

## WHEATLAND ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE **NEWS**

### **Wheatland Electric Cooperative, Inc.**

**Bruce Mueller**—General Manager

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#### **District Offices**

<b>Garden City</b> 2005 W Fulton P.O. Box 973 Garden City, KS 67846 620-275-0261	<b>Scott City-Main</b> 101 Main Street P.O. Box 230 Scott City, KS 67871 620-872-5885
<b>Great Bend</b> 2300 Broadway P.O. Box 1446 Great Bend, KS 67530 620-793-4223	<b>Syracuse</b> 206 1/2 N Main P.O. Box 1010 Syracuse, KS 67878 620-384-5171
<b>Harper</b> 302 W. 6th P.O. Box 247 Harper, KS 67058 620-896-7090	<b>Tribune</b> 310 Broadway P.O. Box 490 Tribune, KS 67879 620-376-4231
<b>Leoti</b> N Hwy 25 P.O. Box 966 Leoti, KS 67861 620-375-2632	

#### **FROM THE MANAGER**

## **Listening to Our Membership**

In this month's letter, I'd like to continue our discussion on self-regulation. If you recall, the Board of Trustees of Wheatland Electric Cooperative, Inc., has voted to let you (the membership) decide if Wheatland should be self-regulated. By now, you probably have either read, seen or heard newspaper ads and radio ads, brochures and website media supporting a **YES** vote for self-regulation. I believe self-regulation will be beneficial for Wheatland and all the members.

In April, we will be conducting local town hall meetings in seven locations across the Wheatland service territory to discuss any questions you may have on the subject of self-regulation. Be sure to look for your invitation in your April billing. If you cannot attend the meeting in your home town, please consider attending a meeting in a nearby town. We would really enjoy getting to know you. As always, feel free to call me or talk with any of our staff to discuss self-regulation.

In order to better understand the needs of our members, Wheatland has conducted membership surveys throughout the last year asking what we do well and what needs improvement. One of the things communicated to us through the surveys is that you believe Wheatland does a good job of providing

electric service.

Providing reliable electric service is part of our mission for the cooperative. So, your acknowledgement means a great deal to the Wheatland employees. Thank you.

Reliable service is due to the efforts of the many Wheatland employees who work hard every day to provide electricity to your homes and businesses. I am proud of their efforts.

One of the things you asked us to improve was energy efficiency. In an effort to address your needs, I am pleased to announce that Wheatland is kicking off a residential heating, cooling and ventilation systems (HVAC) rebate program starting April 1, 2014.

This residential rebate program offers incentives to residential Wheatland members for the installation of energy efficient HVAC systems. To qualify for the incentive, participants must meet all program eligibility criteria and satisfy all installation requirements. There is more information available about this great new program on the pages that follow. Please feel free to contact any of our member services representatives for additional information.

***Until next time, take care.***



**Bruce Mueller**

## Introducing the Wheatland Electric



*rebate program*

Over the past year, Wheatland Electric has conducted a series of member satisfaction surveys. Every quarter, we survey 250 of our members and ask how we're doing as your electric cooperative.

Members consistently give us high marks for providing reliable electric service, being committed to the communities that we serve and having friendly and knowledgeable employees. One of the areas that members have asked us to improve is helping members manage energy use.

In February, we announced the launch of our Kill-A-Watt EZ Library Program. With this new program we placed two Kill-A-Watt EZ meters in every library in our service territory. These meters can be checked out, just like a book, and used at home to help you monitor the electricity usage of nearly any of your household electronic devices.

This month we are launching another exciting new program that

will help members when it comes to energy efficiency, the Residential HVAC

Rebate Program. Under this new program, Wheatland will offer rebate incentives to residential members for the installation of energy-efficient heating, ventilation and air conditioning (HVAC) systems.

Heating and cooling a house often accounts for a majority of a household's monthly energy costs. Many homeowners have a great opportunity to save energy and money by installing a more efficient HVAC system.

There are two standard measures that are most commonly used to rate efficiency of HVAC systems, Seasonal Energy Efficiency Ratio (SEER) and Energy Efficiency Ratio (EER). The higher the SEER or EER rating, the more efficient the system is. New HVAC systems will have to meet a minimum SEER rating of 13 to qualify for the rebate program.

Essentially, higher efficiency equates to lower monthly energy bills and improved comfort. Below is an example on how the new rebate program would work based on a four ton (48,000 BTU) heat pump:

Base rebate (up to 3.0 ton) = \$200  
Add \$30 for each ½ ton over 3 ton = \$60  
Add heat pump bonus = \$150  
**Total Rebate = \$410**

Installing a new HVAC system can be an expensive proposition. This new rebate program will assist homeowners in installing a new energy efficient HVAC system that will ultimately reduce their consumption.

You can find a full explanation of the program details, view the program eligibility requirements and download a rebate form on our website at [www.weci.net](http://www.weci.net) by clicking on the "Energy Education" tab and then on "Rebates" or by contacting any local office.

### Plug-in to Savings!



### Rebate Levels

The current residential central A/C and heat pump rebate levels are as follows:

BTU	Min SEER	Central A/C	Heat Pump
Up to 36,000*	13	\$200	+\$150

\*Add \$30 for each ½ ton above 3 ton (36,000 BTU)

## SHARING SUCCESS

# Wheatland Sharing Success Fund Awards Bad Boyz Boxing \$1,000 Grant

Wheatland Electric's Sharing Success Fund, managed by the Scott Community Foundation, has awarded a \$1,000 grant to Bad Boyz Boxing Club of Garden City.

Bad Boyz Director and coach, Robert Gonzales, submitted the request for the \$1,000 grant to help purchase headgear for all of the participants.

Proper headgear is an important part of ensuring adequate safety for the kids who participate in the club's activities. The headgear will help protect participants from head trauma, as well as serving as an important guard against potential health concerns by providing each participant with their own set of headgear.

Bad Boyz Boxing Club provides a way to engage kids, who would tend to have a tendency to gravitate toward gangs and anti-social behavior, with an activity that encourages personal discipline, responsibility and a team atmosphere.

The main focus is not boxing but emphasizes the importance of education and developing life skills. The club attracts boys and girls, ages five through high school. At any one time the club could have upwards of 60 youth participating in the program.

Gonzales has been mentoring and instructing youth in the club for over 30 years

and has seen a number of his students go on to enjoy highly successful professional boxing careers.

The Scott Community Foundation began formally accepting applications for grants from the Wheatland Electric Sharing Success Fund on December 1, 2012.

Wheatland Electric and CoBank each contributed an additional \$5,000 to the fund in September 2013. The program will continue to run until the funds are exhausted.

Non-profit groups interested in receiving funding from the Wheatland Electric Sharing Success Fund should contact the Scott Community Foundation at 620-872-3790 for further details.



Wheatland's Manager Bruce Mueller (left holding check) and Board President Wes Campbell (right holding check) present a \$1,000 Sharing Success grant to the Bad Boyz Boxing Club of Garden City.



## Happy Easter

All Wheatland Electric offices will be closed on April 18 for our employees to celebrate Easter. In case of an emergency, please call our answering service 1-800-662-4246.



## EVERY MEMBER HAS A VOICE. MAKE SURE YOURS IS HEARD.

Here's something worth shouting about. As an electric co-op member, you have a say in how the co-op is run and the decisions that are made. Isn't that nice to hear? Learn more about the power of your co-op membership at [TogetherWeSave.com](http://TogetherWeSave.com).



Touchstone Energy<sup>S</sup>  
**TOGETHERWE SAVE.COM**

