

THE ELECTRIC COMPANY THAT
DOESN'T STOP AT YOUR METER

Butler REC NEWS

From the Manager

Happy New Year! It's hard to believe another year has come and gone. 2011 was a very challenging year here at Butler REC and 2012 promises to be just as challenging.

Holiday Refund

I hope that most of you noticed the Holiday Refund on your December bill. In the true Cooperative non-profit spirit, we determined that our power supplier had made more money than needed for operation due to the very hot summer we had. Your Management team and Board of Trustees went to bat for you and voted to return over \$300,000 to members.

CSAPR Ruling

We all realize that the cost of electric service is rising way too fast. In fact, I just sat through a presentation today that explained how the new rules currently in effect from the EPA's Cross-State Air Pollution Rule (CSAPR) could increase our energy costs by as much as 15 percent next year.

We have teamed up with all of the electric utilities in the state to try and get a reprieve from this new regulation for Kansas. Hopefully, by the time you are reading this letter, we will have been successful in our effort. If not, I

will be updating you in future months as to the actual affect the CSAPR is having on our costs and operation.

2012 Annual Meeting Scheduled

As we ring in the New Year, we are reminded of resolutions, tax returns and preparing for this year's Annual Meeting in March. While that may seem a long way off, Butler REC's management and employees work diligently to bring quality information to our Annual Meeting. This year's meeting is scheduled for March 15 and will again be held at Circle High School in Towanda.

2012 Work Plan Complete

For the cooperative, a new year also means a new budget, work plan and goals for the coming year. The Board has just finished working on our budget and work plan for 2012.

In 2011, one major area of emphasis was right-of-way maintenance, i.e. tree trimming. Last year's budget increased our emphasis on trees and we were so successful in improving reliability that we have once again budgeted for additional right-of-way maintenance.

For those of you who are served by our Furley transmission line, or

our Whitewater, Elbing and Harvey County substations, we apologize for the less than dependable service this past year.

We want you to know that we are working hard to improve your reliability. Over the past few months, we have replaced almost all of the 1970s-style old insulators on the transmission line. These insulators are the primary cause of numerous pole and cross-arm fires this past summer. In addition, we are adding large breakers between Westar's transmission line and our Furley line. This will allow us to be fed by a much more reliable Westar transmission line and should improve your reliability significantly.

We have many other projects in the works for this next year and I will keep you informed as we move throughout the year. The employees here at Butler REC want to thank you for your support over this past year. We have had a lot of challenges and I am proud of how our employees have responded.

Have a wonderful 2012.



R. Dale Short

Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month

Switch to energy-saving halogen incandescent lightbulbs to cut lighting energy use by 25 percent. These bulbs last three times longer than traditional incandescent bulbs and can easily be dimmed. Want to save more? Compact fluorescent lamps (CFLs) and light-emitting diodes (LEDs) cut lighting energy use by at least 75 percent. Learn more at energysavers.gov. SOURCE: US DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

2012

Butler REC Annual Meeting

Thursday, March 15, 2012, at 6 p.m. at Circle High School in Towanda

Co-op Information



Butler REC will hold its Annual Meeting at Circle High School in Towanda on March 15, 2012. The meal will be served at 6 p.m. with the business meeting to follow.

Entertainment



Your children will have a ball in the Kids Korner while you attend the meeting.

Kids Korner



There will be several booths to inform you about products and services offered by your cooperative.

Vendor Displays



Be sure to look at your *Kansas Country Living* magazine and bill stuffers for more information. You can RSVP by calling our office at 316-321-9600 or 800-464-0060.

We Hope to See You There!

Nominating Committee Meeting Scheduled for January 9

The Butler REC Nominating Committee will meet at the co-op office, 216 S. Vine, in El Dorado January 9, 2012, at 6:30 p.m. to nominate Trustees for the following Trustees whose terms expire this year:

- ▶ **District 1—SHAWN WIEBE**, Newton-Whitewater;
- ▶ **District 4—RICHARD PEARSON**, Derby-Mulvane;
- ▶ **District 6—JOHN WORRELL**, Douglass-Leon.

According to the printed in the bylaws in Article IV, Section 4, on Page 13.

It shall be the duty of the Board of Trustees to appoint, not less than 30 days nor more than 90 days before the date of a meeting of the members at which Trustees are to be elected, a committee on nominations consisting of not less than five nor more than 11 members representation.

No member of the Board of Trustees shall serve on the committee. The committee keeping in mind the principal of equitable representation shall prepare and post at the principal office of the co-op, at least 20 days before the meeting a list of nominations for Trustees which may include a greater number of candidates than are to be elected. Any 15 or more members acting together may make other nominations by petition not

2012 Nominating Committee

- ▶ **DENNIS BAIER**
13570 SW Prairie Creek Rd
Rose Hill, KS 67133
- ▶ **FERRIS BARRETT**
11617 SW 21st.
Towanda, KS 67144
- ▶ **VIRGIL BIBY**
15198 NE Bluestem Rd
Burns, KS 66840
- ▶ **WILLIAM BUSENITZ**
8831 NW Hopkins Switch Rd
Potwin, KS 67123
- ▶ **GREG COX**
10546 SE Keighley Rd
Leon, KS 67074
- ▶ **DON REGIER**
16871 NW Prairie Creek Rd
Newton, KS 67114
- ▶ **GARY C. ROWLES**
15309 E. 63rd St. S.
Derby, KS 67037

less than 15 days prior to the meeting and the Secretary shall cause to be posted such nominations at the same place where the list of nominations made by the committee is posted.

Said Secretary shall cause to be mailed with the notice of the meeting or separately, but at least ten days before the date of the meeting a statement of the number of Trustees to be elected, and the names and addresses of the candidates specifying separately the nominations made by petition, if any.

The chairman shall call for additional nominations from the floor and nominations shall not be closed until at least one minute has passed during which no additional nominations has been made. No member may nominate more than one candidate (Section 4 Amended at Annual Meeting of Members, February 22, 1977).



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Attention High School Juniors

Butler REC will send TWO students on a FREE summer trip!



Chase Johnson poses in front of our nation's capitol during the 2011 "Government in Action" Youth Tour.



Alyssa Scott enjoys the view on top of Lookout Mountain outside of Denver during the 2011 Cooperative Youth Leadership Camp.

I met some amazing people and got to experience some outstanding tours of our nation's capital. Not only did this trip provide me with better insight on the government, it also allowed me to share the experience with many other talented and outstanding individuals.

CHASE JOHNSON, 2011 DELEGATE

If you are a Butler REC member and your child is a high school junior, he or she may have a chance to win an all expenses-paid trip to Washington D.C., June 14-21, 2012, or Steamboat Springs, CO, July 14-20, 2012, plus a scholarship!

During Youth Tour, students will join 1,500 youth from across the nation in Washington, D.C. You will see the monuments and other attractions, as well as visit Capitol Hill to learn more about how our government works.

At camp, you will join youth from Colorado, Wyoming, Oklahoma and Kansas. You will form your own mock cooperative, learn about leadership and also learn about the cooperative industry.

Butler REC will provide information over which there will be a quiz, and a short oral interview to pick the two winners. The overall winner will choose which trip he or she would like to go on and he or she will also receive a \$500 scholarship. The

The thing that I enjoyed the most about camp was the leadership seminar by Jake Worcester. It taught me more about my personality type and how I can work with others to become a better leader.

ALYSSA SCOTT, 2011 CAMPER

second place winner will go on the remaining trip and will also receive a scholarship.

For more information on the 2012 Youth Tour, visit our website at www.butler.coop where you can get information about both trips and download the application. There is also a video of the past trip which will give you an idea of all that you will be able to do and see. For more information you can call Travis at the Butler REC office at 800-464-0060

There's Only One Water Heater As Faithful as the Marathon

Old Faithful and Marathon provide hot water dependently, year after year, without worry. But one is owned by the government and located in Wyoming; the other is available through Butler REC.

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