



A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

501 S. Huston Ave, P.O. Box 368, Altamont, KS 67330
866-784-5500
www.twinvalleyelectric.coop

TWIN VALLEY ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE

NEWS

Twin Valley Electric Cooperative, Inc.

Ron Holsteen General Manager

Board of Trustees

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Ronald McNickle
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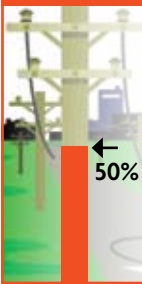
Wayne Revell
Trustee

Robert Webster, Jr.
Trustee

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

Contact Us
501 S. Huston Ave., P.O. Box 368
Altamont, KS 67330
620-784-5500
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FEMA Rebuild Update



As of February 15, we have completed 50% of Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) rebuild work.

From the Manager

When rural folks in southeastern Kansas celebrated the New Year in 1947, they probably huddled around their wood stoves for warmth and relied on kerosene lanterns for light.

Things were different for people who lived in the cities. They had electricity and the conveniences that came with it: heat, lights, refrigerators, electric stoves, running water.

For-profit utility companies had energized the more populated areas, but left the countryside dark. They didn't think it would be economically feasible to construct power lines in rural areas where farms were far apart.

If private companies wouldn't supply electricity to rural people, President Franklin D. Roosevelt believed it was the government's duty to help. In 1935, he created the Rural Electric Administration (REA), part of the New Deal. REA made loans available to local electric cooperatives, which then would build and operate the lines to distribute electricity throughout rural America.

Nine forward-thinking men from this area took the initiative, and on September 11, 1945, filed the articles of incorporation for Twin Valley Electric Cooperative, Inc.

As we enter 2011, Twin Valley is planning its 64th Annual Meeting on Thursday, April 21, at the Labette County High School in Altamont. Please mark your calendar now so

you can participate in the meeting, and watch this magazine for further details.

The beginning of a new year also is a good time to look back at the year that just ended and anticipate what the future might hold. During 2010, I wrote several times about the proposed federal cap-and-trade program. After much hype, Congress failed to pass a comprehensive climate change bill last year. That's good news, but the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency has taken steps to begin regulating carbon emissions from power plants through the federal Clean Air Act—something the law was never intended to do. More stringent federal restrictions on power plant emissions and increased state renewable energy requirements will affect Twin Valley and its members.

No one can predict the future, but it seems clear that increased government involvement is going to increase the cost of doing business and add to consumers' energy bills. New regulations won't be the only culprit. Prices for fuel, materials, and equipment will continue to rise.

Throughout the coming year, I will keep you informed about changes that will affect your energy bill, and I promise that Twin Valley will do everything it can to keep your energy costs affordable. That's our commitment to you.



Ron Holsteen

Twin Valley will do everything it can to keep your energy costs affordable.

Take Advantage of these Local Discounts with Co-op Connections



- ▶ **Parsons Golf & Restaurant**—Wednesday & Thursday receive 10% discount at Golf or Restaurant (excludes liquor)
- ▶ **Larry Allen Motor Car Company**—5 quart oil & filter change—safety check for only \$28.95 valued at \$68.65
- ▶ **Oswego Veterinary Clinic**—10% discount on goods and services (excludes dog food)
- ▶ **Parsons Fine Jewelry**—10% discount on retail purchase when paid in cash
- ▶ **Slane's Floral Shop**—10% discount store wide on cash & carry
- ▶ **Slane's Wedding Gowns**—50% discount cash & carry (must have appointment)

Happy St. Patrick's Day



Time Change is March 13

Don't forget to spring forward and turn your clocks forward one hour on March 13 when Daylight Savings Time begins.



2011 Annual Meeting Scheduled
Thursday, April 21 at Labette High School in Altamont

Twin Valley has started planning for our Annual Meeting which will be held on Thursday evening, April 21, at the Labette High School Auditorium in Altamont.

Twin Valley is governed by a Board of Directors and each year three Directors positions become open after their three year term has expired. Twin Valley's bylaws state that one director shall be elected from each district each year for a term of three years as terms of office expire or until successors shall have been elected and qualified.

Those directors whose terms are expiring this year are:

- ▶ **DISTRICT 1**—Wayne Revell
- ▶ **DISTRICT 2**—Tom Ellison
- ▶ **DISTRICT 3**—Mike Allison

The bylaws require the Board to appoint a nominating committee not less than 30 days nor more than 90 days before the Annual Meeting. The committee shall consist of not less than five nor more than 13 members who shall be selected from different areas of the cooperative. No member of the Board may serve on this committee.

The Board has appointed the following members to the nominating committee: Pam Baker, Bartlett; Keith Tucker, Mound Valley; William Billman, Altamont; Diane Mc-Cartney, Coffeyville; Kim Geren, Altamont; James Bates, Galesburg; Greg Brungardt, Galesburg; Rodney

Hughes, Galesburg; Willard Ross, Bartlett; Brad Moore, Bartlett; Ben Hinkle, Altamont; Joseph Robinson, Galesburg; and Darrin Woolfolk, Edna. The nominating committee will meet at Twin Valley's office on Tuesday evening, March 8 at 7 p.m. The nominating committee shall prepare and post a list of nominations for directors at the office of the cooperative at least 20 days before the meeting. The Secretary shall mail a statement of the number of directors to be elected and the names and addresses of the candidates nominated by the committee at least 10 days before the date of the meeting.

Fifteen or more members acting together may make other nominations by petition. Any nominations made by petition shall be posted at the same place where the list of nominations made by the committee is posted. Nominations made by petition, which are received at least five days before the meeting, shall be included on the official ballot. Later nominations by petition shall be treated as nominations from the floor.

In addition to those persons, nominations may be made from the floor at the annual meeting. No member may nominate more than one candidate.

Any questions regarding the nominating and election process can call the office at 620-784-5500.

Mark Your Calendars!

We hope to see you at the Twin Valley Electric Annual Meeting April 21, 2011, at the Labette High School Auditorium in Altamont.

We hope to see you there!

April						
S	M	T	W	U	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

Attention High School Juniors

Don't Miss this FREE Trip of a Lifetime!

Twin Valley Electric Cooperative, Inc., will send one high school junior to the "Government in Action" Youth Tour in Washington, D.C., and one to the Cooperative Youth Leadership Camp in Steamboat Springs, CO.

To Qualify

The applicant must be a high school junior living within the cooperative's territorial boundaries and the child of a Twin Valley Electric member.

To Apply

Applicants will be expected to study and take a quiz over information sent by Twin Valley regarding electric cooperatives. There will also be a short interview to pick the winner. All participating students will receive a prize.

To apply please complete, sign and return the application below to Twin Valley, PO Box 368, Altamont, KS 67330.



Students from Kansas join more than 1,500 youth in Washington, D.C, this year's Youth Tour is scheduled for June 9-16, 2011.

Youth Tour Selection Process

Applicants must complete an application and return it to the cooperative office by March 16, 2011. Finalists will be quizzed and interviewed by a panel of judges at the cooperative offices on April 1, 2011.

For More Information

For more information contact Jennifer at 866-784-5500.



Kansas delegates will attend Cooperative Youth Leadership Camp July 9-15, 2011.

Application for Youth Tour Contest—Due March 16

Name of Applicant _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Birth Date _____ Twin Valley Account # _____

Name of Parents or Guardians _____

Parents' Phone Number _____

School _____

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 2011 Youth Tour competition sponsored by Twin Valley Electric Cooperative, Inc.

Signature of Parent or Legal Guardian _____

5 Ways to Spring into Energy Efficiency

Spring marks a perfect time of year to make your home more energy efficient. Here are five quick tips that will save both energy and money:

▶ Seal cracks and gaps around your home.

As you put away your storm windows consider adding weather stripping around leaky doors and caulking around window frames. TogetherWeSave.com shows how easy it is to use a caulking gun to seal up leaks around vents, ductwork, and windows. A typical Twin Valley member can save more than \$200 annually by taking this simple step.

▶ **Change filters regularly.** Change furnace and air conditioner filters monthly. Dirty filters restrict air flow and reduce the overall efficiency of your heating and cooling system by making it work harder on hot summer days.

▶ Clean the refrigerator inside and out.

Now's a good time to not only throw out that leftover fruitcake from the holidays but check the temperature settings on your refrigerator. Ideally, a refrigerator's temperature should be between 37 and 40 degrees for maximum operating efficiency.

▶ **When it's time to replace that old refrigerator, be sure to buy one that's ENERGY STAR rated.** These energy-efficient appliances can save Twin Valley members as much as \$100 a year.

▶ **Think sun block.** By pulling down the shades on your windows this spring and summer, you could save about \$35 a year. Your local hardware store likely carries lots of inexpensive window coverings. Best of all, by blocking the sun, your house will stay cool and comfortable year-round.

▶ **Enjoy spring breezes.** Use a clothesline during warmer months and let sunlight and breezes dry clothes naturally. This will reduce your electric bill by not running a dryer, and add a genuine clean scent to your family's laundry.

You can learn more about ways to lower your monthly energy bill by visiting TogetherWeSave.com or by calling Twin Valley's office.

Help us Locate These Members

Please help us locate the following members for capital credit payments.

- ▶ Deeann Alaback
- ▶ Dana M Allen
- ▶ Art Anderson
- ▶ Atrium Oil & Gas/
Larry Bowling
- ▶ B & B Oilfield Service
- ▶ Lee Bahney
- ▶ Gary D Bailey
- ▶ Sharon S Barton
- ▶ Eugenia Baylor
- ▶ Raymond E Beck
- ▶ Tina Bennett
- ▶ Dana Benton
- ▶ Connie J Blair
- ▶ J Borden
- ▶ Andrea Bradford
- ▶ Kimberly Brown
- ▶ Kirk Brungardt
- ▶ Anita Bunn
- ▶ Mike Chavez
- ▶ Glenn Clayborn
- ▶ Johnny D Cleaveland
- ▶ Tracy Cochran
- ▶ Mike Coles
- ▶ Charles Compton
- ▶ John H Copeland
- ▶ Wilma N Copeland
- ▶ Bob Cordry
- ▶ Rob Cossou
- ▶ John D Cowan
- ▶ Bonna G Davidson
- ▶ Tammy Donaldson
- ▶ Vaughn Ewan
- ▶ Farm Land Oil Co.
- ▶ Paul G Fisk
- ▶ Gregory A Foster
- ▶ Fox Construction Inc.
- ▶ David B Gard
- ▶ Jim Garrison
- ▶ Michael R Godfrey
- ▶ Donald Gordon
- ▶ Michael L Grady
- ▶ Mark Green
- ▶ Richard W Greever
- ▶ Melinda Halsey
- ▶ Bill Haney
- ▶ William C Haney
- ▶ Katrina Hastings
- ▶ Juanita Haywood
- ▶ Frederick Hermes
- ▶ JW Hickey
- ▶ Terry R Hill
- ▶ Robert E Holman
- ▶ Alfred E Hucke
- ▶ Shirley Hughes
- ▶ Nevada Jeffrey
- ▶ Scott A Johnson
- ▶ Jessie Keffer
- ▶ Kelt Oil & Gas Inc.
- ▶ Margaret Kepner
- ▶ Vicki Kepner
- ▶ Vic S Kiister
- ▶ Bros R King
- ▶ Charles R Lawellin
- ▶ Donna Lewis
- ▶ Paul Lewis C/O
Ronald Lewis
- ▶ Larry C Long
- ▶ MOG Exploration Inc.
- ▶ Richard Madl
- ▶ Cheryl Mahan
- ▶ Danny L Maples
- ▶ CC Mathis
- ▶ Philip McCrary
- ▶ Jim McCroy
- ▶ Douglas L Merry
- ▶ Karen Middleton
- ▶ Roy J Minor
- ▶ Nacogdoches Oil &
Gas Inc.
- ▶ Harold L Nading
- ▶ National Farms
Feedlot
- ▶ CC Neville
- ▶ New Dimentions Real
Estate Inc.
- ▶ Ruth Nixon
- ▶ Okan Inc.
- ▶ Clarence Orthman
- ▶ Bruce Patterson
- ▶ Sandra K Peoples
- ▶ Vaughn Peterson
- ▶ Albert C Rice
- ▶ Macie Riley
- ▶ Peggy Robbins
- ▶ Gary A Robinett
- ▶ Frances Ruttgen
- ▶ S & M Farm
- ▶ Larry Sandefer
- ▶ Randall W Schulze
- ▶ Dale E Seifert
- ▶ Skyview Stock Farm
- ▶ Carl Smith
- ▶ Irving Smith
- ▶ Leonaine Smith
- ▶ Michael W Smith
- ▶ Steven Smith
- ▶ Tim Smith
- ▶ Shauna Snyder
- ▶ Robet A Sonntag
- ▶ John Spooner
- ▶ Perry Sprecher
- ▶ Floyd Stephens
- ▶ Robert Swanwick
- ▶ Dean H Symonds
- ▶ Janice Tanner
- ▶ Brian Taylor
- ▶ Harold A Testerman
- ▶ Kathy Thompson
- ▶ George V Tignor
- ▶ Titan Petroleum
- ▶ Ted Titsworth
- ▶ Rhonda Vanderford
- ▶ Robert Vanderpool
- ▶ Lee Vaughn
- ▶ Walter Veenis
- ▶ Veterans
Administration
- ▶ Bryan A Volmer
- ▶ George W Ward
- ▶ Western Fuel &
Supply Co.
- ▶ Ralph Whittley Jr.
- ▶ CJ Wiggins
- ▶ JT Wiles
- ▶ Gayle Wiley
- ▶ Katie Willis
- ▶ Bill York