

THE CANEY VALLEY ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE ASSOCIATION, INC.

TheVoice

Caney Valley Electric Cooperative Assn., Inc.

Allen Zadorozny—General Manager

Board of Trustees

Kenneth Bates

President

Jim Clark

Vice President

Coral Ann Magnus

Secretary/Treasurer

David Evans

Trustee

Dan Hubert

Trustee

Carl Johnson, Jr

Trustee

Dwane Kessinger

Trustee

Jack Newcomb

Trustee

Dale Steward

Trustee

Contact Us

401 Lawrence, P.O. Box 308

Cedar Vale, KS 67024

620-758-2262, Fax: 620-758-2926

cve@caneyvalley.com.

Office Hours

Monday - Friday, 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Power Cost Adjustment

The Power Cost Adjustment (PCA) for January is \$0.00663/kilowatt-hour. This amounts to an additional \$6.63 per 1,000 kilowatt-hours. The PCA was implemented in 2002 to cover only the increase (or decrease) in power costs (over and above 7¢/kWh) charged to us by our wholesale power supplier, Kansas Electric Power Cooperative (KEPCo) in Topeka. The PCA varies each month depending on the wholesale charges from KEPCo, and is a flow-through on your electric bill.

FROM THE MANAGER

Automated Metering System Installed



Allen Zadorozny

The cooperative employees have completed the installation of the GridStream wireless metering system. Caney Valley now has access to members' real time energy usage information about how much, when, and at what rate it is used. You can use the information obtained from this system to better utilize electricity and have more control of your electric bill.

The related automated metering computer network system has been functioning since last January. The meters can be read remotely from our office at any time and are all read the last night of each month for more accurate electric billings.

Electric service for residential and small general service meters can be connected and disconnected from the office. With the automated metering system in place, several system operating enhancements will be available including detailed electric outage information that will expedite power restoration and reduce labor expenses.

The automated metering will eliminate almost all the inherent issues involved with member-read meters. Billing problems and questions involving irregular reporting

of meter readings, readings not reported, estimated readings, etc., will reduce administrative expense and any potential misunderstandings.

As the cooperative adapts to more of the metering capabilities, prepaid metering can be made available, which has worked well for other cooperatives who have implemented this system. This feature can eliminate the need to obtain advance deposits in order to connect service for new members. The service can be connected with a payment, which will cover electric usage. When the prepaid amount is consumed, the service will automatically disconnect. The member is given notice when the prepayment is nearing termination in order to pay again. Prepaid service would also be available to current members.

Taking advantage of this new technology was under consideration for many years by the cooperative's board of trustees and employees. The decision to utilize the GridStream wireless metering system to drastically change the cooperative's operations is providing many long-term efficiencies and enhancements.

I will be glad to discuss any questions or comments you may have about the automated metering or other cooperative matters.

Allen A. Zadorozny, Manager

Check Us Out on Facebook!

Be sure and check out our new Facebook page under Caney Valley Electric Cooperative. We will post current information, safety and energy tips, information on large or extended outages, etc. Please continue to call us at 800-310-8911 or 620-758-2262 to report trouble or outages as our Facebook page is not monitored 24/7.

facebook

Caney Valley Increases Efforts to Remove Old Lines

In order to improve service and reduce line losses, crews will be focusing their efforts on removing old lines and poles that no longer serve an active account and have not been used for some time. Some of the old lines to be retired may have had the meter(s) removed quite some time ago.

The cooperative is required to pay property taxes on all of our lines, poles, and service equipment, whether it is being used or not. Property taxes have increased a total of about \$75,000 this year across the counties we serve.

If you have a meter on your property that has been disconnected for more than nine months, and you wish to keep the service in place for future use, please contact our office as soon as possible with the meter number you wish to retain. Any rural meter may be retained by a six-month idle service payment of \$25, plus applicable taxes.

If the option of paying the idle service fee to retain facilities is not exercised and service is requested again at a location after it has been removed, you may be required to pay the current cost of rebuilding, plus the cost of removal.

If you have already been contacted by mail and have submitted the idle service fee or instructed us that we may remove the service, you may disregard this notice. Thank you.

Craig Lampson, Line Superintendent



Craig Lampson

2016 Annual Meeting Trustee Elections

Caney Valley Electric is required to give a summary of the bylaws section on the election process prior to the nominating committee meeting selecting individuals for Board of Trustee position. The following is taken from Article III (Trustees), Section 3 (Nominations) of Caney Valley's current bylaws:

"It shall be the duty of the Board of Trustees to appoint, not less than 30 days nor more than 90 days before the date of a meeting at which Trustees are to be elected, a committee on nominations consisting of not less than five nor more than 11 members, who shall be selected so as to give equitable representation to the area served or to be served by the cooperative.

No officer or member of the Board of Trustees shall be appointed a member of such committee. Said committee shall nominate at least two members as candidates for each Trustee position to be elected at any annual meeting. The committee shall prepare and post at the principal office of the cooperative, at least 25 days before the meeting,

a list of nominations for Trustees; but any 15 or more members may make other nominations in writing over their signatures not less than 20 days prior to the meeting, and the secretary shall post the same at the same place where the list of nominations made by the committee is posted....Nothing contained herein shall, however, prevent additional nominations be made from the floor at the meeting of the members."

The Caney Valley Board of Trustees will be selecting a nominating committee at their January 12, 2016, Board meeting. In the past, it has been difficult to find members able to participate on this committee and to serve on the board if nominated. It would be very helpful to have any member contact a trustee or the cooperative office to let us know you would like to be considered to serve on the committee and/or agree to serve as a board member if nominated.

The Annual Meeting has been moved forward from recent years and will be held Friday, April 1, 2016, at Cedar Vale.

Trustee Terms Expiring in 2016

District 1

KENNY BATES

District 2

CARL JOHNSON JR

District 3

JIM CLARK JR

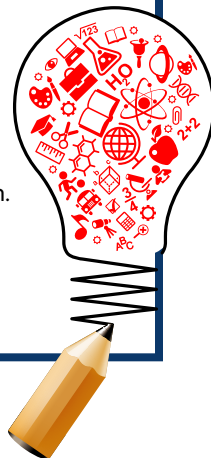
ATTENTION HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS

Caney Valley Electric Cooperative offers scholarships for high school seniors going on to college or a vocational-technical school.

**APPLICATION DEADLINE
FEBRUARY 29, 2016**

Please contact Caney Valley Electric or your high school counselor for further information.

Award recipients will be announced at our Annual Meeting on April 1, 2016.



Attention High School Juniors Win a FREE Leadership Experience!

Caney Valley Electric Cooperative will sponsor two students to an all-expenses-paid trip to Steamboat Springs, CO, July 16-22, 2016.

This trip is part of a four-state Cooperative Youth Leadership Camp sponsored by rural electric cooperatives in Colorado, Kansas, Oklahoma

and Wyoming. Contest winners will learn about electrification, cooperatives, energy problems, safety, and interpersonal communications.

The contest is open to all current high school juniors in Caney



Adam Clark (left) and Bailee Ellis represented Caney Valley at the Cooperative Youth Leadership Camp in July 2015.

Valley's service area, whose residence is served by Caney Valley Electric.

If you are a high school junior and are interested in this trip, please complete the application form below and **return by February 16.**

“The Cooperative Youth Leadership Camp is specifically designed to empower student leaders and help them better understand the cooperative business model.”

ADAM CLARK, 2015 CAMPER

What will You do at Camp?

DAY ONE Meet the bus and overnight stay in Denver.

DAY TWO Visit Lookout Mountain. Check into cabins. Meet students from Kansas, Colorado, Oklahoma and Wyoming.

DAY THREE Form a candy cooperative. Participate in the legislative forum. Build a transmission line competition. Visit Steamboat Springs and Fish Creek Falls. Attend a high-voltage demonstration.

DAY FOUR Rafting trip on the Colorado River. Attend camp dance.

DAY FIVE Leadership workshop and live raptor presentation by Hawk Quest. Play in the volleyball tournament. Camp talent show!

DAY SIX Tour Trapper Coal Mine and Craig Generation Plant. Visit Mt. Werner for banquet and vote for Ambassadors.

Apply for Your Cooperative Youth Leadership Camp Today

Complete and return this application to Caney Valley Electric Cooperative, PO Box 308, Cedar Vale, KS 67024 by February 16.

Name of Applicant _____ Birth Date _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

School _____

Name of Parents/Guardians _____ Parent's Phone Number _____

I agree that all information supplied in this application is accurate and true.

Signature of Applicant _____

I hereby grant permission for _____ to enter the 2016 Youth Tour competition sponsored by Caney Valley Electric.

Signature of Parent or Legal Guardian _____

Area Fifth Graders Participate in Co-op Month Poster Contest

In honor of National Cooperative Month, Caney Valley Electric again invited area fifth graders to participate in an electrical safety poster contest.

Students were asked to submit original drawings or posters that depicted some area of electrical safety. The posters were judged by a three-person committee, and one winner from each school won \$25. (The winning posters were printed in last month's *Kansas Country Living*.) Included this month are posters submitted by students from Cedar Vale elementary students **BROOKLYN DUNCAN**, **BROOKLYN RILEY**, and **XAVIER STONG**.

Thank you to all the students who participated.

Students' poster listed clockwise from top: Xavier Stong, Brooklyn Duncan and Brooklyn Riley.



Caney Valley's Operating Statistics

For Month Ending	Oct. 2015	Oct. 2014
Meters Billed	5,463	5,577
kWh's Purchased	4,724,187	5,134,129
Cost per kWh	\$ 0.07772	\$ 0.07392
kWh Sold	5,309,390	5,726,829
Total Revenue	\$ 827,010	\$ 899,096
Purchased Power	\$ 367,400	\$ 379,552
Operating Expenses	\$ 212,494	\$ 149,254
Depreciation Expenses	\$ 62,936	\$ 56,802
Interest Expenses	\$ 38,631	\$ 55,547
Other Expenses	\$ 332	\$ 437
Operating Margins	\$ 145,217	\$ 257,505
Non-operating Margins	\$ 1,887	\$ 1,907
Total Margins	\$ 147,104	\$ 259,412
Margins Year-to-Date	\$ 1,004,390	\$ 449,138

Statement of Nondiscrimination

This institution 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 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.

Outages for November 2015

Occasionally, a part or parts of the delivery system fail and an outage occurs. Listed below are the larger outages that occurred in November 2015.

Date	Area	Members Affected	Duration	Cause
11/1	Belknap Line	40	1 hr 15 min	Squirrel on poletop pin
11/13	Silverdale Meter Point	177	9 min	Westar off
11/16	West of Howard	61	1 hr 15 min	Broken jumper on OCR
11/16	West of Dexter	20	2 hr 30 min	Bad insulator
11/29	Southwest of Sedan	29	3 hr 20 min	Ice - broken limb on line