



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

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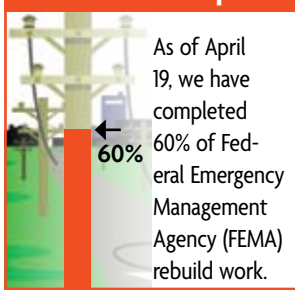
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Office Hours
Monday-Friday
8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Contact Us
501 S. Huston Ave., P.O. Box 368
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FEMA Rebuild Update



As of April 19, we have completed 60% of Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) rebuild work.

FROM THE MANAGER

The Cooperative Difference

Ever wonder who owns your power company? If you get electricity from the Twin Valley Electric Cooperative, the answer's easy—look in the mirror.

You and other folks who receive electricity from us are the owners. Of course, being an owner doesn't mean you can drive to a substation and take home a transformer or borrow a spool of wire. Those assets are owned collectively by everyone who has signed up for electric service. A portion of the electric bill you pay each month, in fact, goes into building distribution infrastructure—poles, wires, and substations—that bring you a steady supply of power.

Cooperatives follow a unique consumer-focused business model led by a set of seven principles. The Third Cooperative Principle, "Members' Economic Participation," requires all of us to chip in a bit on our monthly bill to keep Twin Valley Electric Cooperative in good shape.

Your cooperative conducts business locally. Investments we make in infrastructure don't profit someone in an area far away—benefits stay right here in our community. Paying your monthly bill does more than build lines, buy equipment, and purchase wholesale electricity. You also pay the salaries of our hard-working employees who

live right here in the community. They, in turn, buy goods at local businesses, spreading income around and boosting our local economy.

Here's another membership perk: you get money back. We're not-for-profit, so any funds left over after bills have been paid, and infrastructure built, goes into a capital credits account for each cooperative member. Then, each year when your board of directors determines the cooperative is in good financial shape, this capital is returned to you, by a check. How much money you get back depends on how much electricity you used.

Capital credits refunds are to you what dividends are to stockholders at for-profit companies. Only we don't aim to make a profit. Our goal is to provide you with electricity at a price that is as close to cost as possible. That way, more of your money stays in your pocket—up front.

In short, you are receiving a vital resource, electricity, from a business owned and operated by you, your friends, and neighbors. Working together, we provide you with the highest level of service we can while striving to keep your electric bills affordable.

And that's the cooperative difference.



Ron Holsteen

We provide you with the highest level of service we can while striving to keep your electric bills affordable.

NOTES FROM OPERATIONS

2010 Safety in Review



William Worthy

I would like to thank the board, staff, employees and members of Twin Valley Electric Co-op for welcoming me into the family.

As I look back on my first year at Twin Valley, I do so with pride at the accomplishments we have made in keeping the lights on for our members in 2010.

Along with our Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Mitigation project going on in the southern part of our system, we have been leading an aggressive maintenance program to change out outdated or expired equipment. This program has led to lower outage times and subsequently a decrease in overtime. In fact, our overtime was a third lower in 2010 than in 2009. It looks like we are on track to be lower in 2011 as well.

Twin Valley also participated in a number of community events. We represented the membership in Altamont's Flag Day celebration and parade; participated in the Christmas parades in Parsons and Oswego; sponsored a cooking team in Balloons, Bikes, Blues and BBQ and had a very popular display at the Farm Heritage Celebration, both in Parsons. We also assisted communities in multiple ventures and during the snow storm we had in February of this year. Twin Valley takes pride in the community and look forward to more opportunities to be a part of it.

Our accomplishments in our safety program hit a milestone in 2010 as well. We surpassed the 250,000 man hour's mark without a lost time accident. Your electric cooperative has not had a lost time accident since June 2004. This is quite a feat considering the hazards we face in the day to day operations and working in the severe weather conditions that we face. Officially at the end of 2010, we had 273,471 no lost time hours. We look forward to maintaining that in 2011 and beyond.

On a personal note, I would like to thank the board, staff, employees and members of Twin Valley Electric Cooperative for welcoming me into the family. It's been fun getting to know everyone and adjusting to Kansas. Dealing with cold temperature and snow is new to me and I



Manager, Ron Holsteen, and Ronald McNickle, trustee, are presented with a certificate of recognition for the cooperative's safety achievement. From left: Todd Bailey, LCS&C instructor; Larry Detwiler, director of LCS&C; Ron Holsteen; Stacey Marston, LCS&C instructor; and Ronald McNickle.



Twin Valley Journeyman Linemen, Tom Shelton, Dean Jones and Tyler Kennett are performing maintenance on the Labette County High School's ladies softball field.

had my share of mishaps and tests of the laws of gravity.

Learning the local vernacular has been interesting as well. I hear what people are saying, it sounds like English, but on more than one occasion I have had ask for an explanation. I have also been asked to explain myself as well. For example, in Texas, we have a coke while fishing in the tank. In Kansas, you have a pop while fishing in the pond. This example, along with other local colloquialisms has made life interesting as I adjust to Kansas.

In closing, I would like to encourage you to contact the office if you have questions or concerns about the operations of your cooperative. If you would rather e-mail me, please feel free to. I can be reached at wworthy@wavewls.com. Thanks again for a great year and I look forward to many more, serving you.



Dean Jones and Tyler Kennett adjusting softball field lighting.

Albertson & Banowetz Win Trips of a Lifetime!

Twin Valley has selected two youth to attend trips of a lifetime!

BRITTNEE ALBERTSON will attend the "Government in Action" Youth Tour in Washington, D.C. **MICHAEL BANOWETZ** will travel to Steamboat Springs, CO, for Cooperative Youth Leadership Camp in July.



The 2011 Twin Valley Youth Tour winners are: Brittnee Albertson (center), Washington, D.C., Youth Tour; Michael Banowetz (right), Cooperative Youth Leadership Camp in Steamboat Springs, CO; and Kyler Beasley (left) will act as alternate.

Applicants for the youth trip compete in their knowledge of electric cooperatives, as well as completing a personal interview with a panel of judges.

Britnee will start her trip with a tour of the Kansas State Capitol and the Wolf Creek Power Plant. She then heads to Washington, D.C., where she will visit many of the historical sites, as well as meeting with elected officials on Capitol Hill. Britnee will join over 1,500 other youth from around the country to learn more about the

U.S. government and how it functions.

Michael will join students from Kansas, Colorado, Oklahoma and Wyoming in Steamboat Springs, CO.

Campers will work together to form a working "candy" cooperative, learn about cooperatives and participate in other leadership building activities. They will also visit Trapper Coal Mine and Craig Generation Plant, as well as sites around Steamboat Springs.

Congratulations to Brittnee and Michael!

Go Paperless Today!

Whether you're busy taking care of your family, or just always on the go, we know how hard it is to get everything done in 24 hours. That's why Twin Valley Electric is proud to offer online bill pay.

You have the ability to pay your bills online, view your account history and your statements with our Online Bill Pay system. Just visit our Web site at www.twinvalleyelectric.coop and click the Online Bill Pay icon. You'll be directed to our secure site. Once there you will need to create a user ID, the first time you log on. You can then view and pay your bill online. It's really that easy.

Our Online Bill Pay system is secure and designed to protect your account and payment information. Payment methods include personal check, or use your Visa or MasterCard card.



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 Mother's Day

Twin Valley would like to wish all mothers a happy Mother's Day on May 8.



Holiday Office Closing

In observance of Memorial Day the Twin Valley offices will be closed on Monday, May 30.



COMMUNITY SPOTLIGHT

Hayden's Share Love of Street Rods

Meet members **STAN AND CAROL HAYDEN**. Together they share a hobby that happens to include a 1939 Ford Deluxe Sedan Street Rod.

Since Stan has been old enough to drive, he has enjoyed tinkering with vehicles. He could hardly wait to get his first car. His father left early one morning to go pick it up and Stan could hardly wait for his 1955 Chevy to come pulling in the drive. However, he got quite the surprise when his father returned and had purchased a 1957 Ford. This was not what Stan had in mind. Ever since that day, Stan has had a fascination with custom street rods.

Stan remembers the day he purchased his '39 Ford Deluxe Sedan, August 25, 1986. He found it in a building in Parsons and it was covered in dust. He paid \$1,500 for the car, which had the original motor but wouldn't run. He ended up dragging it home with the help of a couple friends.

When he brought it home he took the body off of the car, sand-blasted and painted the frame, worked on the body, installed a 350 Chevy motor backed with a 350 transmission, installed Mustang II/Pinto independent front suspension, added disc brakes, air conditioning, cruise control and painted it. The entire process took five years to complete from start to finish.

Since then, Stan has worked on



Stan and Carol Hayden with their 1939 Ford Deluxe Sedan.

several different cars and has done countless interior jobs for others but this car has remained in his possession.

Together, Stan and Carol have traveled to local shows and parades such as Neewollah, The Maple Leaf Festival, Tyro Christian Church Car Show, Cherry Blossom Festival, Tri-Valley Street Rod Association and many others. They have driven nearly 70,000 miles cruising through numerous states including Nebraska, Illinois, Colorado, Wisconsin, Missouri and Oklahoma.

Stan is very proud of a trophy the



Under the hood is a 350 Chevy engine.

'39 Ford won as the "Rod & Custom Magazine's Editor's Choice" for "Cute N' Chubby" out of roughly 3,000 other cars in Snowmass, CO.

Stan and Carol have been members of Twin Valley Electric since 1996.



The 1939 Ford Deluxe Sedan after restoration.



The 1939 Ford Deluxe Sedan before restoration.