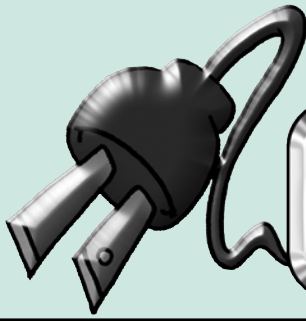


March
2005



Lane-Scott Electric Cooperative

LANE-SCOTT CONNECTIONS

P.O. Box 758, 410 S. High St., Dighton, KS 67839
Phone 620-397-5327

Highlights of 2004

- Safety Accreditation was completed with a score of 92% overall, this was one of the top scores in the state.
- Lane-Scott Electric employees have worked 245,451 hours with “No Lost Time Accidents”; this is through the end of 2004.
- Financially Lane-Scott Electric had a good year for the following:
 - Patronage capital or Margins \$475,264
 - TIER (Times Interest Earned Ratio) 3.24
 - DSC (Debt Service Coverage) 4.35
 - Equity Level 45%
- Completed RUS loan T42 for \$1,675,000.00-will use funds from 2005-2007.
- Have made good progress on our 2002-2005 Work Plan, we have only one major project to complete, that is the 3 miles of double circuit out of the Dighton substation. This will be the first Work Plan completed on time with 100% of the projects complete. Lane-Scott had 85 new connects this year, last year we had 44.
- Manning Substation project was completed.
- GIS System-Line segment numbers are completed, all pertinent poles have been located, all new construction updated on GIS and now we can make our own system maps. We are able to get the information that Peak Power will need for our 2006-2009 Construction Work Plan.
- Outage totals for the year was one of the lowest with 8,379 hours just missing the all time low of 7,952 hours.
- Resale Department was able to show a profit of \$35,295.32 and provide a valuable service to our members.
- Board of Trustees and employees reviewed the policy book and now are working on procedures and reviewing areas to add to our policy book.
- Projects completed by our employees at Lane-Scott:
 - Idle Service Review and update
 - Line extension review and rate adjustment
 - Load management review and discontinuing of this program
 - Oil well project with the help of High Line Services
 - AMR's in the system now total 1000, as we will finish this project this year.
 - Made good progress on replacing poles that have been either rejected from pole testing or storm related.
- Continue to have a good working relationship with the City of Dighton as we signed a continuation of the wholesale power contract.
- Junior Board of Trustees was able to view the Holcomb Plant and have first hand experience of the working of a cooperative with the in house day at Lane-Scott. The Junior Board of Trustees was also featured in the Rural Power Newsletter published by KEC.
- Steven Frank and Rane Nolan attended the Washington D.C. Youth Tour; while Marc Ramsey attended the “Government in Action” at Steamboat Springs, CO.
- Demolition of quonset building on north lot was completed.
- Economic Development loan to Sharp Bros. Seed for the remodeling of new grocery store at Healy.
- Returned capital credits to our members in the amount of \$162,104.96, this is for the years 1982, 1983 and part of 1984.

Lane-Scott Electric Cooperative Newsletter

Telephone 397-5327
Owned & Published by
The Lane-Scott Electric
Co-op, Inc.
P.O. Box 758
410 S. High St.
Dighton, KS 67839

Board of Trustees

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Dick Jennison, Healy, V. President
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Eric Doll, Garden City
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Vic Torson, Mgr. of Electrical
Operations
Katherine Lewis, Mgr. of Financial
Services
Bob Venters, Resale Manager

In Case of Outage

If your electricity is off for more than a few minutes, call Dighton, 1-800-407-2217. Office hours 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. After hours calls will be answered by the dispatch and forwarded to standby personnel.

**After Hours & Weekends Call:
1-800-407-2217**

24-Hour Electrician Emergency Service

If you are without electricity, or have an electrical emergency on your side of the meter, we have a master electrician on staff available 24 hours a day. To request after-hours electrician service, call the following number:

1-800-407-2217

Craig Ramsey, appointed by the Lane-Scott Electric Cooperative, Inc. Board of Trustees



Craig Ramsey

Lane-Scott Electric Board of Trustees at their January 31, 2005 board meeting appointed Craig Ramsey to fill the term of Richard Ramsey who passed away on December 22, 2004 after a battle with cancer. This appointment will be until July of 2006, when his term will be up for election by the members at their annual meeting.

Craig Ramsey is currently the operator of Ramsey Farms of Scott City. Craig is the third generation Ramsey to serve on the Lane-Scott Electric Board of Trustees. Craig graduated from Colby Community College in 1974 with an Associate of Arts and in 1976 from Kansas State University with a Bach-

elor of Science in Agricultural Engineering. Craig has been active as past Chairman of Scott County Conservation District; Scott County Farm Bureau member; Scott Cooperative Young Farmers Committee and Secretary of the Scott Cooperative Board of Directors. Currently is on the Board of Trustees of First United Methodist Church of Scott City.

Craig and his wife Gina have a daughter, Kristin, who is a freshman at Butler County Community College and a son Marc, who is a senior this year at Scott City High School and has been a member of Lane-Scott Junior Board of Trustees.

Property Taxes Paid By Lane-Scott Electric

COUNTY	Total 2004 TAX	1ST HALF DUE 12/20/04	2ND HALF DUE 5/10/05	2003 TAX	2002 TAX	2001 TAX	% decrease from 2003/2004
Finney	\$12,526.57	\$6,263.28	\$6,263.28	\$15,461.88	\$10,608.38	\$8,734.50	-18.98%
Gove	\$5,328.96	\$2,664.48	\$2,664.48	\$5,721.24	\$4,058.32	\$2,846.70	-6.86%
Hodgeman	\$16,929.32	\$8,464.66	\$8,464.66	\$17,556.06	\$11,775.08	\$9,431.18	-3.57%
Lane	\$120,771.66	\$60,385.83	\$60,385.83	\$140,618.66	\$98,371.76	\$80,859.88	-14.11%
Logan	\$493.88	\$246.94	\$246.94	\$597.68	\$435.04	\$334.72	-17.37%
Ness	\$48,558.59	\$24,279.29	\$24,279.29	\$56,821.80	\$42,682.00	\$32,302.82	-14.54%
Scott	\$29,027.82	\$14,513.91	\$14,513.91	\$29,402.64	\$21,362.64	\$15,284.83	-1.27%
Total	\$233,636.80	\$116,818.40	\$116,818.40	\$266,179.96	\$189,293.22	\$149,794.63	-12.23%

Thank You Notes From the Members

Lane-Scott Electric

Dick really did appreciate and enjoy serving on the Lane Scott Electric Board. He found it very interesting. He appreciated the quality people he served with on the local and state board. Those 16 years were very meaningful to him. We sincerely thank you for the beautiful plant you sent for his memorial service. It is a cheerful yellow color. I have it here at home will continue to enjoy its beauty. We thank you for your thoughtfulness and the many friendships we have made.

The Richard Ramsey Family

Dear Lane-Scott

Thank you for the special day. I had a great time and evening. The lamp is neat and my friends love it. The gift certificate is wonderful and will pick out something soon. See you soon. Sincerely, Neoma Conner

Lane-Scott Electric Cooperative

Thank you from the Summer-Cowley Electric Cooperative Board of Trustees and Management. Your help during the recent ice storm was sincerely appreciated.

Lane-Scott Electric

Thank you very much for thinking of me this holiday season. My family and I will enjoy the magnetic dart board. This present was definitely not expected but is truly appreciated. Thank you so much. Traci Goebel-member of Lane-Scott Junior Board of Trustees.

Lane-Scott Electric,

Thank you for the magnetic dart board. I have it hanging in my room. I play with it along with my family. I appreciate your thoughtfulness. Ian Huck-member of Lane-Scott Junior Board of Trustee

Lane-Scott Receives Award for Safety Accreditation



Lane-Scott Receives Award for Safety Accreditation in 2004 and 245,451 hours of "No Lost Time Accidents" at the Kansas Electric Cooperative Annual Meeting held in Topeka the end of January.

Pictured from Left to Right:

Kasey Jenkinson-President of Safety Committee; Tanya Burns-Vice President of Safety Committee; Gary Lewis-Lane-Scott Safety Coordinator; Vic Torson-Lane-Scott Manager of Electrical Operations; Nathan Burns-Coordinator of Lane-Scott Safety Accreditation Program; Jodi Marsteller-Secretary of Safety Committee.

Lane-Scott Impliments Idle Service Rate

What is an idle service? It is any service that has been disconnected and idle for six months or longer.

Why not leave the service? To leave the service means Lane-Scott would have to maintain the line and pay property taxes on the installed equipment. It increases the chance for vandalism of our equipment to occur. There is also the possibility of an outage at this site.

Why would the member want to pay the idle service charge? Our rate states that if the owner applies for restoration of service at the location after the individual line extension and facilities have been removed, he/she

will be required to pay in advance an amount equal to the actual removal cost including cost of non-salvageable materials plus the estimated replacement cost of the necessary line extension and facilities excluding cost of material.

If there is a chance that this service will be needed in the future it would be best to pay the idle service rate.

Lane-Scott is taking a close look at all idle services and will send out registered letters to the owners of these idle services to see if they want the equipment removed or if the member would like the equipment left at the sight for future electric service.



**A VERY
Grand
St. Patrick's
Day to you!**

Lane-Scott Electric - Meet the Employees



Burns enjoys the challenges of figuring out different outage situations and each day has unique activities in different locations that make the job exciting.

Nathan Burns is a Journeyman Lineman for Lane-Scott Electric Cooperative, Inc. and is in his 11th year of service to the cooperative. Nathan graduated from Garden City High School, worked for his father at Burns Construction and then at Williams Security before joining Lane-Scott in 1994. Nathan started as an electrician's helper but found line work better suited for him. He completed the four-year Merchant Apprentice Lineman Training in 1998 and became a journeyman lineman. Nathan is married to Tanya and has two daughters, Megan 14 and Brittany 10.

Nathan feels fortunate to be a part of Lane-Scott. Lane-Scott has made many technical advances in the last ten years, as well as implementing significant maintenance policies that have made it much more efficient for our linemen and our members. Safety is very important at Lane-Scott, Nathan believes that each employee must make a commitment each day to this and this type of attitude is passed on to our new employees as they enter the workforce.

Nathan enjoys driving his motorcycle and jeep and fishing when time permits. He also enjoys spending time with his family, which lately seems to be traveling to different sporting events.

Happy Easter



March 27, 2005

Trees Can Improve Comfort and Lower Cooling Costs

When the weather gets hot, properly placed trees can improve your comfort and lower your air conditioning costs by blocking solar energy before it enters your home. It's worth some special effort now to take care of your trees so they can save energy for years to come.

Spring is the best time to fertilize your trees. Trees in need of fertilizer often have small leaves or slightly discolored leaves. The best fertilizing method is to create holes in the ground that are 10 to 20 inches deep and an inch wide using a rod or auger. Place them in concentric rings around the perimeter of the tree, starting three feet away from the trunk and extending out to one-and-a-half times the diameter of the crown. Then pour liquid or granular fertilizer into the holes.

It is best to fertilize when the soil is relatively dry because spring rains or deep watering can help distribute the fertilizer. Tree fertilizers are usually described according to how much nitrogen, phosphorus, and potassium they contain, and common formulas (with these elements listed in the same order) include 16-20-0 or 10-30-10. For small trees, use about two cups of fertilizer per tree. For large trees, use two cups. In sandy soils, apply half as much fertilizer twice as often to reduce loss of fertilizer.

Water your trees deeply and only during dry weather. Avoid frequent shallow watering. Water for approximately one hour per inch of trunk thickness. Water with an open hose or soaker hose at the drip line of the tree (if you drew a line from the longest of the tree's branches to the ground, this is the drip line). Mulching the tree's base helps to maintain moisture while still allowing air circulation.

If the sunny side of your home has no trees, spring is a good time to plant new ones, too. Plant tall trees close to the home to block the overhead sun coming from the southern part of the sky. Plant shorter trees on the east and west to block low-angle morning and afternoon sun. Remember, too, that trees will shade your lawns and other plants, reducing outdoor watering costs and effort.

Source: John Krigger, Saturn Resource Management (www.srmi.biz)

Leadership Classes



Clare Gustin of Sunflower Electric Power Corporation is leading a 21st Century Leadership class for the Lane-Scott Electric employees and assisting her are Jana Horsfall and Nicole Pfannenstiel.