

P.O. Box 220, Cheney, KS 67025
316-542-3131 or 866-542-4732
www.sedgwickcountyelectric.coop



Sedgwick County Electric Cooperative

SEDGWICK COUNTY ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE

currentnews

Sedgwick County Electric Cooperative

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Clint DeVore
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Cindy Foster
Vice President

Margie Conyac
Secretary/Treasurer

Joe Baalman
Director

Donald Metzen
Director

Eugene Scheer
Director

Alan J. Smarsh
Director

Rex Smith
Director

Stan Theis
Director

Staff

Scott Ayres
General Manager/CEO

Lora Alloway
Office Manager

Kyle Pipkin
Line Superintendent

Contact Information

Headquarters
P.O. Box 220
1355 S. 383rd St. West
Cheney, KS 67025
316-542-3131
Fax: 316-542-3943

FROM THE MANAGER

Why We Love Serving Our Members

February may be the shortest month, but it's packed with special observances like Presidents Day, Black History Month and Valentine's Day, in addition to a host of unofficial "national" days you've probably never heard of like "National Tater Tot Day." But they all have something in common. They were created to draw attention to a particular issue or theme.

Valentine's Day may seem like an observance originally created by a greeting card company, but over time, it's become a widely celebrated day generating millions of dollars spent on flowers, candy and of course, greeting cards professing our love. But Valentine's Day isn't just for the lovebirds. It's also the perfect time to let our friends, family, co-workers and other special people in our lives know we care about them — with or without a store-bought greeting card.

With that in mind, we've created the top five reasons why we love serving you, the members of Sedgwick County Electric Cooperative.

1 We love serving our members because without you, the co-op wouldn't exist. Our purpose is to provide you with reliable, responsible and safe electricity. Simply put, Sedgwick County Electric Cooperative exists to serve you. That's why we were formed in 1937 — to bring power to our local

area when for-profit utilities would not.

2 You enable us to complete our mission by supporting our efforts to give back. A major part of our mission is to serve our community and look after the greater good. With your assistance, we're able to help the most vulnerable members of our community through several volunteer programs from the Sedgwick County Fair Pedal Pull event to the safety demo at the Kansas State Fair.

3 Members of our co-op also serve on the board of directors. They provide guidance for setting co-op priorities and helping make big decisions. Because our board members live in the area, they're able to serve as the pulse of the larger community and identify immediate and long-term needs. The broader co-op membership provides helpful input through their vote on director elections and by weighing in on co-op and community issues.

4 You help us get it right. Sedgwick County Electric Cooperative members are great about keeping us in the know. We do our best to avoid power outages, but Mother Nature can occasionally throw us a curveball; our members are quick to report any power



Scott Ayres

Continued on page 12B ►

Help us Locate the Following Co-op Members

The names listed below have capital credit refunds due to them, but we are unable to locate these former members. If you have information that would help us, contact any individual or business listed below, please call the office at 316-542-3131 or 866-542-4732.

PAUL ARNOLD	ALEXIS L LANDWEHR
DEBBIE BASSHAM	FRED & PAT LONG
JERALD BAYLESS	LOUISE LYONS
JOSE J & CRYSTAL L BENITEZ	JONATHAN & SIAN MANZER
DENNIS & SANDI BLUBAUGH	CRYSTAL MC CUNE
DALLAS D BOYER	JOHN & AMY MICHLITSCH
JAMES J BRATT	DICK D MILLER
GREGORY J BREIT	MELODY MILLER
DANNY E & MICHELLE J BROWER	STEVE MORLEY
RAYMOND J BROWN	TERESA NICHOLSON
GARY COLEMAN	CAROL A NICKELSON
WAYNE A COMBS	TAMMY PETERSON
BONNIE COPP	DANIEL J PHENNEGER
MAURICE & BONNIE K COPP	FRANK J & AMBER RANDALL
CHAD DEAN	JESUS RAYMUNDO
LYNN DECKER	J SHANE & PAMELA S ROBERTS
DONNA J ELKINS	GRANT ROSKAM
AARON (CHIP) FINNEY	KAREN L SCHAUNER
CHRISTINE FISHER	DERRICK & LINDA D SCHMIDT
CLINTON G GOLDEN & DARLENE CABRERA	STUART J & KATHRYN SCHRAG
JOHN B & ROBIN L GOSS	WALTER R SEARS JR
BRANDY GRONNIGER	RAMEY & CHER SMITH
JULIAN A & AMY GUERRA	EVERETT & MARTHA STAMBACK
ROBERT & SUE HACKENBURG	STEVENSON OPERATING LLC
WILLIAM D & CAROLINE M HAYES	TONN FAMILY LIMITED AG
LEON HEIMERMAN	DOUGLAS & TERESA M ULBRICH
RONALD HEIN	MARTIN T & KRISTY K UNREIN
GEORGE D & SALLIE A HOBBS	JOHN C VOTH
BRUCE & MELINDA HOLLANDER	CATHERINE WELCH
GLEN W & EVA M HOSTETLER	BRUCE & MONTY K WELNER
MARLA JACKSON	DELBERT R WESTERFIELD
GLYNN JONES	STEPHEN H WILKERSON
KEVIN E KENNEDY	MICHAEL A WILSON
JASON & LUCIANNA KLAUSMEYER	ADAM WOHLFORD
	ROBERT L & ROBIN R WOLFE
	RAYMOND A YOESTING
	VIRGIL YOUNGERS

Why We Love Serving Our Members

Continued from page 12A ►

disruptions and are patient as our crews work to safely restore power. We know outages are frustrating, and your support as we work through storms means so much to our employees. Your opinions are critical for the co-op's success, and we thank you for that.

5 You and other Sedgwick County Electric Cooperative members make up the community we serve — and for us, it's all about community. Our employees live and work here too and care about our community the

same way you do. We're invested and work to help our area thrive. It's also why we invest in economic development, and why you'll see our employees volunteering at local schools and other charitable and community endeavors.

As a co-op, our mission is to enhance the quality of life in our community and look after its long-term interests. We love serving our members and our local community, and just like you, want to see it continue to thrive.

Sedgwick County Electric Helps Midwest Energy with Storm Damage

Cooperatives often need help with power outages and damage to their power systems because of strong storms of all kinds. When this happens, local cooperatives are always there to help their neighbors (we call this mutual aid).

Midwest Energy, Inc.'s

system was damaged by a strong windstorm and fire on Dec. 15, 2021. When the storm was over, Midwest Energy, Inc. experienced widespread outages in all of the 26 counties they provide electric service to. With outages to 4,900 members, Midwest Energy, Inc. requested crews under a mutual aid agreement from Southern Pioneer Electric, 4 Rivers Electric Cooperative, Heartland Rural Electric Cooperative and Sedgwick County Electric Cooperative. Midwest Energy, Inc. also received assistance from electric contractors from Ward Electric Company and PAR Electric to help with restoration.

Sedgwick County Electric Cooperative sent two crews for seven days focusing to restore power in Hays and Great Bend areas.

Whether we are assisting other cooperatives or restoring power to our members, Sedgwick County Electric Cooperative is committed to providing safe, reliable and innovative energy solutions.



Sedgwick County Electric linemen (from left) Tommy Hill, Victor Ayala, Mark Hansen and Chris Fair helped restore power to Midwest Energy members.

Mark Your Calendars for Annual Meeting

Bring your registration card on the back cover of April's *Kansas Country Living* for a chance to win \$100!

The 2022 Sedgwick County Electric Cooperative annual meeting will be held Tuesday, April 5, 2022, at The Cotillion Hall and Ballroom, 11120 W. Kellogg in Wichita. Doors will open at 6:15 p.m. and dinner will be served at 6:30 p.m. We hope to see you there!

Board territories, map and descriptions are located at www.sedgwickcountyelectric.coop. Territories and directors up for re-election are Territory 7, East of 407th S. W. (170th Avenue), West of 295th St. W., South of US 54. – **JOE BAALMANN**; Territory 8, East of 279th St. W., South of 109th St. N., West of 167th St. W., North of 29th St. N. – **MARGIE CONYAC**; and Territory 9, South of 109th St. N. (Irish Creek Road), West of 279th St. W., North of 29th St. N. (Smoots Creek Road) – **STAN THEIS**.

If you live in one of the above territories and would like to be put on the ballot to be nominated to the board of directors, please contact Jo Luehrs at 316-542-3131 or www.jluehrs@sedgwickcountyelectric.coop. Deadline to submit an application is Feb. 4, 2022.

Member-owners attending the annual membership meeting will receive updates regarding the following:

- Cooperative news/updates
- Employee recognition
- Board of director elections
- Door prizes
- Youth Tour, camp and scholarships awards



Pole Inspection & Treatment Underway

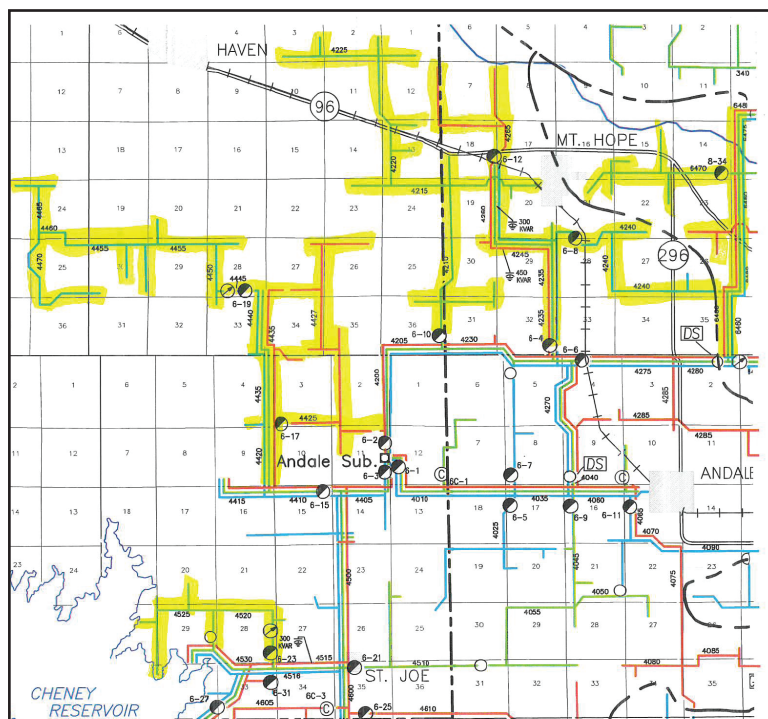
As in the case with most electric utilities, Sedgwick County Electric Co-op is dependent on the use of wooden poles. Even though the poles we use are initially treated to resist decay, over time all wooden poles will deteriorate and ultimately need to be replaced. The decay rate varies depending upon soil type, moisture levels, temperatures and the type of wood the pole is derived from.

The pole inspection and treatment program helps determine if a pole is still useful and safe, and prolong its life.

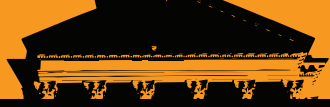
Sedgwick County Electric Co-op currently contracts with Global Utility Services to perform our pole inspections and treatment. While a visual inspection is valuable and essential in evaluating the overall condition of the pole, any internal decay below the ground line would go undetected if not for our pole inspection and treatment program. Our inspection process involves a visual inspection and treatment of each pole in which we look for woodpecker holes, significant cracks, signs of termite and carpenter ant activity, or other defect with the pole that may result in pole failure and/or rejections. Inspectors then complete a sound and bore test of the pole where they will expose the pole below the ground line, bore the pole at an angle in two different locations, determine the size of the decayed pocket below the ground line and sound the pole above the ground line with a hammer looking to see if the decayed pocket extends above the ground line. The majority of decay in a wood pole occurs in the first 18 inches below the ground line. Wood preservative is applied to the pole to treat against external rot.

If the integrity and strength of a pole is compromised and considered dangerous, the pole is replaced immediately.

By continuing our pole inspection and treatment and pole replacement program, we have extended the useful life of our wooden poles, reduced maintenance costs and increased the reliability and safety of our electric system for all our members. Global Utility Services will be testing/treating poles in the **ANDALE AND MOUNT HOPE AREAS**.



KANSAS ELECTRIC YOUTH LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE



TOPEKA

SUMMER 2022



SCAN TO
FIND
OUT MORE
ABOUT
CAMP



COOPERATIVE YOUTH LEADERSHIP CAMP



COLORADO

JULY 15-21, 2022



DEADLINE APPROACHING

VISIT OUR WEBSITE, WWW.SEDGWICKCOUNTYELECTRIC.COOP OR CONTACT [JLUEHRS@SEDGWICKCOUNTYELECTRIC.COOP](mailto:jluehrs@sedgwickcountyelectric.coop) FOR MORE INFORMATION. DON'T WAIT; DEADLINE IS **FEB. 4, 2022.**

Submit to Sedgwick County Electric Co-op, P.O. Box 220, Cheney, KS 67025 or scan and email to jluehrs@sedgwickcountyelectric.coop.

Name of Applicant: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State/Zip: _____

2021-2022 Grade: _____ School: _____ Gender: M or F

Home Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____ Student's Email: _____

I AGREE THAT ALL INFORMATION SUPPLIED IN THIS APPLICATION IS ACCURATE AND TRUE.

Applicant Signature: _____

I HEREBY GRANT PERMISSION TO THE ABOVE APPLICANT TO COMPETE IN THE YOUTH SCHOLARSHIP COMPETITION.

Parents Name: _____ Signature of Parent or Guardian: _____

List activities you have participated in at your school and any special honors you have received, such as class officer, plays, music, activities, etc.

Activities

Years

Remarks & Honors

List extracurricular activities you have participated in, such as FFA, 4-H, church, community, etc.

Activities

Years

Remarks & Honors

List any hobbies, talents, special interests, etc. _____

What are your future plans? _____

Anything else you'd like to tell us about yourself? _____

If you had the opportunity to change one thing about your school or community, what would it be and why? How would you go about making the change?
