex-Tech Wireless® Grandstand Entertainment

- Fri. Sept. 11 - Three Days Grace*
- Sat. Sept. 12 - JOAN JETT & THE BLACKHEARTS*
- Sun. Sept. 13 - Sam Hunt w/ Old Dominion*
- Mon. Sept. 14 - Demolition Derby
- Tue. Sept. 15 - The Oak Ridge Boys w/ Jimmy Fortune*
- Wed. Sept. 16 - Newsboys w/ for KING & COUNTRY*
- Thur. Sept. 17 - Hairball*
- Fri. Sept. 18 - Gabriel Iglesias*
- Sat. Sept. 19 - Little Big Town*
- Sun. Sept. 20 - Outlaw Truck & Tractor Pull

*Gate admission included when purchased through Aug. 22

FREE at the Fair

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

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ADMISSION

- Adults (13-59)
\$6 before Sept. 11
\$10 starting Sept. 11
- Seniors (60+)
\$4 before Sept. 11
\$6 starting Sept. 11
- Children (6-12yr)
\$3 before Sept. 11
\$4 starting Sept. 11

Season Fair Pass
\$35 (Valid for 1 Gate
Admission per day.)

Kansas State Fair Discounts

- Kids Club - \$15 (\$22.50 Value)
- Couples Pack - \$35 (\$46 Value)
- Family Pack - \$75 (\$93 Value)

Discounts available thru Thur. Sept. 10

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



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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.