

THE CANEY VALLEY ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE ASSOCIATION, INC.

TheVoice

Caney Valley Electric Cooperative Assn., Inc.

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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.

Power Cost Adjustment

The Power Cost Adjustment (PCA) for November is \$.02068/kilowatt-hour. This calculates to an additional \$.20.68 per 1,000 kWhs used.

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.

FROM THE MANAGER

Your Voice Can be Heard at the Cooperative

There are times we would like to have a feeling of some influence, "say," or at least have 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.

Local electric cooperatives provide you with opportunities to let your thoughts, suggestions, criticisms or ideas be heard by your Board members, the your cooperative manager, and the cooperative employees. By contacting any of them, your thoughts and concerns can be voiced and heard.

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 bureaucracy.

Your geographical area of the electric cooperative has a Board Trustee who you can visit with one-on-one. Your Trustee can then present the information you provide to the whole Board for consideration and appropriate action, if necessary. It can be a straightforward process with the response to your "voice" being acknowledged.

We encourage you to ask us questions about any area of the cooperative's operations. There are reasons behind the way things are done, and we will be glad to visit with you about them, at anytime.



Allen Zadorozny

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Caney Valley Introduces a Recipe Feature in 2010

A notice to all the great cooks in our service area. As room allows, we would like to feature recipes from some of our members in this centerspread in 2010.

If you have a favorite recipe or two you would like to share, please submit it neatly printed or typed, with your name, address and phone



number included.

If you have a story behind the recipe and a current photo of yourself, feel free to include that also. We'd love to hear from you, so please submit your recipes to us at Caney

Valley Electric, P.O. Box 308, Cedar Vale, KS 67024 or e-mail cve@caneyvalley.com.



Caney Valley's Office will be Closed for the Holidays

Caney Valley Electric will be closed Wednesday, November 11, so that employees may observe the Veterans Day holiday. We will also be closed Thursday and Friday, November 26-27, and wish our members a Happy Thanksgiving!

Caney Valley Offers Rebates to Members

Caney Valley Electric has the following rebates available for the purchase of new electric water heaters, ranges, dryers, and air-source or ground-source heat pumps:

- ▶ **Ranges/Dryers**—Members replacing a gas or propane range or dryer, or installing one in new construction, can receive a rebate of \$100. Ranges or cooktops with ovens must be at least 10,000 watt. Clothes dryers must be at least 4,000 watt.
- ▶ **Electric Water Heaters**—Members replacing a gas or propane water heater, or installing one in new construction, can receive a rebate of \$150 for a standard unit and \$200 for a lifetime unit. If you are replacing an electric unit, the rebate is \$100 for a standard unit and \$150 for a lifetime unit.
- ▶ **Heat Pumps**—The rebates for installing air-source or ground-source heat pumps vary according to the size of the unit and the Seasonal Energy Efficiency Ratio (SEER) or Heating Seasonal Performance Factor (HSPF). Minimum unit size must be two tons. You can contact us for further information on heat pump rebates.

We also offer 40 and 50-gallon Marathon water heaters that you can purchase for \$175 (if you are replacing gas or propane or installing in new construction) or \$250 if you are replacing an electric unit. These units have a lifetime warranty on the tank, and are very energy efficient.

To qualify for the rebates, the units must be installed on Caney Valley's lines, installation will need to be verified by cooperative personnel, and we will need a copy of the sales receipt.

If you have any questions, or need further information, please call the Caney Valley office at 620-758-2262 or 800-310-8911.

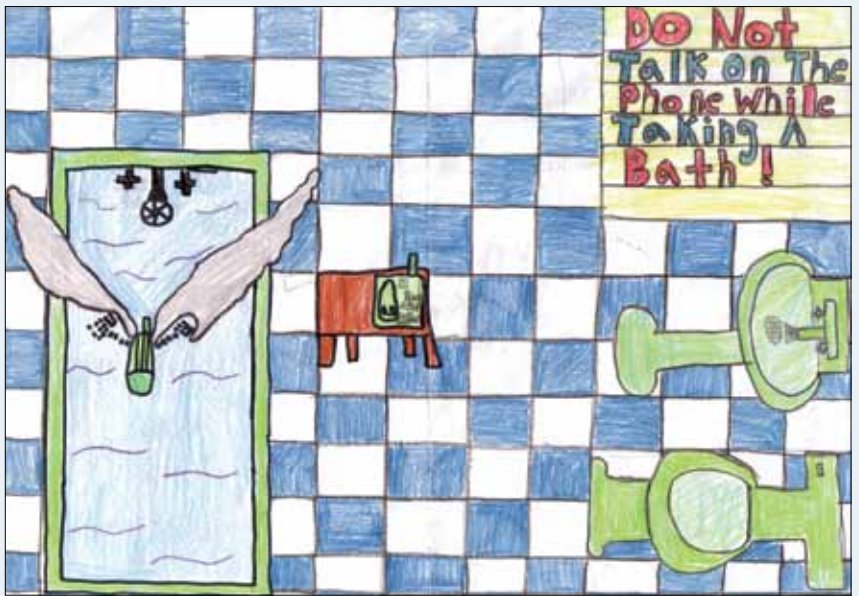
Local Fifth Grade Promote Electrical

In recognition of National Cooperative Month each October, Caney Valley Electric holds a poster drawing contest for all area fifth graders.

Students were asked to submit an original drawing depicting any area of electrical safety. One winner was selected from the four schools that

submitted posters, and each winner received a \$25 prize to use as they wish.

We would like to thank all of the students that participated in this contest. We had a difficult time picking a winner from each school as several of the posters were very creative.



Christi Cunningham, Sedan Elementary, Sedan

Paying Your Caney Valley Electric Bill

In the past few months, there has been some confusion on our billings regarding past due bills, especially those for our rural members.

Rural Members

If you receive a billing with a large amount on the "Add" line, please be aware that this is not your power cost

adjustment (PCA). This amount includes any taxes on your PCA, plus any arrears from the previous month.

If we did not receive a payment for your previous month's bill, or your usage was estimated because we did not receive a reading from you, the amount charged will show up on the "add" line. This amount is due and payable by the

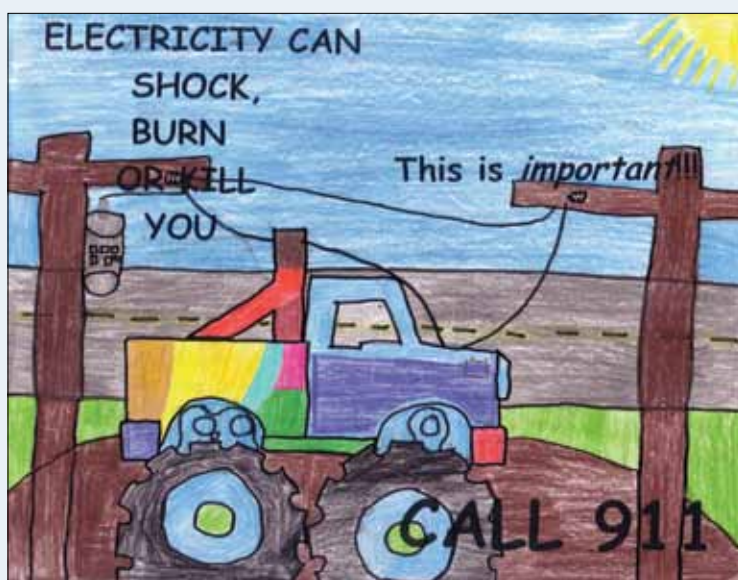
rs al Safety



Cody Pippitt, Central Elementary, Burden



Faith Weber, Moline Elementary, Moline



Ernie Newton, Elk Valley Elementary, Longton

Congratulations to all of our winners this year!

date on the disconnect notice you should also receive. You will need to calculate and submit payment for your current bill, which is due by the due date on your billing card, usually the 25th of each month.

Town Members

Members living in town will see any past due amount show on the "previous balance" line. If this previous balance is over \$30, you will

receive a disconnect notice, and that amount is due and payable by the date on the notice (not by the date on the billing card).

Please be advised that our computer system automatically prints disconnect notices for any arrears over \$30. If you receive a disconnect notice and know that payment was submitted, please contact our office. The disconnect notice may be just a signal that an

error was made in posting a payment at our office, which can be corrected immediately. It may also be a signal that we simply did not receive your payment by mail, and you may need to check with the bank to see if your check cleared, or submit another payment.

As always, if you have any questions, please contact our billing department at 620-758-2262 or 800-310-8911. Thank you!

ENERGY EFFICIENCY TIPS

A Better Way

BY DOUG RYE

Many people think that I am against renewable energy systems, such as solar and wind. I can assure you that I am not.

I admire those who live off the land and use our natural resources wisely. There are, however, only a few in this country who are living "off the grid." There are a goodly number of others that are generating part of their energy needs from solar, wind or water. In my dreams, I could do that. I could just live at the deer camp and use my little six-inch, 12-volt television while cooking my dinner on a wood or propane stove. I could get my light from a battery or propane-powered lantern and my water from a well with a hand pump.

Actually, I have done that and totally enjoyed it for about... five days. After that, I wondered how the pioneers made it.

Well, in real life, I think one of the most important discoveries ever is electricity. I consider it an absolute blessing.

For the cost of a hamburger, fries and a small drink per day, I can do

many wonderful things in our house, such as heat, cool, cook, refrigerate, light and watch football. Make your list and you will agree.

With that said, I do not believe in wasting any of our energy resources. I think that producing some of our energy from solar or wind is a noble thought, but I have a better way.

In the early 1980s, I was working for the federal government to provide low-income housing. In that role, I was responsible for the installation of about 1,000 solar systems. The U.S. government wanted it done and I did it. It was an exciting time. Two of the systems had 220 solar panels each. Everyone was impressed. Folks would say, "Oh boy, Doug has got it going."

An engineer from Huntsville, AL, had a different view, however. He told me I would see the day when I would not want my name associated with these projects. I thought he was crazy. But, unfortunately, he was right.

Both systems were total failures in less than 10 years. In fact, nearly all of the systems failed in less than 15 years. I thought there must be a better way.

Just over a year ago, I had the opportunity to work with a company that was willing to purchase, install and monitor a quality solar voltaic system and a quality wind generating system.

The solar system cost more than \$50,000 installed. The system is monitored daily and has produced an average of 409 kilowatt-hours of electricity per month. This would save about \$50 per month on an electric bill. A simple payback would be \$50,000 divided by \$50 per month equals 1,000 divided by 12 equals 84 years. I think there is a better way.

The wind turbine cost \$15,000 installed and has produced about 58 kilowatt-hours a month. This would save about \$7 per month on an electric bill. That would calculate into a simple payback of 180 years.

Now I know I have a better way. And being the nice guy that I am, I plan to tell you about it next month. See you then.

DOUG RYE, is a licensed architect and the popular host of the "Home Remedies" radio show. You can contact Doug at 888-Doug-Rye. Source: Arkansas Electric Cooperatives Corporation.



Doug Rye

I think one of the most important discoveries ever is electricity. I consider it an absolute blessing.

| Operating Statistics | | |
|-----------------------|-------------|-------------|
| For Month Ending | August 2008 | August 2009 |
| Members Billed | 5,461 | 5,514 |
| kWh Sold | 4,999,365 | 5,832,174 |
| Total Revenue | \$ 709,549 | \$ 770,565 |
| Purchased Power | \$ 431,356 | \$ 417,092 |
| Operating Expenses | \$ 207,734 | \$ 204,520 |
| Depreciation Expenses | \$ 53,176 | \$ 44,476 |
| Interest Expenses | \$ 41,302 | \$ 33,224 |
| Other Expenses | \$ 200 | \$ 1,900 |
| Operating Margins | \$ (24,219) | \$ 69,353 |
| Non-operating Margins | \$ 1,964 | \$ 2,027 |
| Total Margins | \$ (22,255) | \$ 71,380 |
| Margins Year-to-Date | \$ (76,285) | \$ 135,028 |

| Outages for September 2009 | | | | |
|--|--------------------------------|------------------|-------------|---------------------------|
| Occasionally, a part or parts of the delivery system fail and an outage occurs. Below are the larger outages that occurred during September. | | | | |
| Date | Area | Members Affected | Duration | Cause |
| 9/2 | North of Dexter | 45 | 2 hr 20 min | Westar off on one phase |
| 9/8 | Chautauqua area | 50 | 2 hr | Burndown due to lightning |
| 9/9 | Chautauqua & Caney substations | 1731 | 1 hr | Westar 69KV feed off |