

September
2004



Lane-Scott Electric Cooperative

LANE-SCOTT CONNECTIONS

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

Lane-Scott Electric Director of Operations to Retire



Stan Bray

Stan Bray, Director of Operations, will be retiring as of October 1st. Over Stan's 32 years of service with Lane-Scott Electric he has served under five managers. He worked his way up from summer help, apprentice lineman, journeyman lineman, line superintendent, to his current position as Director of Operations. Stan has been instrumental with the

upgrading of Lane-Scott's distribution system and bringing Lane-Scott forward as an industry leader in new technologies. Stan has taken a proactive approach to education by completing numerous schools on transformers, metering, OCR coordination, the Operations Internship Program, and the Management Internship Program.

The Dighton community has been home to Stan, his wife Gloria, and son Kirk for most of his life. He has served on several boards and served as recreation director for the community. He also served as President of the Line Superintendent Association in 2002. Stan enjoys playing golf and fishing.

Safety has always been at the forefront for Stan. He helped implement the safety accreditation program for the cooperative. These changes have helped the cooperative members and made being a lineman a lot safer. During Stan's tenure he has seen a lot of changes both in equipment and new technology. Some of the major changes have been the implementation of bucket trucks, automated systems and system coordination, and the move to the current facilities. Stan has enjoyed working at Lane-Scott, for the members and with the personnel. "It's just been my life."

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

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Stan Bray, 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

Thank You: *From the Members*

We would like to thank the lineman for their quick response and good work.

Derry and Lavina Johnson, Beeler

Thank you for supporting our local youth and their achievements. Your donation to the Livestock Pool was greatly appreciated.

Ness County 4-H'er's

Thank you for buying my pig at the Lane County Fair.

Seth Shapland

Thank you so much for being a sponsor in our 3rd Annual Showdeo. We really appreciate your support.

Lane County Saddle Club

I would like to thank Lane-Scott Electric for sponsoring me on the Steamboat Springs trip. It has been a truly amazing trip. Though it is not over yet, I have already gained many bits and pieces of knowledge, new friends and interests from our various activities. I would like to thank you personally by attending a board meeting.

Marc Ramsey

Lane-Scott Electric Thank you for sponsoring the level IV food reserve champion award at the Lane County Fair. Thanks for caring about 4-H.

Lacey Shapland

Many, Many, Many Thanks for the \$100.00 gift certificate from the annual meeting.

Joan Trebilcock, Alamota

Electrical Farm Accidents Can be Avoided

Electricity is just as important on the farm as in the office today, but presents more potential hazards for the farmer or rancher than for the computer operator. Every year, serious accidents involving electricity occur on American farms. Most could be prevented with a few simple safety steps:

- First, make sure that you, your family and your farm workers know the location of overhead power lines, and map out ways to avoid them when moving equipment. Make sure everyone understands that any contact with these lines creates a path to the ground for electricity and carries the potential for a serious, even fatal, accident.
- Everyone should know the height of all your farm equipment and how high those power lines are to prevent accidental contact. A good rule of thumb is to stay at least 10 feet away from power lines.
- Be extra-careful when moving irrigation pipes. Many electrical accidents on farms occur when irrigation pipes are accidentally raised into power lines. The combination can be deadly.
- Avoid moving large equipment alone. Have someone watch out for you as you drive equipment to ensure that you stay clear of the power lines.
- These rules also apply to guy wires, which support power line poles. Damaging guy wires can weaken the poles and even cause them to topple, bringing live power lines down onto the ground and creating an extremely hazardous situation.

Super Insulated Homes Save Money

Super insulated homes use high levels of insulation to slow heat movement through the walls, ceiling, and floors of the home. They are also well sealed to reduce drafts and control moisture movement. These features reduce the cost of heating and cooling, and improve the comfort of the home.

The walls of super insulated homes are thicker than standard homes, allowing for 6 to 12 inches of insulation. They sometimes include sheets of foam insulation that cover the studs and other structural members to reduce heat flow through the framing itself.

A ten-inch wall, filled with fiberglass batts and covered with a one-inch foam sheet, would give a total R-value of about R-35, considerably higher than the R-19 walls used in most modern homes.

The roof and ceiling structure usually allows for up to 24 inches of insulation. When insulated with loose-fill fiberglass, this assembly would yield an average value of R-70, compared to the industry standard of R-40.

The foundation is always waterproofed and insulated. Moisture control measures are installed to keep ground moisture out of the home. The windows include three or four layers of glazing, with specialized gases between the layers and low-e coatings to reduce heat loss.

Air sealing is accomplished by installing a continuous air and vapor barrier at the ceiling, walls, and floor or foundation. This high-level of air tightness improves the efficiency and comfort of the home, but usually

necessitates the use of whole-house ventilators to remove moisture or indoor pollutants. These systems usually include heat-recovery ventilators that extract heat from the home's exhaust air and transfer it to the incoming outdoor air.

The true test of a home's insulation level and air tightness is the outdoor temperature at which the heating system must run to maintain comfort. Most standard homes need heat when the outdoor temperature drops below 60°. Some super insulated homes don't need heat until the temperature drops below 40°. The difference in efficiency between these two homes can save hundreds of dollars every year.

Source: John Krigger, Saturn Resource Management (www.residential-energy.com)

The *Power* of Community

Like other electric cooperatives across the nation, the electric cooperatives of Kansas follow a set of guidelines known as the “7 Cooperative Principles” in conducting its business. Principle No. 7 – concern for the community – is last on that list, but not in importance. The electric cooperatives of Kansas take that principle as seriously as it does its core mission of providing reliable and affordable electricity to its members.

Either while at work or on their own time, cooperative employees accomplish countless tasks for their communities. They serve as baseball, softball and soccer coaches. They form teams to participate in fundraising walk/runs. They serve as ambassadors for local chambers of commerce.

The electric cooperatives learned a long time ago that they could play an even bigger role in the development of rural Kansas than simply providing elec-

tricity. Over the years, the cooperatives’ emphasis on economic development has led to the location or expansion of several industries.

A key to luring those industries is a sound infrastructure and Kansas’ electric cooperatives have been working for decades to bring water systems, fire protection and highways to the state’s rural areas.

One way to keep members’ electric rates low is by promoting the efficient use of electricity. In 1997, Kansas’ electric cooperatives created an education program to promote building techniques for energy-efficient homes. With this program, the cooperatives have built a series of energy-efficient model homes around the states that thousands of people have toured. And more homes are on the drawing board.

The last five letters of the word community form another word – unity, which

describes the underlying key to the success of the electric cooperatives of Kansas.

As a member of a locally owned electric cooperative, you are among the 31 million members served by electric cooperatives nationwide. Your cooperative is one of 28 electric distribution cooperatives within the state. These cooperatives also own three other cooperatives – Kansas Electric Cooperatives, Inc., (KEC), a statewide association providing services to the electric distribution cooperatives, Kansas Electric Power Cooperative (KEPCo) and Sunflower Electric Power Corporation, suppliers of wholesale electricity.

Through this unified, cooperative approach to business, the electric cooperatives of Kansas are well positioned to continue to help rural Kansas prosper and grow for decades to come.

Unity is strength. Community is trust.

Safety For Our Crews

Your electric cooperative is concerned about everyone’s safety – yours, and its employees’. Co-op line crews receive continuing professional training in handling electricity safely, as well as other job safety training.

You can help keep electric co-op line crews safe when they’re working. When you see a co-op truck alongside the road, slow down! Crews are working to ensure that you receive reliable service. By taking care and watching for crews at work, you can do your part to keep them safe and keep the power on.

I’m Never Home!

Quite often we hear this response from a member: “I’m never home and nothing is turned on while I’m away.”

While we all remember to turn off lights, televisions and other appliances when we leave the house, electricity is being used when we are away.

Water heaters, humidifiers, dehumidifiers,

freezers, refrigerators, clocks, VCRs, and heating and cooling systems are using electricity all the time.

Without including the heating and cooling systems, the other appliances mentioned can use more than 500 kilowatt hours per month, and that’s when you’re not home.

Off to College...*Safely*

If you’re sending your child off to college this fall, it’s important to know that many college dormitories were built years ago, before students began arriving with computers, CD players, microwaves, refrigerators, wireless telephones, halogen lamps, and fax machines. Your child’s dorm wiring may not be up to task of handling this entire electrical load.

The National Electrical Safety Foundation recommends that you ask some important questions and take some precautions:

- Do fuses burn out or circuit breakers open frequently? If so, this may be the sign of a serious problem, which should be brought to the attention of the building supervisor immediately.
- Are wall outlets loose, broken, or malfunctioning?
- Is there any exposed or broken wiring?
- Will wall outlets accept grounded (three-prong) plugs, such as those for computers?

Along with all the other things you’ll be packing for your child to take to college, include a fire extinguisher that’s appropriate for putting out electrical fires.

Gettin' Em Down!



Vic Torson, Lane-Scott lineman, demonstrates the skills needed to manipulate the lift-truck's bucket to retrieve an unconscious lineman.



Henry Morrow, Lane-Scott lineman demonstrates the process of rescuing an unconscious lineman from on top of a pole simulated by a life-sized mannequin.

Linemen Practice Life-Saving Techniques During Recertification

Each year, Lane-Scott linemen practice skills they hope they will never have to use in real life.

A pole-top or bucket rescue may become necessary because of an accident involving work on a power line or even because of sudden illness, such as a heart attack. Because a life may be at stake, each lineman needs to become proficient and have the confidence that his crewmates are too.

In a pole-top rescue, every second counts. First, a May Day radio call is made so that emergency services can be dispatched to the scene. Then, the rescuer must put on climbing gear — all the while surveying the pole and surrounding area for hazards. The rescuer must climb the pole with his lifeline and then safely lower the victim to the ground.

After climbing back down the pole and removing climbing gear, the rescuer (or other crewmate) has to determine whether or not emergency life sustaining measures such as CPR are necessary. This all has to be done in less than 4 minutes if emergency breathing is required.

Linemen receive extensive work procedure and electrical lifesaving procedures in order to perform their jobs safely and efficiently.

This annual recertification is conducted by members of Kansas Electric Cooperatives' Loss Control, Safety and Compliance Department.