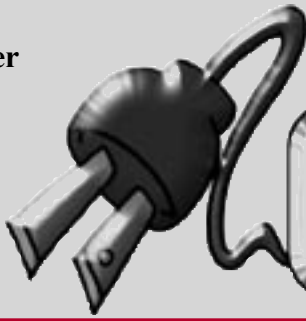


December
2005



Lane-Scott Electric Cooperative

LANE-SCOTT CONNECTIONS

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

Meet the Employee



Chad Rupp

Chad Rupp began working for Lane-Scott Electric Cooperative on November 1, 2005, as an apprentice lineman.

Chad and his wife, Marlene (a.k.a. Charlie), have recently moved to Dighton. They have lived in the Ness County area all their lives. They bring with them their three children, Destiny, 7, Eli, 3, and Seth, 2.

The Rupps also have a gun supply business called C Bar R Enterprises.

They provide hunters and shooters with everything from guns and ammo to safes to store supplies.

Chad is also a trained Emergency Medical Technician (EMT), as well as a fire fighter. Chad and Charlie stay very busy chasing their three children. They also have four horses that occupy their time. When time allows, Chad also enjoys hunting and fishing as well as several other outdoor activities.

Preparing Now for Winter Storms

It's hard to predict the weather, but it's easy to prepare for it. Here's how to plan ahead for unavoidable power outages that can accompany winter storms.

- Listen to weather forecasts every day so you'll know when high winds or heavy snows or ice are on the way. High winds or heavy snows are most likely to affect power lines.
- Post Lane Scott's outage report phone number on your refrigerator so it will be handy if you must report an outage: 1-800-407-2217.
- Pile a few extra blankets and sweaters together so you can find them easily if the heat goes off. Dress in layers to stay warm.
- Teach children to stay away from fallen or sagging power lines. They could be energized and dangerous, even if the power is out.

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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Staff

Earl Steffens, General Manager
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

Lane-Scott Trustees and Manager Receive Industry Leadership Certification



Richard Jennison

Richard Jennison, Healy; Harold Hoss, Ness City; Paul Seib, Jr., Ness City; and Earl Steffens have earned certificates for both the Credentialed Cooperative Director and Board Leadership at the NRECA Regional Meeting in Cheyenne, Wyoming, in November.

The Board and manager took these courses as part of their commitment to the education of cooperative Trustees. The program covers the many competencies that Trustees need to succeed.

Trustees and employees have a unique opportunity to develop their effectiveness at Lane-Scott. The CCD curriculum consists of five courses designed to provide knowledge and skills required to be a cooperative trustee.

The Board Leadership certificate requires an individual to earn 10 credits from a variety of industry related courses. Lane-Scott trustees and employees believe in the importance of continuing education to better serve our members on the end of the line. This type of dedication, on the part of our trustees and employees, is just one way we work to make Lane-Scott a cooperative you can rely on today and in the future.



Paul Seib, Jr.



Harold Hoss



Earl Steffens

Reducing Your Water Heating Costs

Water heating is a major utility expense for most families. In northern climates, it is usually second in cost only to heating, and in southern climates it may lead the list for some homes.

Not surprisingly, one of the simplest ways to reduce the cost of water heating is to use less hot water. Many new appliances do just this. Look for the green Energy Star® label on all new appliances, designating

the Department of Energy's highest efficiency rating.

If you're considering buy-

ing a new clothes washer, consider the new horizontal axis clothes washers that use less than half the hot water and energy of standard vertical-axis models. Washing clothes in cold water can save you a lot on water-heating costs, too.

Bathing is one of the largest water uses for most families. A new water-saving shower head will save quite a bit of water with if it has a maximum flow of 2.5 gallons per minute.

Replacing or improving your water heater can yield the biggest savings. Older water heaters were insulated with an inch or two of fiberglass insulation, while new water heaters are insulated with up to three inches of high-efficiency

foam. You may even want to order a new high efficiency water heater now, to avoid having to buy the typical low-efficiency unit when your existing unit fails unexpectedly. If you'll be purchasing an electric water heater, order one that is insulated with three inches of foam.

If you're going to keep your existing electric water heater, insulate the sides and top with a water-heater blanket. Insulate at least the first few feet of both the hot and cold water lines above your water heater to reduce heat loss through these lines. Water heater blankets and water line insulation are available from home improvement stores.



COLD WEATHER RULE

Effective Through March 31

Lane-Scott members who are unable to pay their electric service bills during cold weather need to fulfill good faith requirements when attempting to pay. The requirements of members are summarized below:

- Members must notify the cooperative and state their inability to pay their service bill in full.
- Members must apply to federal, state, local, or other financial assistance programs for which they may be eligible to receive aid in paying utility bills.
- Members must make an initial minimum payment of the arrearage, plus the bill for consumption during the most recent billing period for which service was provided, divided by 12.
- Members will be required to enter a level payment plan agreement for past, current, and future charges for electric service, with arrears paid in installments over the next 11 months. A member and the cooperative may negotiate other payment arrangements mutually agreeable, individualized to the customer's situation, providing the most appropriate terms, after the customer has been informed that they have at least 11 months to pay.

- Members will be required to provide sufficient financial information to enable the cooperative to determine an appropriate payment agreement.

Please note that members may be ineligible for these benefits if they fail to follow the above requirements, illegally divert utility services, receive service by tampering, or default on a payment agreement.

During the cold weather period, your cooperative will do the following:

- Inform you of agencies or organizations which may provide financial assistance in paying utility bills.
- Not disconnect service until the customer is personally contacted or a notice is posted on the consumer's premises the day before disconnection is to take place.
- In no event will the cooperative disconnect service if the temperature is forecast to fall below 35 degrees F or be in the mid-30's or colder within 24 hours following the time of disconnection.

These procedures are to ensure that human health and safety are not unreasonably endangered during the cold weather months.

Gift-Giving that Saves Energy

Holiday gift-giving is heart-warming, full of surprises and fun. It also creates an extra one million tons of waste between Thanksgiving and New Year's Eve every year!

Why not consider giving presents that use less energy and create less trash? Some suggestions:

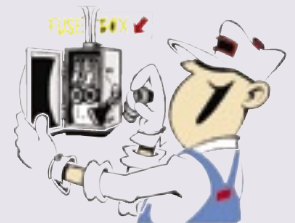
- Give energy-efficient small appliances like kitchen aids and grooming devices.
- Stuff stockings with compact fluorescent light bulbs.
- Create a hand-made gift, like a basket of baked goods or fruit, a collection of your family's favorite recipes, a videotape of family members sharing their favorite stories, or a wreath strung with holly and pine cones.
- Buy something you know the recipient will use: tickets to a ball game or concert; a gift certificate to the video store or grocery store; or a membership in a health club.

As you celebrate the season of joy and giving, give and use wisely. Who knows how far the benefits will spread!

Lane-Scott Electric Cooperative Has...

We give free estimates on all jobs and would be glad to answer any questions you have.

**Electricians,
Heating and Air Conditioning
personnel on staff for all your
residential, agricultural and
commercial needs.**



Lane-Scott Electric Cooperative

Just stop in!

410 South High
Dighton, KS

(620) 397-5327 or (800) 407- 2217

Give us a call!

Lane-Scott Electric Cooperative, Inc. Statement of Nondiscrimination

Lane-Scott Electric Cooperative, Inc. has filed with the Federal Government a Compliance Assurance in which it assures the Rural Utilities Service that it will comply fully with all the requirements of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Age Discrimination Act of 1975 and the Rules and Regulations of the Department of Agriculture issued thereunder, to the end that no person in the United States shall, on the grounds of race, color, or national origin be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be otherwise subjected to discrimination in the conduct of its program and the operation of its facilities.

Under this assurance, this organization is committed not to discriminate against any person on the grounds of race, color or national origin in its policies and practices relating to applications for service or any other policies and practices relating to treatment of beneficiaries and participants including rates, conditions and extension of

service, use of any of its facilities, attendance at and participation in any meetings of beneficiaries and participants or the exercise of any rights of such beneficiaries and participants in the conduct of the operations of this organization.

Any person who believes himself, or any specific class of individuals, to be subjected by this organization to discrimination prohibited by Title VI of the Act and the Rules and Regulations issued thereunder may, by himself or a representative, file with the Secretary of Agriculture, Washington, D.C. 20250 or the Rural Utilities Service, Washington, D.C. 20250 or this organization, or all, a written complaint. Such complaint must be filed not later than 180 days after the alleged discrimination, or by such later date to which the Secretary of Agriculture or the Rural Utilities Service extends the time for filing. Identity of complainants will be kept confidential to the extent necessary to carry out the purpose of the Rules and Regulations.

Christmas Tree Safety

The combination of blazing fireplaces and Christmas trees make for great Christmas carols, but they are a bad combination for safety.

A dry evergreen is highly flammable. Sometimes, even a minor spark can ignite it and fireplaces are notorious for emitting sparks. It is important to place your tree in a room separated from your fireplace if possible. If it is not possible, be sure there is plenty of distance between them and never leave a fire blazing near your tree when going to bed or leaving home.

Lane-Scott wants you to have a Merry Christmas, but leave the open fires and Christmas trees to the carols and not your living room.

Before installing your Christmas tree in the tree stand, cut off one inch from the bottom of the trunk which will enable the tree to take up the amount of moisture it needs each day.

Water your tree each day with the following mixture to preserve the tree.

¼ cup chlorine bleach

1 cup sugar

1 gallon warm water

Mix a fresh batch each time you add water to your tree.



HAPPY HOLIDAYS

*We would like to thank our members
for their patronage in 2005.*

*From,
The Employees, Manager, and Trustees
at Lane-Scott Electric Cooperative.*

Our office will be closed:

Monday, December 26th

Monday, January 2nd