

THE CANEY VALLEY ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE ASSOCIATION, INC.

TheVoice

Caney Valley Electric Cooperative Assn., Inc.

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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 June is \$.03285/kilowatt-hour. This calculates to an additional \$32.85 per 1,000 kWh used.

The PCA was implemented in 2002 to cover **ONLY** the increase in power costs 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 bills based on the factor for the month.

Vegetation Control Crews May Be In Your Area

BY CRAIG LAMPSON



Craig Lampson
Line Superintendent

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 chemicals along our rights-of-way in 2011. The lines serving members south of Sedan near Elgin, Chautauqua, Peru and Niotaze are scheduled to be covered over the next few months.

NRS' 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 chemical 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.

Submit Your Recipe Today!

We'd like to see the Recipe Corner continued, but we need your help! Please consider sharing your favorite recipes with our readers.

Submit the following information:

- ▶ Your name
- ▶ Contact information
- ▶ Photo of yourself with the finished product (if possible)
- ▶ The recipe (clearly printed or typed)

Send your entry to:

Caney Valley Electric, Attn: Recipes, P.O. Box 308, Cedar Vale, KS 67024. You can also submit your recipe via e-mail to cve@caneyvalley.com.



2011 Caney Valley Annual Meeting Highlights



More than 400 members and guests attended the 63rd Annual Meeting.



Caney Valley employees assist members at the registration table.

Approximately 289 members, plus families and guests, attended Caney Valley's 63rd Annual meeting held May 3 at the Chautauqua County fairgrounds in Sedan.

Members approved a bylaw amendment allowing board trustees to serve five consecutive terms (15 years) rather than the three terms (nine years) currently allowed.

Re-elected to serve her second three-year term in District 1 was Coral **ANN MAGNUS**, Cedar Vale. Elected in District 2 was **DAVID EVANS**, Howard, and in District 3 was **DAN HUBERT**, Sedan.

Allen Zadorozny, Manager, noted that the cooperative has seen steady growth, going from averaging 5,103 meters billed in 1999 to 5,529 meters as of December 31, 2010. Kilowatt hours used have risen from 45 million to 62 million in that same time period. The power cost adjustment (PCA) implemented in

2002 has helped to cover the increase in wholesale power costs. The new windmill generating farm in Elk County will not have any effect on the rates as that power is contracted to be sold elsewhere. However, the cooperative will be serving four meters at that location.

Special guests included Shana Read, Director of Communications at Kansas Electric Cooperatives (KEC), Mark Doljac, Director of Rates and Regulation, Kansas Electric Power Cooperative (KEPCo), and Steve Parr, Executive Vice President/CEO of KEPCo.

Read explained the grassroots campaign initiated by KEC to keep



Sedan High School Choir provided entertainment for members.

cooperative members informed of activity in the legislature and to give them an opportunity to contact their congressmen. Parr spoke to the members about current energy issues, and fielded questions from the membership.

The following scholarship winners were announced for the 2011-2012 school year: **KURT LOCKWOOD**, Caney Valley High School; **ASPEN KILL**, Cedar Vale High School; **LOGAN SNYDER**,



Allen Zadorozny (left), Manager, recognized Debbie Wall for 30 years at Caney Valley where she has served as cashier/receptionist and meter reader.



Zadorozny (left), Manager, recognized Dale Clubine for a total of 14 years of service on the Caney Valley Board.



Zadorozny (left), Manager, recognized Patrick Steward for six years of service on the board. He has served as Secretary/Treasurer, Vice-President and President.

Cedar Vale High School; **MONIQUE WADE**, Elk Valley High School; **NICHOLAS WIGTON**, Sedan High School; **KYLE WILLIAMS**, Sedan High School; **CALI PORTENIER**, West Elk High School. Winners present came forward to be introduced and to let the members know where they plan to attend college and their prospective majors.

The following students were selected to attend the Cooperative Youth Leadership Camp in Steamboat Springs, CO, in July: **LUKE BELLAR** and **TORI WITTMEIER**, West Elk High School, and **MATTHEW WOMACKS**, Bluestem High School.

Allen Zadorozny gave special thanks to the Sedan Lions Club for providing the meal, the Sedan High School choir for the entertainment, and the Sedan Chamber of Commerce for monitoring children during the business meeting. He thanked the Board of Trustees and employees for their service this past year. Special recognition was given to board trustees Dale Clubine and Patrick Steward, who decided not to run for re-election this year. Debbie Wall, cashier/receptionist, was recognized for 30 years of employment at the cooperative.

Congratulations to Richard Trott who won the grand prize of a flat-screen television set, and Larry Womacks who won \$125 off his electric bill, provided by KEC! All present received attendance prizes, plus numerous other electrical prizes were given away.

Caney Valley Electric Peak Control

For the months of June, July, August and September, the cooperative is asking you to participate in the "Peak Control" program. This voluntary program can help hold down the monthly wholesale power costs charged to the cooperative.

The peak demand for electricity recorded for these months drives a major part of the wholesale power bill. More importantly, the peak demand for July and August affects the wholesale power billing process for the eight off-peak months that follow, October through May. The lower the peak demand, the lower demand charges will be.

What is Peak Control?

Peak Control is a voluntary program in which the cooperative members can participate to hold down electricity costs to both Caney Valley ECA and themselves.

What Are The Benefits Of Taking Part In Peak Control?

By helping hold the line for the kilowatt (kW) demand charges on Caney Valley ECA's electric bill, you will also limit the amount of the resulting power cost adjustment (PCA) charges added to your electric bills.

What Can You do to Participate in Peak Control?

You can participate by voluntarily monitoring when you use electric appliances and equipment which require larger amounts of electricity.

When Do You Need To Participate In Peak Control?

During the hours of 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. every weekday from June 1 through September 30.

The actual peak demand for June, July, August and September is the billing demand for each respective month. **Special emphasis is placed during July and August**, as the peak electricity demand registered by Caney Valley ECA during those two months drives the electricity billings for the following "off-peak" eight months, October through May.

Be aware of days that have high temperatures forecasted above 90 degrees. These are the type of days when peak demand can occur. We should be especially careful when we use large amounts of electricity during warm days.

Please contact our office for any questions you may have about the Peak Control program, or any other matters. Thank you for your participation.

Services Provided by Caney Valley to our Membership

Brush Removal Cost Assistance

Caney Valley Electric will assist landowners in the removal of hedge or brush which interferes with the operation of the cooperative's distribution lines.

Loan Programs

- ▶ Heat Pump
- ▶ Rural Economic Development

Public Safety Demonstrations

Caney Valley Electric provides free public safety presentations and high voltage demonstrations to any groups or organizations in our service area upon request.

Rebates

- Provided for these new appliances:
- ▶ Electric dryers

- ▶ Electric ranges
 - ▶ Electric water heaters
 - ▶ Electric heat pumps
- Energy and minimum-size requirements apply.

UPS Pickup Point

Bring in your UPS packages for pickup. Costs are based on current UPS charges.

Youth Programs

Each year Caney Valley sends two students on a trip of a lifetime to Cooperative Youth Leadership Camp in Steamboat Springs, CO. Each student also receives a college scholarship. The cooperative also provides seven \$600 scholarships to area seniors going on to college or vocational/technical schools.

Electrical Safety Vacation **CHECKLIST**

Summer vacations are hard to pull off these days, so it's important that trip-takers have peace of mind while away. Fires can start when lightning storms strike electronics or small appliances; burglaries tend to increase because folks aren't at home.

The electrical safety checklist below will help you decrease the risk of problems occurring while on vacation:

- ☑ **Turn off all electrical appliances**, including toaster ovens, stoves, electric water heaters and curling irons.
- ☑ **Unplug television sets and computers**—these items are especially susceptible to lightning and power surges.
- ☑ **Use a timer on indoor lights**. Look for one that can be set to a random pattern rather than regular times during the day.
- ☑ **Set the thermostat to 80 degrees** in the summer and 55 degrees in the winter if you plan to leave for an extended period of time.
- ☑ **Give your house key to a neighbor** and make sure he or she has a phone number where you can be reached and let them know when you will arrive home so they can make thermostat changes and turn on the water heater before you arrive.

Surviving Auto Accidents Involving Power Lines

Instincts tell us to flee danger. Unfortunately, in vehicle accidents that bring down power lines, these natural inclinations can lead to tragic results.

Caney Valley wants everyone to know: If your car hits a power pole, or otherwise brings a power line down, stay in your vehicle and wait until the local electric utility arrives on the scene and ensures that lines have been de-energized. If you come upon or witness an accident involving toppled power poles and lines, don't leave your vehicle to approach the scene.

A group of Indiana teenagers saw a power line safety demonstration at their high school and never dreamed their new knowledge would be put to the test. Five days later, they and two classmates were in a car that crashed into a utility pole, bringing live power lines to the ground. Fortunately, they heeded the safety advice they'd received, and survived because they knew the right actions to take. They helped others who approached the scene by warning them to stay away.

According to the National Highway Traffic and Safety Administration, tens of thousands of accidents each year occur where power poles are



The teens in this car crash stayed in the car until the power lines were de-energized, thanks to a demonstration by their electric co-op.

struck by cars or large equipment. Each one of these accidents has the potential to bring down power lines. Surviving the accident itself might not be enough to stay alive without awareness of the right moves to make.

In the vast majority of those incidents, the safest place to remain is inside the car. Only in the rare instance of fire should people exit a vehicle. Then, they must know how to do so safely, jumping free and clear, landing with feet together and hopping away. It's difficult to get out without creating a path for current to flow, which is why one should get out only if absolutely necessary.

Operating Statistics

For Month Ending	March 2011	March 2010
Meters Billed	5,578	5,511
kWh Sold	5,200,192	5,499,969
Total Revenue	\$ 674,058	\$ 637,445
Purchased Power	\$ 394,552	\$ 330,925
Operating Expenses	\$ 168,311	\$ 153,435
Depreciation Expenses	\$ 48,211	\$ 44,532
Interest Expenses	\$ 28,252	\$ 32,697
Other Expenses	\$ 1,700	\$ 2,088
Operating Margins	\$ 33,032	\$ 73,768
Non-operating Margins	\$ 17,724	\$ 18,148
Total Margins	\$ 50,755	\$ 91,916
Margins Year-to-Date	\$ 101,838	\$ 221,700

Outages for April 2011

Occasionally, a part or parts of the delivery system fail and an outage occurs. Listed below are the larger outages for April.

Date	Area	Members Affected	Duration	Cause
4/6	West of Sedan	60	40 min	Tree on line
4/6	East of Sedan	150	2 hrs	Scheduled outage—to make repairs on line
4/8	South of Chautauqua	60	2 hrs 30 min	Breaker off on line
4/12	Grenola & Moline areas	65	50 min	Squirrel on transformer
4/14	Grafton area	60	45 min	Squirrel on OCR pole
4/14	Sedan loop feed	740	20 min	Squirrel on OCR pole at Grafton
4/15	Caney & Chautauqua substations	1740	35 min	Westar off
4/19	Wayside area	30	40 min	Tree crew kicked line off
4/20	Wayside area	60	3 hrs	Tree crew kicked line off
4/21	Longton area	50	1 hr 15 min	Lightning - top out of pole
4/29	SW of Dexter	60	30 min	Jumper hit guy wire - high winds
4/29	Wayside and phase north	65	1 hr 30 min	Jumper broken in high winds