



**KAW VALLEY
ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE**

LightTalk

**Kaw Valley Electric
Cooperative, Inc.**

Jerry Manning—General Manager

Board of Trustees

Dallas Caster *Auburn*
President

Lloyd Wulfkuhle *Stull*
Vice-President

Robert Lynch *Berryton*
Secretary

Larry Butel *Overbrook*
Treasurer

Gene "Pete" Allen *Valencia*
Trustee

Joe Conley *Delia*
Trustee

Shirley Henderson *Carbondale*
Trustee

Rob Sage *Dover*
Trustee

Mark Wulfkuhle *Clinton*
Trustee

Gregory Lee
Legal Counsel

**Member Survey
This Month!**

You may receive a phone call this month from a research firm, hired on behalf of Kaw Valley, conducting a member satisfaction survey. If you are contacted, please consider taking this short survey. Your feedback is important to us! Additional information about this survey can be found in the December issue of *Kansas Country Living*.

Co-op Alliance/Consolidation Update

Over the next 16 months, Kaw Valley will work to provide you with the most up-to-date information on the working alliance between Kaw Valley and Leavenworth-Jefferson Electric Cooperative (LJEC), which was announced in a letter sent to you at the beginning of October.

In addition to our website, www.kve.coop, this magazine is where you will also find updates on the potential consolidation of the two cooperatives in April 2016.

Last month, we provided you with a list of common questions and answers regarding the alliance/consolidation.

This month, we're giving you an inside-look into the governance differences that will arise should two cooperatives consolidate. These differences need to be resolved prior to the membership's vote on the consolidation in April 2016.

In November 2014, a Governance Committee was formed to address these differences. The committee is comprised of three board members from each cooperative, as well as the general manager and corporate attorney from each cooperative.

**Kaw Valley Electric
Representatives**

- ▶ **JOE CONLEY**, Board Member
- ▶ **ROBERT SAGE**, Board Member
- ▶ **MARK WULFKUHLE**, Board Member
- ▶ **JERRY MANNING**, General Manager
- ▶ **GREG LEE**, Cooperative Attorney

LJEC Representatives

- ▶ **HARLAN HUNT**, Board Member
- ▶ **JEANINE MURPHY**, Board Member
- ▶ **LARRY STEVENS**, Board Member
- ▶ **STEVE FOSS**, General Manager
- ▶ **JOHN WINE**, Cooperative Attorney

There are two main issues on

Continued on page 16-B ▶

Mark Your Calendars!

The Kaw Valley Electric Cooperative Annual Meeting will be held on Wednesday, April 1, 2015. Registration will begin at 5 p.m. with the meeting beginning promptly at 6:30 p.m. The meeting will be held at the cooperative's headquarters located at 1100 SW Auburn Road in Topeka.

This is your chance to catch up on the business of your cooperative from the previous year and to also learn about new programs and services coming to Kaw Valley. In addition, there will be discussion on the newly announced alliance and potential cooperative consolidation.

Mark your calendar—you don't want to miss it!

April 2015						
S	M	T	W	U	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

Continued from page 16-A ▶

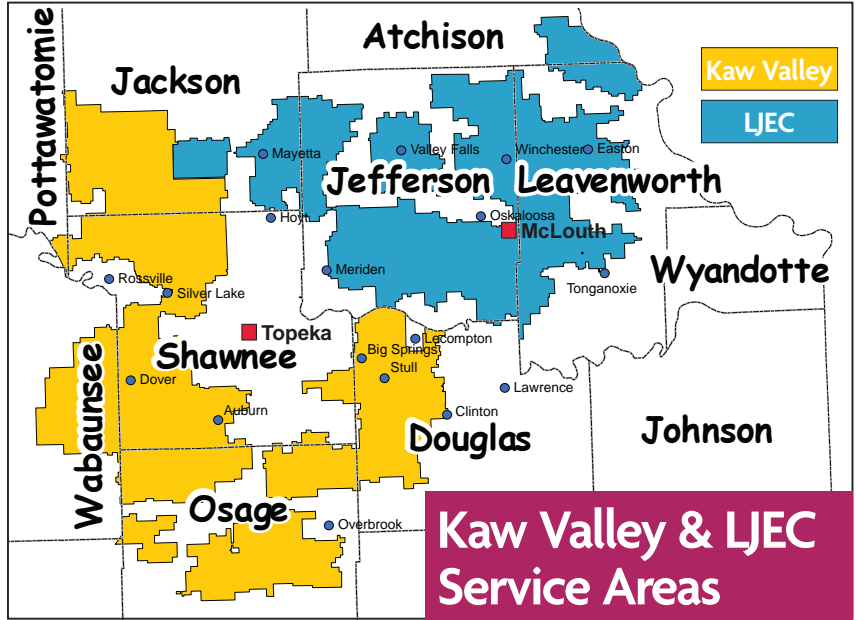
which the Governance Committee will focus over the coming months.

1. They will research and propose the necessary changes to consolidate two sets of Bylaws, Rules & Regulations and Board Policies into one common set.
2. They will research the best option for the structure of the new board of trustees.

Currently, each cooperative has its own set of Bylaws, Rules and Regulations, and Board Policies. While there are similarities, there are differences that have to be addressed and a common set of Bylaws, Rules and Regulations. Board Policies also need to be created so they could be adopted should the consolidation vote be successful in April 2016.

Additionally, each cooperative has a board that consists of nine members, for a total of 18. Research by and recommendations from the committee are necessary to determine the best structure of a consolidated board. A resignation plan will be created so that, if the consolidation vote is successful, the consolidated board can begin duties immediately.

The Governance Committee will also research and make recommendations on an



assortment of other issues related to the potential consolidation:

- ▶ Name of the new, consolidated cooperative
- ▶ Manager / Co-managers of consolidated cooperative
- ▶ Board meetings, committee meetings, state and regional meetings and their associated location(s) and expenses.
- ▶ Designated location of cooperative headquarters; No facilities will close; headquarters designation is for legal purposes only.

In addition to finding information in *Kansas Country Living* magazine, we will post information regarding the alliance and potential con-

solidation at www.kve.coop. Simply go to our home page and click on the button that says “Co-op Alliance.”

Questions specific to the alliance and/or the potential consolidation can be directed to Kaw Valley Assistant Manager, Kevin Gregg at 800-794-2011 or 785-478-3444.

Governance Committee Members

Kaw Valley						
	BOARD MEMBER	BOARD MEMBER	BOARD MEMBER	GENERAL MANAGER	CO-OP ATTORNEY	
	Joe Conley	Robert Sage	Mark Wulfkuhle	Jerry Manning	Greg Lee	
	LJEC					
		BOARD MEMBER	BOARD MEMBER	BOARD MEMBER	GENERAL MANAGER	CO-OP ATTORNEY
Harlan Hunt		Jeanine Murphy	Larry Stevens	Steve Foss	John Wine	

2014 Board of Trustees Election Process Begins

Kaw Valley Electric Cooperative is governed by a Board of Trustees elected by you, our member-owners. Kaw Valley's service territory is divided into three voting districts and within those voting districts there are three trustee districts.

Each year, three board members are elected, one from each voting district. Kaw Valley's bylaws specify that every member is eligible to vote in the board election, based on the members' district number.

How Do I Run For The Board?

Our board members provide a vital connection with our membership and our community at large. We seek those who possess a sincere interest in preserving the strength of our operations and maintaining a productive relationship with our members.

We typically ask a few questions of potential board members as a cursory checklist.

- ▶ Can you devote the necessary time to be a trustee? (Monthly evening regular board meeting and periodic special meetings as they arise).
- ▶ Are you willing to commit to attend additional

meetings beyond.

Additionally, Board Members Must:

- ▶ Be a member and receive electric service in the voting district and trustee district that is up for election.
- ▶ Not be employed by or financially interested in a competing enterprise.
- ▶ Not be employed by or financially interested in a business selling energy of any type.
- ▶ Not be employed by or financially interested in a business that sells services or supplies to the cooperative.

It is the duty of Kaw Valley's board to appoint a nominating committee whose duties include selecting and nominating qualified candidates to be placed on the election ballot.

If you are interested in seeking a position on the board of Trustees, you can contact Kaw Valley's Assistant Manager, Kevin Gregg by calling 800-794-2011 or 785-478-3444 or email kgregg@kve.coop. You can also contact a member of the nominating committee no later than Tuesday, January 13, 2015.

2014 Nominating Committee

CANDACE BLYTHE—Maple Hill
785-256-6721

JAMES BOOTH—Delia
785-771-3945

MARILYN COLGAN—Lawrence
785-748-0721

DEAN LEWIS—Silver Lake
785-582-4571

RALPH MCLEOD—Auburn
785-249-5916

DARLA GARRETT—Burlingame
785-213-2478

MIKE MUSICK—Overbrook
785-665-7480

KEITH NOE—Lecompton
785-887-6931

CHALMERS SMITH—Tecumseh
785-379-5665

Free Attic Inspections to Help You Save on Your Electric Bill

Kaw Valley is always working to provide you with the most valuable and practical programs and services that assist with saving you money on your electric bill.

Although we can't control many aspects of your energy costs, we are constantly researching programs that could help you save.

Your home's attic is the most

important component for energy efficiency. The recommended level of insulation in your home's attic has gone up by approximately 40 percent over the last 10 years. So, if your home is over 10 years old, chances are, you don't have enough insulation in your attic. It is estimated that nine out of 10 homes in Kaw Valley's area have less than half

of the recommended insulation in the attic which means you're sending energy dollars "right through the roof."

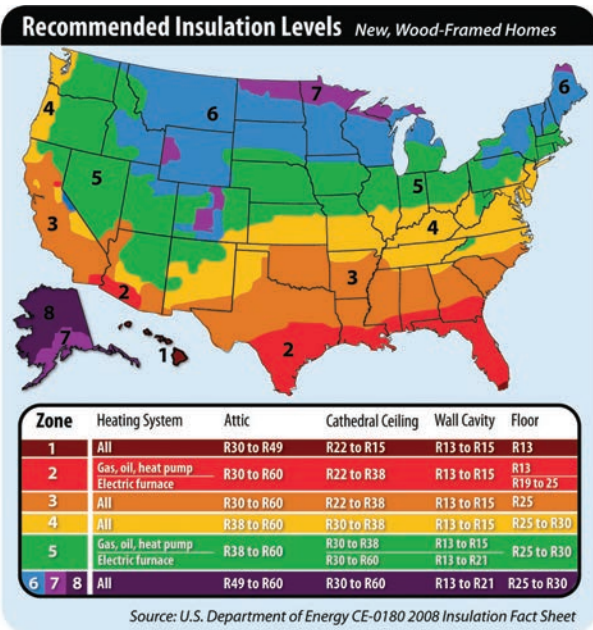
A few signs to indicate your attic may be poorly insulated:

- ▶ Trouble heating or cooling certain rooms in your home
- ▶ Furnace / AC constantly cycling on/off
- ▶ Your home is over 10 years old
- ▶ Difficult to keep a consistent temperature in your home
- ▶ Energy just seems too high

With this newest service the Attic Report Card team will come to your home and evaluate your home's attic insulation by conducting a 12-point inspection including areas such as:

- ▶ Current level of attic insulation
- ▶ Attic ventilation
- ▶ Attic wall insulation
- ▶ Attic air infiltration
- ▶ Attic cavities

Continued on page 16-D ▶



Continued from page 16-C ►

- Animal infestation
- Much more!

In turn, you will receive a detailed report card of how well your attic is currently insulated and exactly what options you have to improve it. Your report will also include estimated energy savings if you should choose to have the recommended changes made in your attic. In addition, your report will include information about any local and federal energy rebates.

Kaw Valley members can take advantage of this partnership by going to www.atticreportcard.com and click on "Grade My Attic." You must enter the promo code "KVE" to take advantage of this free service. You can also call, toll-free, 855-GRADE IT (855-472-3348) with any questions or to set up an appointment.

We are happy to be able to provide this practical, no-cost way for Kaw Valley members to have their attic inspected that could result in significant savings on their electric bill.

Questions regarding this program can be directed to Kaw Valley's Member Service Representatives. Just call 800-794-2011 or 785-478-3444.



Kaw Valley members can go to www.atticreportcard.com and click on "Grade My Attic" and enter the promo code "KVE." You can also call 855-472-3348 to set up an appointment.

Attention High School Juniors Win an All-Expense-Paid Trip!

Kaw Valley Electric is proud to sponsor an all-expense paid trip to Washington, D.C., for two high school juniors whose parent(s)/guardian(s) are members of Kaw Valley.

Kaw Valley partners with our statewide organization, Kansas Electric Cooperatives, and students from other Kansas electric cooperatives join approximately 1,600 students from other electric cooperatives around the country for a week full of activities in our nation's capital.

Entry forms and contest rules can be found at www.kve.coop. The application and student profile must be returned to be eligible. Trip information will also be distributed to school counselors in January.

Applications/profiles can be mailed to the Kaw Valley's office (PO Box 750640, Topeka, KS 66675) faxed to 785-478-1088 or emailed to Denise Peterson at denise.peterson@kve.coop.

The deadline to submit applications is 5 p.m. on February 20, 2015.



Zach Taylor (left) and Caleb Lovejoy pose in front of the U.S. Capitol during the 2014 Electric Cooperative Youth Tour. This year's tour is June 11-18, 2015.

What will you do on Youth Tour?

DAY ONE Get Acquainted Banquet to meet all the Youth Tour participants.

DAY TWO Tour the Kaw Valley Electric and the Kansas State Capitol. Fly to Washington, D.C.

DAY THREE Visit Old Town Alexandria and attend a theater performance.

DAY FOUR Tour Holocaust Memorial Museum, Arlington National Cemetery, the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier and Smithsonian museums. Take a dance cruise on the Potomac River.

DAY FIVE Attend the Youth Day Program

with 1,600 other students. Tour Mt. Vernon and Smithsonian museums. Take a night tour of the memorials.

DAY SIX Have breakfast on Capitol Hill with Congressmen and staff. Meet Senators. Visit Iwo Jima memorial and shop at Pentagon City Mall.

DAY SEVEN Tour the National Archives, Fort McHenry National Monument, National Aquarium and Baltimore Inner Harbor. Attend the Youth Day farewell event.

DAY EIGHT Visit Newseum and other memorials before returning to Kansas.