



BLUESTEM
ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC.
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April 2007

Bluestem NEWS

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Annual Meeting 2007, A Success!

Bluestem held its Annual Meeting on March 12 at the Riley County High School.

Approximately 250 members, Trustees and employees attended the meeting and the vendor fair held prior to the meeting.

Trustee elections were conducted by mail ballot last December. Re-elected to the Board were Robert Ohlde, Dean Blanka, and Delbert Eichman.



Bluestem Board Secretary, Bruce Meyer, reads the notice of the Annual Meeting.



General Manager, Ken Maginley gives the managers report during the Annual Meeting.



Anthony and Delma Stamm with their daughter, Adria, (a Bluestem Scholarship Winner) were winners of the KEPCo \$50 electric bill credit.



Board President Robert Ohlde presents John & Mary Kiefer, Oak Hill, with the Master Door Prize of \$300.



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Executive Vice President/CEO Stephen Parr from KEPCo of Topeka, Bluestem's power provider, gave an update on generation and transmission issues.



Robert Ohlde, BEC Board President, addresses the Bluestem Annual Membership meeting on March 12, 2007.

Happy Easter! From Bluestem Electric Cooperative

ATTENTION:

Small Business Owners & Ag Producers Energy Efficiency Grant Assistance Meeting

Bluestem is co-hosting an Energy Efficiency meeting with USDA Rural Development on Tuesday, May 1, from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. at the Manhattan Fire Department Headquarters (Denison and Kimball Ave).

USDA is currently holding a series of regional and local meetings promoting its Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy grant programs. These programs are available for small businesses and agricultural producers located in communities with less than 50,000 in population.

The type of assistance can vary, examples include: small businesses obtaining grant assistance to upgrade their existing insulation, windows, or HVAC systems; or small grocery stores and other businesses using refrigeration units might benefit by replacing outdated and inefficient cooling systems.

Agricultural producers can benefit from the grant programs to: upgrade their grain drying equipment to a more efficient system; or convert their flood irrigation system to a more efficient center pivot irrigation system, or some part of the irrigation process, as long as an energy savings

can be proven using an energy audit.

With this Energy Efficiency program, grant assistance is available for up to 25% of the eligible project cost, with a maximum of \$250,000.

The agency is also promoting its Renewable Energy programs. These programs are available to small businesses and agricultural producers in communities with less than 50,000 in population. These are also grant programs, where eligible applicants can receive grant assistance for up to 25% of the project with a maximum assistance of \$500,000. Eligible projects include the purchase and installation of some type of renewable energy system that will supplement the energy demands of the business or farming operation.

The possibilities for grant assistance vary by project. To ensure energy savings for an energy efficiency project, an energy audit will be required as part of the application.

To obtain a list of energy auditors, energy packagers, an application for any of these programs listed above, or for additional information please contact any Kansas USDA Rural Development Office or call (785) 271-2700.

NOTICE: The Due Date Has Changed!

The bill(s) you received around March 19, 2007, is to be paid on or before April 3, 2007.

As stated in previous editions of *Bluestem News*, Bluestem Electric is moving away from a "turn-around" or delayed billing to a timelier billing. To accomplish this transition, we are gradually moving the due date up each month over three of the lowest-bill months.

The March 13th due date was the first due date change of the transition. The April 3rd due date is the second due date change in the transition.

Later this month (estimated to be April 12th), you will receive a bill that will be due by April 25th. Thereafter, the final due date will be the 25th of each month.

Thank you for your cooperation and understanding in this transition!

Are you tired of writing a check for your electric bill each month?

We have a program available where your bill will be automatically deducted from your checking account monthly!

Clip this ad and return it to Bluestem and we will send a Debit Authorization form to you. Once your application has been approved and processing completed your bill will say, "Do Not Pay, Paid by Bank Draft Plan".

If you have any questions please call the Wamego Office at (785) 456-2212 / 800-558-1580, or the Clay Center Office (785) 632-3111 / 800-297-8725.

Name _____ Account # _____
Address _____ Phone # _____

Lightning & Surge Suppression Spring Special

Installed for Just \$34.95!

With spring lightning and thunderstorms coming soon, why not take advantage of a program that will protect your investments from Mother Nature?

Bluestem Electric is running a "Spring Special" on the installation of lightning and surge rings to protect your home, certain electrical appliances and equipment from lightning and power surges.

We are offering you an invitation to sign up for the Power Quality Plus Program. Here's how easy it is to begin your service:

- The lightning and surge protection device, installed at your electric meter, will provide protection from lightning strikes and other major power surges for your home appliances.

- You lease the basic package for only \$4.95 per month, added directly to your monthly power bill. Our technicians do the installation for a one-time fee of \$69.95. However, if you act before May 31, we'll drop the installation fee to \$34.95.

As part of this package, when you sign up you can also purchase an in-home kit of plug-surge protection products or individual surge products for individual appliances inside your home. These products will become your property at the time of purchase.

All equipment comes with a warranty that has a maximum total coverage per site of \$50,000 and \$5,000 per appliance.

To lease the Power Quality Plus system or to get more information on this program, call us today at the Wamego Office at (785) 456-2212 / 800-558-1580, or at the Clay Center Office (785) 632-3111 / 800-297-8725.