

# Voice

The Caney Valley

www.caneyvalley.com • cve@caneyvalley.com • For emergency outages please call 1-800-310-8911

February 2009

## Power Cost Adjustment

The PCA for February is \$.01118/kilowatt-hour. This calculates to an additional \$11.18 per 1,000 kWh used.

The Power Cost Adjustment (PCA) was implemented in 2002 to help 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.

## Caney Valley Electric Cooperative, Inc.

Allen Zadorozny - Manager

### Contact Us

401 Lawrence ~ P.O. Box 308  
Cedar Vale, KS 67024  
Phone: 620-758-2262 ~ Fax: 620-758-2926  
www.caneyvalley.com

### Office Hours

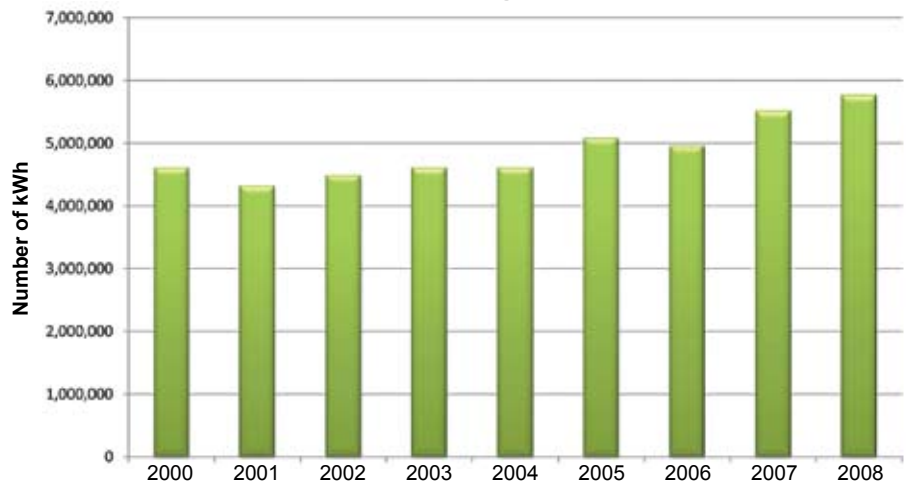
Monday - Friday, 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

### Board of Trustees

Dale Clubine, President  
Patrick Steward, Vice-President  
Carl Johnson Jr., Secretary/Treasurer  
Kenneth Bates  
Jann Bowman  
Mack Chrisman  
Dwane Kessinger  
Coral Ann Magnus  
Fred McAdam

## From the Manager...

### December Usage 2000-2008



The high electric bill many of you received the first of January reflects the kilowatt-hours (kWh) billed to the cooperative by its power supplier, Kansas Electric Power Cooperative, Inc., (KEPCo), for the month of December.

As a result of the cold weather in December the cooperative had to purchase more than five million kWh, the most we have purchased in the month of December for the last nine years.

If your bill was especially high, a quick review of how you may have used electricity during the month may provide reasons for the high bill: Where did you set the thermostat on your heating system? Did you use any space heaters, and how much? Did you

have a heat tape on pipes? Did you have guests which caused added use of your electric range, dryer, or water heater? How “draft proof” and insulated is your house?

We will be glad to work with you if you cannot reconcile your high bill with how you may have used that amount of electricity.

Contact our office personnel and we will check the billing records for your account to be sure they are correct and discuss the possible reasons for your high bill with you.

We understand your concern about high utility bills, and are glad to work with you to control them as much as possible.

*Allen A. Zadorozny, Manager*

## 2009 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 positions. 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 posi-*

### Trustee Terms Expiring in 2009

**District 1**  
Fred McAdam

**District 2**  
Dwane Kessinger

**District 3**  
Mack Chrisman

*tion to be elected at any annual meeting. The committee shall prepare and post at the principal office 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 February 10, 2009, Board meeting. If you would like to serve on this committee, please contact one of your district's trustees prior to that date.

The Annual Meeting for the Cooperative will be held Tuesday, May 5, 2009, in Sedan.

# Attention

## Would you like to...



Are you outgoing, personable, looking to improve your leadership qualities, and interested in making new friends? Caney Valley Electric might be looking for you!

We are sponsoring an all-expense-paid trip to a Cooperative Youth Leadership Camp in beautiful Steamboat Springs, CO, July 11-17, 2009.

At camp, Caney Valley's winners will join youth sponsored by rural electric cooperatives in Colorado, Wyoming, Oklahoma and Kansas.

Interested students will compete in a contest, and an interview may be required. This contest is open to all current high school juniors in Caney Valley's

## Scholarships Available to High School Seniors

Caney Valley Electric has scholarships available for high school seniors going on to college or a vocational-technical school. Scholarships are \$300 per semester for the first year (\$600).

If you are a high school senior and interested in obtaining a scholarship application, please contact your high school counselor or Caney Valley Electric at 620-758-2262.

### Outages for December 2008

Occasionally, a part or parts of the delivery system fail and an outage occurs. We were fortunate to have only one large outage during December.

Date	Area	Consumers Affected	Duration	Cause
12/24	Howard Area	45	2 hr 45 min	Broken jumper on line

# on High School Juniors

*like to win an all-expense-paid summer trip?*



**Left:** Jake Fulsom, Cedar Vale, spikes the ball at the camp volleyball tournament. **Center:** Kassie Curran, Peru, (center) helps build a model of an electric system during Cooperative Youth Leadership Camp. **Right:** Jake and Kassie stop to enjoy the view on top of Mt. Werner in Steamboat Springs.

service area, whose parents or guardians are members of Caney Valley Electric Cooperative.

As an added incentive, knowing that most students may be working full-time during the summer and will miss a week of work to attend this trip, we are offering a \$250 college scholarship to the winner, payable the first semester of college attendance.

If you are a high school junior and are interested in this trip, please complete the application form to the right and return it by February 16, 2009, to our office at:

Caney Valley Electric  
P.O. Box 308  
Cedar Vale, KS 67024

## Application for Youth Tour Contest DUE February 16, 2009

Name of Applicant \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Birth Date \_\_\_\_\_ School \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Parents or Guardians \_\_\_\_\_

Parents' Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

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

Signature of Applicant \_\_\_\_\_

I hereby grant permission for the above named applicant to enter the 2009 Youth Tour competition sponsored by Caney Valley Electric Cooperative, Inc.

Signature of Parent or Legal Guardian \_\_\_\_\_

## Caney Valley Mailing Labels

Just a reminder to all members that if you are getting low on mailing labels, we will be mailing more out in April when we mail our Annual Meeting notice.

## Board Approves Changes to Water Heater Program

After several months of reviewing the cooperative's electric water heater program, at their December 9, 2008, meeting the Board of Trustees approved revising the costs which the members pay to participate.

Beginning March 1, 2009, members who are installing a water heater in new construction or replacing a gas unit may purchase a 40 or 50-gallon Marathon heater for \$175.

Members replacing an electric unit may purchase a Marathon heater for \$250.

The Marathon units have a lifetime warranty on the tank to the original purchaser.

These changes were made in light of the water heater costs increasing by 45 percent since 2005.



## High-Tech Thermostats Offer Potential Savings

Keeping your home hot or cold — depending on the season — accounts for a big chunk of your annual budget. In fact, the average U.S. homeowner spends \$2,500 a year on home energy with 56 percent, or \$1,400, going toward heating and cooling costs.

Not surprisingly, savings can add up in a hurry when heating and cooling systems are tweaked for maximum efficiency. You can easily trim your energy bills in winter by setting the thermostat at 68°F while you're awake and back a few degrees when to go to sleep or are away from home.

Even better, turning your thermostat back 10° to 15° for eight hours can save about five percent to 15 percent a year on your heating bill — about one percent for each degree. Savings may be even greater for homes in milder climates.

The location of your thermostat can greatly affect its performance and efficiency. Place thermostats away from direct sunlight, drafts, doorways, skylights, and windows.

Read the manufacturer's instructions to prevent "ghost readings" or unnecessary furnace or air conditioner cycling.

Installing a programmable thermostat can take the thought out of saving energy. Your heating and cooling system will ramp up or switch off according to a preset time of day

or even day of the week. Most models let you can manually override the schedule without affecting the rest of the daily or weekly program.

Programmable thermostats are generally not recommended for heat pumps. In cooling mode, a heat pump operates like an air conditioner, so turning up the thermostat will save energy and money. But when a heat pump works in its heating mode, setting back the thermostat can cause the unit to operate inefficiently, thereby canceling out any savings achieved by lowering the temperature. Maintaining a moderate setting is the most cost-effective practice.

To automatically manage electric resistance systems, such as electric baseboard heating, steam heating, or radiant floor heating, you will need to purchase a programmable thermostat specifically designed for the task. Of course, when shopping for a programmable thermostat, always look for the Energy Star® label.

More information on what may be right for your home can be found at [www.energystar.gov](http://www.energystar.gov).

### Operating Statistics

For Month	November 2007	November 2008
Customers Billed	5,363	5,493
Kilowatt Hours Sold	3,966,563	3,870,033
Total Revenue	\$ 509,074	\$ 514,880
Purchased Power	\$ 255,301	\$ 283,747
Operating Expenses	\$ 152,677	\$ 152,941
Depreciation Expenses	\$ 48,487	\$ 54,359
Interest Expenses	\$ 31,452	\$ 37,803
Other Expense	\$ 200	\$ 853
Operating Margins	\$ 20,957	\$(14,823)
Non-operating Margins	\$ 2,851	\$ 2,629
Total Margins	\$ 23,808	\$(12,194)
Margins Year-to-Date	\$ 303,418	\$ 219,574