

THE CANEY VALLEY ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE ASSOCIATION, INC.

TheVoice

Caney Valley Electric Cooperative Assn., Inc.

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Contact Us

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Cedar Vale, KS 67024
620-758-2262, Fax: 620-758-2926
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Office Hours

Monday–Friday, 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Power Cost Adjustment

The Power Cost Adjustment (PCA) for May is \$0.03221/kilo-watt-hour (kWh). This calculates to an additional \$32.21 per 1,000 kWh used.

The PCA was implemented in 2002 to cover only the increase in power costs (over and above 5¢/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

Mark Your Calendar for May 7



Allen Zadorozny

There are occasions we would like to have a feeling of some influence, “say,” or at least have a chance for our “voices” being heard in

how public service-type companies (including utilities) are operated, how government entities administer their duties, or how large corporations and businesses treat us.

Your electric cooperative provides you with opportunities to let your thoughts, suggestions, criticisms or ideas be heard by your board members, your cooperative’s manager, and the cooperative’s employees. By contacting any of them, your thoughts and concerns can be voiced, heard, and considered.

Contacting your cooperative is easy compared to what you may have to go through to get the attention of a responsible person of large utility companies, businesses, or government bureaucracies.

Your geographical area of the electric cooperative has a board trustee with whom you may visit one-on-one. The trustee can then present the information you provide to the whole board for consideration and appropriate action, if necessary. It can be a straight-forward process with the response to your “voice” being acknowledged.

We encourage you to ask us questions or discuss your concerns about any of the cooperative’s practices or activities. There are reasons behind the way things are done, and we will be glad to visit with you about them.

Allen A. Zadorozny, Manager

Caney Valley Office Closed May 27 for Memorial Day

Memorial Day was officially proclaimed on May 5, 1868, by General John Logan, national commander of the Grand Army of the Republic and was first observed on May 30, 1868, when flowers were placed on the graves of Union and Confederate soldiers at Arlington National Cemetery in remembrance for those who have died in our nation’s service.

Moina Michael conceived the idea to wear red poppies on Memorial Day in honor of those who died serving in the nations during war time from the poem below she wrote in 1915.

*We cherish too, the Poppy red, That grows on fields where valor led,
It seems to signal to the skies, That blood of heroes never dies.*



Vegetation Control Crews may be in Your Area



Craig Lampson

As part of the cooperative's ongoing program to control harmful vegetation near our power lines, we have contracted

with Northeast Rural Services (NRS) of Vinita, OK, to apply herbicide along our rights-of-way this coming summer. The lines serving members around the Longton area are scheduled to be covered over the next few months.

NRS's two-man crew will be applying high-volume foliar spray herbicide directly to small trees, saplings, and harmful re-growth that has occurred since the lines were cleared by tree cutting. They will be using the minimum amount of herbicide judged to be effective and will be targeting specific plants that pose a hazard to the electric system.

You should expect to see their pickup and/or ATV with spray equipment working along the rights-of-way under Caney Valley's electric lines.

Trees continue to pose the greatest physical obstacle to providing economical and reliable electric power to the consumers on Caney Valley's system. The problems caused by trees and the costs of controlling them are born by all of our members collectively.

We appreciate your support of the cooperative's efforts to reduce tree-related problems in a fair and cost-effective manner. If you have any questions about our spraying or line clearing activities, please call us at 800-310-8911 or 620-758-2262.

Craig Lampson,
Line Superintendent

Join us at Annual Meeting on May 7

We encourage you to make plans to attend the cooperative's Annual Meeting Tuesday, May 7, at the Cedar Vale School.

Cooperative members and their families can enjoy a hamburger supper that is served from 5:30 p.m. to 7 p.m., and musical entertainment will be provided during the supper and member registration process.

Registration favors, including an electric bill discount certificate, will be given along with chances to win one of many attendance drawing prizes.

The meeting will include business reports about your cooperative's operations and financial condition.

A very important part of the meeting is the election of three trustees for the Board. The Board-appointed nominating committee has submitted the following members to be considered for election at the meeting:

District 1, Position 1

▶ **KENNETH BATES**, Cedar Vale (*Incumbent*)

District 2, Position 1

▶ **CARL JOHNSON JR.**, Cambridge (*Incumbent*)

▶ **T.J. PRATER**, Burden (*Member*)

District 3, Position 1

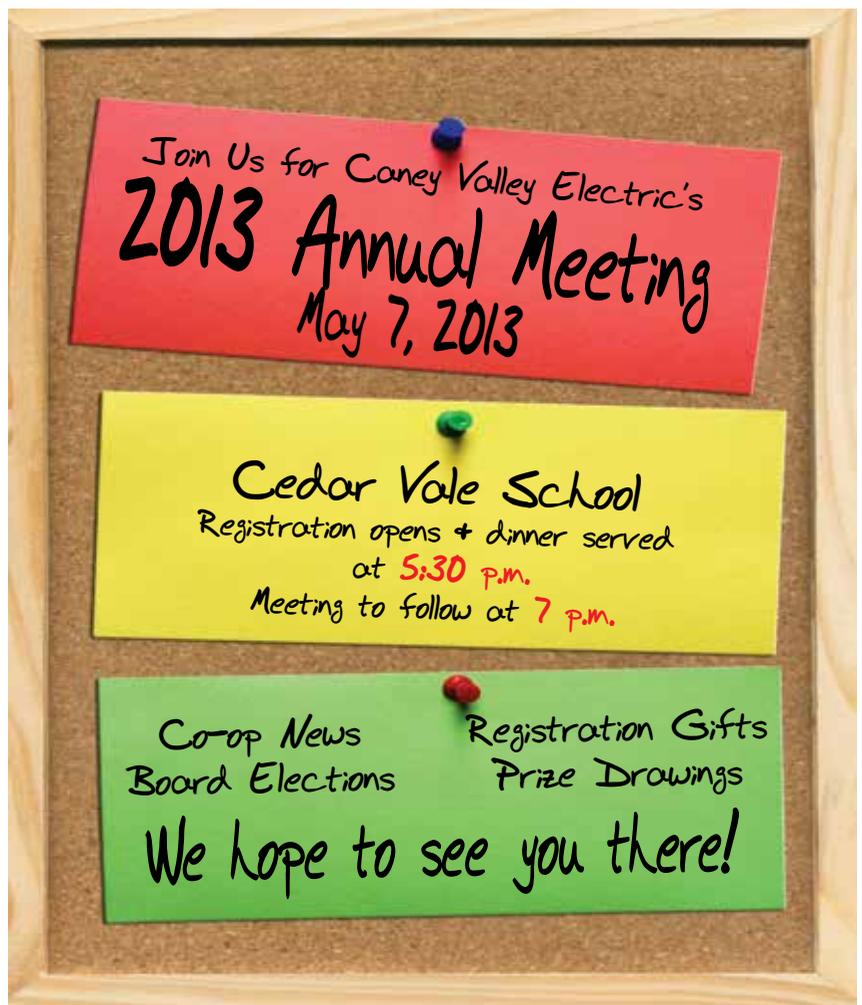
▶ **JIM CLARK, JR.**, Havana (*Incumbent*)

▶ **ROBERT KIRKPATRICK**, Havana (*Member*)

▶ **CHARLES MCMILLAN**, Sedan (*Member*)

The cooperative's bylaws provide that additional nominations can be made during the meeting. The nominees for the Board of Trustees are to be commended for being willing to offer their time and commitment to the governance of the cooperative's operations.

Mark your calendar today, and we hope to see you at the meeting!



Clark Forklift For Sale at Co-op

Caney Valley has a 1981 Clark Forklift for sale with the following specifications:

Model #C500-Y-60, L.P. Gas, maximum lifting capacity is 6,000 lbs, maximum fork elevation is 124", overall height collapsed is 85", side shifter, 41" forks, and solid tires.

Unit has 03652 total hours, and 400 hours on remanufactured engine. Asking \$1,800, sold as is with no warranty. For more information please call 620-758-2262.



Caney Valley is accepting offers on a 1981 Clark Forklift.



Powering Safely During an Outage

One of the great things about the modern American electric grid is that power almost always flows when we need it. Given our dependence on electricity, it's understandable why portable generators are popular when the power goes out and stays out for a while—just like it did for some of our members following the February snow storm. Also, generators are a must for residences which have family members on life-support equipment.

But generators can cause more harm than good if not used properly. We want to give you a few safety tips to protect yourself and our linemen who are working to restore your power.

First, never, ever plug a portable generator directly into one of your home's outlets—unless you have had a "double throw switch" installed at your home. If you don't have a double throw switch, power provided by the generator can "backfeed" along power lines, which can electrocute a lineman working on those lines.

In addition, portable generators create carbon monoxide, the odorless, colorless gas that can quickly become deadly if the generator isn't

exhausted outside. Attached garages with an open door don't count—the carbon monoxide can still seep indoors and poison inhabitants. Generators must go outside in a dry area, which might mean you'll need to rig a canopy to protect it from precipitation at a safe distance from your home's windows, doors, and vents. How far is a safe distance? Even 15 feet can be too close.

Make sure you plug appliances directly into the generator using heavy-duty, outdoor-rated extension cords, but don't overload it. Follow the manufacturer's instructions for maximum load. Shut off the generator before refueling, or a fire could start—and it's a good idea to have a fully charged fire extinguisher nearby, just in case.

Another thing to keep in mind is making sure you have a properly sized generator to handle your power generation needs during an outage.

Safety is a top priority at Caney Valley Electric for our employees and members alike. Contact us at 758-2262 or 800-310-8911 if you'd like to learn more about how to properly size, install and use a portable generator.

Generate Safely

Here are some tips to keep in mind when using your generator.

Never connect a standby generator into your home's electrical system. There are only two safe ways to connect a standby generator to your equipment:

Stationary Generator: An approved generator transfer switch, which keeps your house circuits separate from the electric co-op, should be installed by a professional.

Portable Generator: Plug appliances directly into the outlet provided on the generator.

Set up and run your generator in a well-ventilated area outside the home. Make sure it's out and away from your garage, doors, windows, and vents. The carbon monoxide generated is **DEADLY**.

Use a heavy-duty extension cord to connect electric appliances to the outlet on the generator.

Start the generator **BEFORE** connecting appliances.



Source: SafeElectricity.org
Developed jointly by the Energy Education Council & Rural Electricity Resource Council

ENERGY EFFICIENCY TIPS

How Much Air Can You Blow into a Soft Drink Bottle? BY DOUG RYE



Doug Rye

Well, the answer is none unless the air has a way to get out of the bottle. You have probably never been asked that question before, and you may be wondering what that has to do

with energy efficiency.

The answer is simple—understanding the basics of airflow can help you understand an important aspect of home comfort.

An example is the wood-burning fireplace. An equal amount of incoming air must replace the amount of warm air that is moving up and out of the chimney. The replacement air may be coming from other rooms within the home, plumbing and electrical penetrations, from around switch and outlet covers, attic access doors, poorly sealed doors and windows, and from numerous unsuspecting sources of air infiltration. That's why a home heated with a wood-burning fireplace usually is cozy near the heat source and chilly in the surrounding rooms.

Understanding the nature of

airflow can help you improve the comfort within your home and lower your utility bill. Folks often ask if it is beneficial to close off rooms that are not regularly occupied.

Usually, they are referring to closing the supply-air registers and the entry doors into those unoccupied rooms. I understand that the idea seems logical, but the answer is almost always “no.” Closing off the air supplies and doorways are almost always detrimental to energy savings and comfort.

That statement usually catches most peoples' attention. “How can this be Doug?” they ask. A properly installed forced-air heating and cooling system is designed for balance. A balanced system will efficiently deliver the proper amount of airflow and the desired temperature into every room within a home.

Here's what can happen when changes are made to a balanced system. Suppose the supply-air registers and doors in two unoccupied rooms are closed. Now the overall heated and cooled living space has been reduced. This man-made circumstance just created a situation where the heating and cooling unit is now oversized, instead of properly sized. Additional laws of unintended consequences develop, such as reduced compressor life, higher duct pressures and potential for greater duct leakage, additional burden on the air-handler and the likelihood of mold and mildew developing in the unconditioned rooms. The unit may also run for very short periods of time, causing humidity levels to climb and comfort to be diminished.

Also, if you have natural gas or propane appliances, closing off rooms can be very dangerous from an indoor air quality perspective. Carbon monoxide can be back-drafted from water heater and furnace flues under certain situations.

The closed-off rooms represent a soda bottle. Air cannot move through the room and back into the return-air grille when supply-air grilles and doors are closed. Now, let's open the registers in these same two rooms, but leave the doors closed. No more air can blow into the rooms than can escape out of the rooms.

For example, if the doors are touching the carpet and the rooms are airtight, almost no air can enter the room. If the door is tight and air still comes in the rooms, you know that there are leaks in the building envelope. In other words, the money you just spent to heat or cool just leaked to the outside.

We've tested many homes that were hot in the summer and cold in the winter only when the doors were closed. Properly trimming the bottom of a door to create a one-inch air gap or installing a return-air grille in the door will often solve this problem.

In conclusion, it is nearly always best to leave all registers and doors open. If you have questions, you may call my office 501-653-7931. I will be happy to help you.

DOUG RYE is a licensed architect and the popular host of the “Home Remedies” radio show. You can contact Doug at 501-653-7931. Source: Arkansas Electric Cooperatives Corporation.

Caney Valley's Operating Statistics		
For Month Ending	Feb. 2013	Feb. 2012
Meters Billed	5,555	5,556
kWh's Purchased	5,480,746	5,192,312
Cost per kWh	\$ 0.08278	\$ 0.08583
kWh Sold	5,512,471	5,331,966
Total Revenue	\$ 743,572	\$ 557,315
Purchased Power	\$ 453,695	\$ 445,660
Operating Expenses	\$ 197,116	\$ 169,110
Depreciation Expenses	\$ 51,129	\$ 48,876
Interest Expenses	\$ 28,659	\$ 25,826
Other Expenses	\$ 740	\$ 100
Operating Margins	\$ 12,233	\$ (132,258)
Non-operating Margins	\$ 1,668	\$ 1,731
Total Working Margins	\$ 13,901	\$ (130,527)
Margins Year-to-Date	\$ 3,951	\$ (51,590)

Outages for March 2013

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

Date	Area	Members Affected	Duration	Cause
3/4	North of Havana	33	1 hr	Lightning caused burndown
3/24	Grenola, Moline, Howard areas	515	4 hrs	Westar had substation down
3/26	North of Sedan	90	25 min	Accident - broken pole