

LANE-SCOTT CONNECTIONS

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

Manager's Column

By Earl Steffens

In November the Board of Trustees approved our 2003 budget for Lane-Scott Electric Cooperative, Inc. The highlights of the budget is as follows:

- Financial position of the cooperative is strong and showing that our year end will again show good margins for our members.
- Capital credits in the amount of \$178,377.00 from years 1979-1981 will be paid back in November of 2003.
- Lane-Scott anticipates that it's power supply costs and revenue will be approximately the same as 2002.
- Our anticipated total electric expense will be up about 3-4% over 2002 actual expenses as our property taxes, liability and workman's compensation, salary and wages, health insurance being the main factors and general operating costs keep rising at about the same rate.
- Interest expense will increase slightly as Lane-Scott Electric draws down on its new \$1,200,000.00.
- Lane-Scott Electric Cooperative will continue to maintain the City of Dighton's electric service as part of their O & M agreement.
- The Operations Department made good progress in 2002 by adding \$811,000 to plant; this is ahead of schedule as we continue working on our 2002-2005 Construction Work Plan. We anticipate adding about this amount to our plant in 2003.
 - These will be in the areas of pole testing and replacement, installing automatic reading meters, replacement of overhead power line, transformers, OCR's, tree trimming, capacitors, and in general upgrading your service.
- Our resale department will continue to provide a service to our community as we see that it is needed.



Earl Steffens

Lane-Scott Electric Cooperative is happy to provide our members with the best possible service and an affordable rate. Just as any new year is starting out it will bring on many challenges and opportunities, the Lane-Scott Electric Board of Trustees, Management and Employees look forward to 2003 with anticipation.

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 Directors

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Dick Ramsey, Scott City, Treasurer
Eric Doll, Garden City
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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 12:00 noon and 1:00 p.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

High Line Services, LLC Elects Officers

High Line Services, LLC elected its officers at their November 25, 2002 Board of Directors meeting, they are as follows:

| | |
|-----------------------|-------------------------|
| President | Richard Jennison |
| Vice-President | Richard Sorem |
| Secretary | Edward Gough |
| Treasurer | Eric Doll |

High Line Services, LLC also has hired three employees that will be heading up the various departments. We are happy to have these employees on board and ready to start our new business with Lane-Scott Electric Cooperative, Inc.

Floyd "Buddy" Bird

Manager of Powerline Construction and General Manager of High Line Services, LLC

Buddy, as he prefers to be called, came to us from Eastland, Texas where he was the Operations Manager for the Overhead Distribution Division for Bird Electric. Before that Buddy worked for Red Simpson for ten years where he started as a foreman then advanced to general foreman and area manager. Prior to that Buddy worked for Coleman County Electric Cooperative and Texas A&M Extension Service for seventeen years. Buddy has a vast knowledge of all areas of overhead and underground line construction, substation construction, fiber optics and telecommunication. High Line Services, LLC welcomes Buddy, his wife Tina, and son Josh to Dighton.



Floyd "Buddy" Bird

Gary Eitel

Infrared Manager of High Line Services, LLC

A Scott City, Kansas native, Gary has an Associates Degree in Applied Sciences with emphasis in Agribusiness from Garden City Community College. Gary has been self-employed both in farming and livestock operation as well as helping to develop Ag Spectrum, a fertilizer company near Scott City.

Gary is very interested in the infrared technology; he will be attending FLIR Systems certificate training school the first part of January. This will give him the ability to analyze the different technical aspects of the infrared scanning but will give him the opportunity to learn first hand how the many different industries are using infrared and how we can best serve our customers. High Line Services, LLC welcomes Gary and his wife Deandra to be part of our new venture.



Gary Eitel

Fletcher Kershner

Pole Inspection Manager of High Line Services, LLC

Fletcher comes to High Line Services, LLC from Niobrara Electric Association, Inc. of Harrison, Nebraska where he was apprentice lineman. Prior to his time with Niobrara Electric, Fletcher worked for



Fletcher Kershner

Powder River Energy Corp. and Red Simpson as a lineman and equipment operator. Fletcher started out his career with Osmose Wood Preserving Company in their foreman training, graduated and ran multiple inspection crews and later with Asplunds/Utility Pole Technologies as a foreman where they customized their reports to meet the customers needs. Fletcher has desired to have a career in the pole testing area and with his experience as a lineman will provide a valuable contribution to our customers. High Line Services, LLC welcomes Fletcher, his wife Heather, and son Micheal to Dighton.

Washington, D.C. Youth Tour

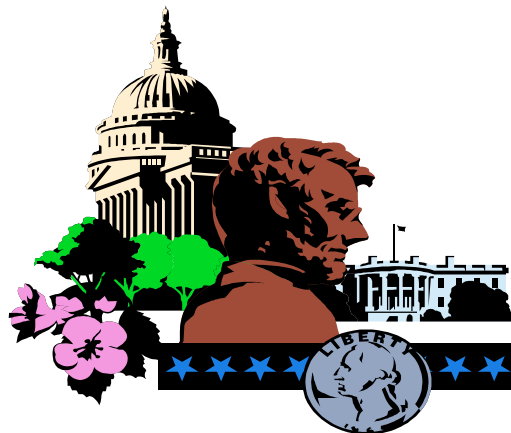
Lane-Scott Electric Cooperative will be offering four free trips for youth of Lane-Scott Electric Cooperative, Inc. members. These trips will be to Washington, D.C. and Steamboat Springs, Colorado.

The Board of Directors of Lane-Scott feels that education of our youth about the operation and structure of cooperatives is important to their future. The youth of today will be the leaders of tomorrow and the more they are aware of how the cooperative works the better off our country will be. With this in mind two youths will be selected to attend the Washington D.C. "Government in Action" trip and two will be selected to attend the Cooperative Youth Leadership Camp in Steamboat Springs, Colorado by the staff at Lane-Scott Electric Cooperative.

This trip is open to any sophomore or junior whose parents are members of Lane-Scott Electric Cooperative. To qualify for this trip you must submit a 200-word essay on "How the services from Lane-Scott Electric Cooperative, Inc. have made our life better." This must be in our office by February 15, 2002. The winners will also be asked to present a short talk on their trip at the Lane-Scott Annual Meeting in July.

Last year Lane-Scott Electric Cooperative sponsored Heather McDaniel, daughter of Tom and Roxie Mulville, of Dighton for the Washington D.C. trip and Adam Sheldon, son of Burl and Barbara Sheldon, of Healy for the Steamboat Springs trip.

The dates of the trips are June 12-19, 2003 for Washington, D.C. and July 19-25, 2003 for the Steamboat Springs Tour. Parents help your children to understand what a good opportunity this is and encourage them to participate. If you have any questions or concerns about either trip, please contact our office and ask for Earl Steffens.



Manning Substation to get Backup

The Board of Trustees at their November 25, 2002 board meeting decided to consider a new transformer for the Manning Substation, which is located 2 miles west of Manning and 6 miles north. As our system has continued to grow it is more apparent that if we were to have an outage with our only transformer at the Manning Substation we have no backup system. In the past before the load got larger, Lane-Scott Electric was able to back feed the Manning Substation from the Dighton Substation but now that option isn't available to us.

In 1975 the Manning Substation was constructed with a 5000 KVA transformer and we will be replacing it with a 5000 KVA, this will not only give us the reliability we are looking for but also give us the capacity needed for growth on this

Tips to Prevent Carbon Monoxide Poisoning at Home

The risk for carbon monoxide poisoning increases in winter, when many gas-burning appliances run more frequently.

Mitch Ricketts, a safety officer with Kansas State University Research and Extension, offers the following tips for preventing carbon monoxide poisoning:

- * Get all fuel-burning appliances checked by a qualified service representative.
- * Don't sleep in a room with an unvented gas or kerosene space heater. As a precaution, homeowners can open a window to provide fresh air, and make sure the doors are open to the rest of the house. Use only the type and grade of fuel recommended by the manufacturer.
- * Don't leave a vehicle running in a garage or other enclosed area, even if the outside garage doors are open. Likewise, never operate gasoline-powered tools in basements, garages, or other enclosed spaces.
- * Don't try to heat the home with an oven, range, clothes dryer, or camping equipment.
- * Never use a charcoal grill or hibachi inside a home, garage, vehicle or tent.
- * Install a carbon monoxide detector in your home. The detector should have a label stating that it complies with UL Standard 2034 or IAS Standard 6-96.

For more information regarding carbon monoxide, interested persons may visit the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's website at <http://www.epa.gov/iaq/co.html>.

part of our system. The cost for the transformer will be approximately \$200,000.00 and the cost of installation will be approximately \$300,000.00. This same type of situation occurred in Beeler in 1992, Lane-Scott Electric Cooperative, Inc. used this approximate scenario and it has been very successful for us.

Winter Storm Safety Tips

Before the Storm

- ◆ Keep ahead of the winter storm by listening to weather forecasts.
- ◆ Check to see that your battery operated radio and flashlights are in working order. Buy extra batteries. Check medical supplies, baby items and first aid supplies.
- ◆ Make necessary trips for supplies before the storm develops. Stock up on canned and ready to eat foods (make sure you have a manual can opener in case of a power outage).
- ◆ Make sure you have an alternate heat source and fuel. (Never burn charcoal or trash inside.) Test your fire extinguisher and smoke detectors.
- ◆ On the farm, move animals to sheltered areas, haul extra feed and have ample water supply for them.



Venting Dryer to Inside a Risk

Venting a clothes dryer to circulate warm air inside a house does NOT save energy. It may actually reduce drying efficiency.

Officials of the Kansas Energy Extension Service say that indoor venting causes excessive humidity in the area surrounding the dryer, which causes the dryer to run longer and use more energy. Excessive humidity also can cause condensation on windows and create hidden moisture problems.

More dangerous still: Dryer exhaust also contains chemical compounds from detergents, bleaches and fabric softeners and may include fine lint particles.

