HIGHLINE ELECTRIC ASSOCIATION

The Beacon

JULY 2023



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Our mission is to provide our members with reliable, high-quality electricity and other needed services, which will improve their economic and social well-being and provide significant long-range benefits for our communities, our state and our nation.



HIGHLINE ELECTRIC ASSOCIATION
IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY
PROVIDER AND EMPLOYER



SUMMER HOURS

HEA's Sterling and Holyoke offices will be open Monday – Thursday 7 a.m.–5:30 p.m. through September 29.

WE'RE HERE TO SERVE YOU

BY **DENNIS HERMAN** GENERAL MANAGER

e're here to serve you." We've all heard this phrase countless times. These words may sound generic, but to us — your local electric cooperative — they mean everything.

Highline Electric Association was created to serve our community. Back in the day, neighbors banded together and formed our co-op for the common good. In our case, it was the only way the community could bring electricity to the area where there was none. In doing so, HEA helped the community thrive. That mission-focused heritage is the golden thread that is woven throughout our shared history.

Today, HEA continues to power the community. While our focus has remained steady on providing reliable energy to our members, today's energy landscape and consumer expectations are far different than they were decades ago. That's why we're adapting to keep pace with changing technology, evolving needs and new expectations.

Serving as your trusted energy advisor means we want to help you save energy (and money) and provide advice and information on a broad range of energy topics. For example, if you're looking for ways to save energy, check out the Energy Efficiency link under Member Services on our website at www.hea.coop for energy-saving tips and ideas to increase the energy efficiency of your home. Consider scheduling an energy audit with one of our energy experts to identify ways you

YOUR CO-OP NEWS



DENNIS HERMAN

can save energy at home. Understanding how you use energy can help determine the best ways to modify energy use and thereby keep more money in your wallet.

If you're considering a rooftop solar installation, our energy advisors are happy to give you an unbiased view of the pros and cons. Investing in a solar system is a major decision, and it's important to fully understand the costs, responsibilities and potential energy savings. Unlike a solar company that has one objective — to sell its products and services — HEA advisors look at the total energy picture and help you determine the best options for your home. We understand that homeowners must do their due diligence, and we're here to help you through that process.

In a similar vein, we recognize that some of our members are considering electric vehicle options. The ChooseEV link on our website provides a wealth of information on all things EV to help you become familiar with this emerging technology.

So, the next time you hear HEA use the phrase "We're here to serve you," we hope you know that we mean it. Service is deeply ingrained into who we are as an organization. We continue to evolve with the times, and in return, we've found additional ways to serve you and provide more options for how you power your life.

We're here whenever you need us. Connect with us online, in person, through our app or on our social media channels. However you choose to connect, please let us know how we can serve you better.

NEW TO THE **HIGHLINE ELECTRIC TEAM**

Welcome Jaciel Villalobos and Chris Evans

Jaciel Villalobos

Jaciel Villalobos joined Highline Electric Association at the Ovid office as an apprentice lineman on May 15. Jaciel is the son of Ever Omar Renteria Chavez and Cely Villalobos. He graduated from Julesburg High School and attended lineman school at Western Nebraska

Community College. "From the start of my apprenticeship I learned a lot about the industry and got along with the crew," Jaciel said. "Everyone is very helpful; I feel like I can become a great lineman at HEA. I hope to one day know about everything a lineman does and be good at it!"

Chris Evans

Chris Evans joined Highline Electric Association at the Holyoke office as a system engineer on May 31. Chris is originally from Cincinnati, Ohio. He and his wife, Sherry, have been married for 23 years. Chris has worked for co-ops, municipalities and investor-owned utilities for 27 years. "I want to be part of a co-op that Is

well-respected and praised by the members and communities," Chris said. He looks forward to learning new things and the different ways things can be done so he can use his experience for the betterment of the co-op.





July Employee Anniversaries

Congratulations to Highline Electric Association employees who celebrate a work anniversary in July:

Nick Saylor, 33 years Imer Rodriguez, 8 years Dennis Herman, 31 years Benjamin Kafka, 8 years Jeff Blochowitz, 21 years





PESTICIDE SAFETY

Please protect our employees

ighline Electric employees face serious health risks when they unknowingly enter a field that was sprayed with any chemical. Just as you would not subject your family or employees to risk, we do not want to subject our employees to risk.

If you used any chemicals on a field, please notify HEA. You may call the office or you can place a flag at the entrance to the field. Please note the day when it is safe to enter the field and what chemical was used.

Chemical notification signs and flags are available free of charge at any HEA office.

If you call to report an outage, please notify HEA if the field was sprayed.

The initial and long-term effects of absorbing chemicals in the body are extremely hazardous to one's health. Please don't subject our employees to these dangers.



Insulate for Efficiency and Comfort

nsuring your home is properly insulated can go a long way toward making your home more energy efficient and comfortable this summer. Before you attempt to replace insulation, there are some tasks of the job to research. Important considerations include where in your home you need to insulate, and your comfort level with starting and completing the job correctly.

Should I do the job myself?

Whether or not you take on the job yourself depends on several factors, according to the North American Insulation Manufacturers Association. Ask yourself the following questions:

- Is the space you want to insulate open and accessible? The easiest and most common places for do-it-yourself installation projects are attics and basements.
- What type of material are you working with? Batts or rolls are
 often installed by homeowners, while other types of insulation
 may require professional installers.
- What are your DIY skills and comfort level with this job?
- Are there any safety issues that might make the job more suitable for a professional?
- How much time will be needed to address air leaks?

Can I complete it safely?

Even if you are considering installing insulation in an open area that is easy to access, the space should be inspected. A professional insulation installer should be called to correct problems and complete the job if the following conditions are discovered in the inspection:

Did you know that the higher the R-value, the more efficient the insulation?

- Wet or damp insulation
- Moldy or rotted attic rafters or floor joists
- Vents that exhaust moist air directly in the attic space instead of outdoors
- A history of ice dams in the winter
- Little or no attic ventilation
- Knob-and-tube wiring (homes pre-1930)
- Unsealed and uninsulated recessed "can" lights special care must be taken when insulating around these
- Possible presence of asbestos

What is the age of my home?

If your home was built around 1975 or earlier, the insulation may be vermiculite, which can contain asbestos. It is a lightweight, pea-sized, flaky gray material, according to NAIMA. If you suspect you have this type of insulation, do not disturb it; hire a professional to test it. Your local health department might be able to help locate a reputable testing company. If asbestos is found, the insulation will need to be removed by a professional.

For more tips on energy efficiency and electrical safety, visit SafeElectricity.org.



HOW CAPITAL CREDITS WORK

Because electric co-ops operate at cost, any excess revenues, called margins, are returned to members in the form of capital credits.



DO YOU SEE YOUR NAME BELOW?

elow is a list of names of Highline Electric Association members who have unclaimed capital credits from the electric cooperative.

HEA publishes the unclaimed capital credit list every year to notify HEA members that the co-op issued them a capital credit

check and that check has not been cashed.

Look for your name in the printed list below. If you're a current or former HEA member and find your name, email capitalcredits@hea.coop or call 970-854-2236.

ABBOTT, PAM ABERNATHY BRETT ABTS, DANI ABTS, MARY J ACHEN, NORA IEAN ADAMS, VIRGINIA ADLER, JAKE ADMIN, FARMERS HOME ADYE, IULIE A AGRI-FEEDERS, SOUTH PLATTE AGUILAR, HILARIO AGUIRRE, LETICIA AHLGREN, HARRY & JOAN AHNSTEDT, GERALDINE MAE ALBER, ELNORA L ALBERS, JAMES M ALBERTSON HARRY I. ALBRANDT, THOMMI ALBRECHT, EDWARD ALCORN, SAM L ALLEN, ANN DAXTON ALLEN, DENNIS ALLEN, EDGAR D ALLEN, IEFF ALLENDORF, DUANE ALVAREZ, JOE M AMADOR, ARDIE AMEN, DAVID & JACOB AMESBURY, DANIEL ANASTASSIA ANCONA, TERRY ANDAVAZO, MANUEL ANDERSEN, BYRON R ANDERSEN, DEBBIE ANDERSEN, KARYN L ANDERSON ESTATE, JENNIFER ANDERSON, BILL ANDERSON, DAVID L ANDERSON, DON ANDERSON, MONTY ANDERSON, PAUL ANDRES, MIKE ANKENEY, CAROLINE ARMSTRONG, GRACE

ARVISO, ARMANDO ARVIZO IERESEL ATKINS, KATHY ATTCO ATWOOD, LARRY AUSTILL, CAROL AWS BABCOCK & BROWN ENERGY BADE, STEVE R BAILEY, DEBORAH BAILEY, STEVE BAK, DORIS JEAN BAKER, CHASE BAKER, JOE P & BARBARA L BAKER, MARK BAKER, TRACY BALL SARA BALL SHANA BALLARD, STEPHANIE BANE, DAISY BANE, DAVID BANK, CENTURY BANK, FIRSTIER SAVINGS BAPTISTA, STEVEN BARAY, LUIS BARBER, PAM BARBMOORE, DUANE K BARE, SKYE L BARGER, CHRIS BARKLEY, FRANCES BARNARD, ROBIN E BARNES, MELINDA BARNETT DAN BARRETT, ART BARRETTE, HOPE BARRITT, STACY BARROWS, DANIEL BARTELS, A E BARTON, DARREN R BASEGGIO, VINCENT & LAWRENCE BASHAM, KATHERINE BASS, DAN BASS, PAUL BASSETT, FRANCES BATTY, PAUL I

BAUCKE, EDWIN L BAUDER BRIAN BAUER, KENNETH L BAUER, M SCOTT BAYSIDE MARINA BAZAN, RAMIRO BEAMER, KEITH BECKER, LINDA M BEEDE, CRAIG BEELER, JAMES R BEEMER, JERRY R BEGIN, DARLENE M BEGLEY, MARY ANN BEISNER, ANDREA BEJARANO, EMMANUEL BELL, DAVID V BELL DWANE OR MARY BELL, LOIS M BELLENDIR, ANTHONY BEMUS, MELISSANNE BENNETT, TRAVIS BENSON, CURTIS BENSON, PAULINE L BERG, RICHARD I BERG, TED BERGES, TONY LEE BERRY PETROLEUM BERRY, WAYNE L BEST, PHILIP N BEUTLER, T SCOTT BIERMAN, IAMES F BILGER, KEVIN BILLINGER TONYA BINGHAM, JOHN BRUM & BETTY BIRCH EXPL LTD LIABILITY CO BIRGE, STEVE BIRKBECK, JERED & LAURA BJL HOLDINGS LLC BLANKENSHIP, ROBERTA BLEDSOE, HENRY A BLUE BIRD MOBIL HOMES INC BODEN, LAVERN F BOEHM, PAUL BOEKHOUT, TED BOHLENDER, DANETTA BOLIN, RODNEY & TIFFANY

BONNE SHIRLEY BOPPRE SUSAN BORNMAN, JOHNNY BOSCHEN, MARY L BOSTRON, JOHN BOSTRON, PHIL A BOURNE, MARCUS BOWER, DAVID BOYER, DAVID BRACHTENBACH, ZANE BRACKEN, HOPE BRADLEY, DEBRA BRADLEY, MARK BRADLEY, TINA BRAKHAGE, KRISTA M BRANDT AGATHA BRANDT, JOHN F BRANT, MICHAEL BRAUER, DOUGLAS R BRAWLEY, SHAWN BRAZ, BILL BREDEHOFT, DEBORA BRETZ, ROBERT & DIANA BRIDGERS, ELIZABETH BRIGGS, MICHELLE L BRILEY, ROSE BRINER, MILFORD C BRISBY, TAMMIE BROCK, WILLIAM P BROCKBANK, BRIAN BROOK, IIM BROOME ELIZABETH BROPHY, DONALD BROTHERS, MONTEITH BROUGHTON, RHONDA S BROUGHTON, ROLAND E BROWN, BERNARD K BROWN, FRANK C BROWN, JOYCE M BROWN, SUSAN J BROWN, TOBY R BROWN, VICKI BRUNKHARDT, MARK D BRUNS, GEORGE BRUNS, MARVIN

BOND, DENNIS L

BRYAN, ROBIN I BRYANT TRESSIE BUCHANAN, DONNA BUCHANAN, ED & SHEILA BUCHANAN, IOSEPH R BUDD, JAMES S BUEHLER, DENNIS BUFFALO HILLS SIGN INC BUFFALO HILLS SIGN BUILDERS, COPPERSTONE BULLOCK, JASON BUNNER, JERRY BURGESS, DUWAYNE G BURKE, JIM & BAILEY BURMESTER, TAMIE R BURNS, DELMAR I. BURTARD ROB BURTON, DAVID BURTON, KAREN BUSHEFF, LILA MAE BUSIG, INEZ BUSS, RAYMOND J BUTLER, H M BYAM, KENIS D BYERLY, THOMAS K C F GREEN PACKING PLANT C QUARTER CIRCLE RANCH INC CAHOW, ROBERT E CAIN, RAY D CALVERT, MAX A CAMPANY, MARK CAMPBELL, COURT & SANDRA CAMPBELL, MARCIE CAMPFIELD, TAMARA S CARPENTER, WILLIAM S CARR, MIKE I CARUSO, RUTH CARVER, DANIEL & STACIE CASILLAS, RUBY A CASKEY, HELEN F CASTILLO, MARY M

CASTRO, ROBERTO

CAZARES, FABIAN

CAVALLI, PAUL

CENTEX HOME EQUITY CORP CHADA BETTY I. CHADWICK ROD OR CAROL CHAMBERS, KEN & SONIA CHAMPION GROCERY CHANDLER, WILLIAM CHAPEL, STEVEN G CHAPMAN, CAROL L. CHARD, PAUL CHARLES, TIMI CHARTIER, BRIAN & PATTI CHRISTIAN, MARJORY CHRISTNER, JAMES CHRISTOPHER, GERALD CHRISTOPHER, KURT CHURCH, LAMAR CHRISTIAN CLARK BECKEY CLARK, BRADFORD I CLARK, PAUL CLARK, RAYMOND G CLARK, ROBERT E CLARK, TIM & STEPHANIE CLASON, DENNIS CLAY, ANDY CLEAVER, TERRI CLEVELAND, NORMAN CLINKENBEARD, CINDY CLOUSE, KASSIDY CLOUSE, SUSAN CLUB, MERGS UNLIMITED CO. AMOCO PIPELINE CO, ASH & WHITE CONST CO CAVE RANCH CO, CONTINENTAL OPERATING CO. HAMILTON LAND & CATTLE CO, HARRIS LIVESTOCK CO. HEADINGTON OIL CO, HONDO OIL & GAS CO, KIEWIT WESTERN CO, LEWIS & CLARK EXPL CO, LUNA CONSTRUCTION CO, MOUNTAIN BELL CO, NOLBURN ENERGY CO, SCHEEL INVESTMENT

This list will continue in next month's magazine.

ARMSTRONG, SCOTT ARNOLD, CHARLES & KRISTI