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Dodge City, KS 67801
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victoryelectric.net
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Electronews



A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative

THE VICTORY ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE ASSN., INC.

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FROM THE CFO

Trustees Retire Almost \$1.2 Million in Capital Credits

Unlike investor-owned utilities, which are for-profit companies accountable to shareholders, rural electric cooperatives like Victory Electric are owned by the people we serve. Because you are a member-owner of Victory Electric, you have a share in our ownership and success.

After reviewing the cooperative's financial health this year, the Victory Electric Board of Trustees authorized the retirement, or return, of \$1,187,367 worth of capital credits. Since 2019, Victory has retired more than \$8.9 million in capital credits.

Victory Electric is a not-for-profit cooperative whose trustees set rates to cover costs, debt payments and emergency reserves. When the revenue collected during the year is greater

than the cooperative's operating expenses, Victory Electric allocates the balance — called margins — to member-owners. Members receive a share of the margins in the form of capital credits.



Angela Unruh

CAPITAL CREDITS ALLOCATION AND RETIREMENT

Capital credits allocations are based on the member-owners' rate class and the amount they contribute to margins based on the electricity purchased

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*Merry Christmas
and Happy New Year!*

*Our offices will be closed at 3 p.m. on Dec. 23 and Dec. 31 and
all day Dec. 24-25 and Jan. 1 to celebrate the holidays.*

2025 Pumpkin Festival Draws Hundreds for Family Fun

Rainy weather on Oct. 25 didn't stop hundreds of kids, parents and volunteers from joining Victory Electric's annual Pumpkin Festival. "Touch-a-Bucket Truck" and inflatable axe throwing were popular additions to the festival this year, along with Victory Electric goodie bags. Costumed kids and their families also painted pumpkins, played games, took snapshots at the fall photo booth, snacked on popcorn and sipped hot chocolate. Linemen helped kids try on helmets, gloves and other safety equipment. USD 443's Bright Beginnings led sensory activity stations and offered books to young children.

Thank you to all our wonderful volunteers from the Boy Scouts, USD 443's Bright Beginnings, the Cathedral of Our Lady of Guadalupe youth group and the Dodge City High School bowling team! We appreciate your help so much, and we couldn't hold this annual event without the support of volunteers from the community. Thank you to everyone who participated in the festival, and we hope to see you again next year.



Trustees Retire Almost \$1.2 Million in Capital Credits *Continued from page 12A*

during the previous year. Victory Electric retains allocations of margins and uses them to maintain reliability, upgrade facilities and invest in system improvements. This operating capital helps support the cooperative through rapid industry changes and advances.

When the board retires capital credits for a period in which you received an allocation, you receive a capital credits refund and your cooperative equity decreases. Retired capital credits appear on the December bill as a bill credit for current members who had an allocation in the years being retired. Former members who no longer receive electric service from Victory Electric and were allocated \$50 or more in capital credits for the years being retired will receive a check. If past retirements didn't add up to \$50, those amounts will be added to this year's retirement until the total reaches \$50 or more, and then a check will be issued.

UNCLAIMED CAPITAL CREDITS

Your capital credits allocations stay on record with Victory Electric even after you leave our service area. When we are unable to deliver capital credits refund checks to former

member-owners, those funds go into an unclaimed capital credits account. Check the list at <https://victoryelectric.net/what-are-capital-credits> to see if you recognize any names.

- ▶ If your name or someone you know appears on the list, call 620-227-2139 with updated contact information.
- ▶ Successors of deceased individuals whose names appear on the list should call for instructions and required paperwork.
- ▶ Please keep your address current and notify Victory Electric of any changes to your contact information so that you will receive future refund checks when capital credits from your allocations are retired.

Capital credits are among the many benefits of your membership in a cooperative. The cooperative difference means we can focus on meeting member-owners' needs rather than on maximizing profits. This holiday season, we are thankful for your continued support of our community-focused co-op.

From your friends at Victory Electric, we hope you have a bright, blessed holiday season.

THANKS,
ANGELA

NONPROFITS: APPLY FOR UP TO \$30K IN FUNDING!

COBANK SHARING SUCCESS GRANT

• Applications open from
JAN. 1 - MARCH 2

• Apply at **VICTORYELECTRIC.NET**

Victory Competes in INTERNATIONAL LINEMAN'S RODEO

Dodge City is known for its Western heritage and the Roundup Rodeo. Four Victory Electric linemen participated in a different kind of rodeo in October. **CARLOS GARCIA**, **MARLON HERNANDEZ** and **JASON BATRES** competed in the journeyman team contest, and **JAKE BUONCRISTIANI** represented Victory in the apprentice division.

The 41st Annual International Lineman's Rodeo & Expo was held Oct. 15-18 in Overland Park at the Overland Park Convention Center and in Bonner Springs at the National Agriculture Center & Hall of Fame.

The Lineman's Rodeo attracts linemen from around the world to compete in events based on traditional lineman tasks, such as pole climbing, hurt man rescue and mystery events that test their skills and knowledge of the electric utility industry. Apprentice linemen also take a written test.

Participants also visited an exhibit hall and safety conference and had the opportunity to network with other line crews. A highlight of the week is a T-shirt swap.

According to Dale Warman, one of the founders of the rodeo, 2025 was the biggest rodeo in the event's history, and a record number of competitors, exhibitors and spectators attended the rodeo Oct. 18. A total of 1,234 competitors — including 870 journeymen on 290 three-person teams and 364 apprentices — worked to complete each event as quickly as possible with no deductions.

TOP: Victory linemen (from left) Jason Batres, Marlon Hernandez and Carlos Garcia represent Victory Electric in the journeyman team contest at the International Lineman's Rodeo.

CENTER LEFT: Carlos Garcia holds his daughter at the rodeo grounds in Bonner Springs.

CENTER RIGHT: Jake Buoncristiani climbs a pole during the apprentice competition.

BOTTOM: Team members (from left) Jason Batres, Marlon Hernandez, Jake Buoncristiani and Carlos Garcia attend the awards banquet at the International Lineman's Rodeo.



Victory Electric Earns ACSI 2025 Customer Satisfaction Award

Victory Electric is honored to have earned a 2025 Customer Satisfaction Award* from the American Customer Satisfaction Index (ACSI®) based on our member survey results. Members were asked to rate their overall satisfaction with us, how well we lived up to their expectations, and how well we measured up to their ideal co-op experience. While these were not the only questions in the survey, we included these specifically because they are the core components of the proprietary ACSI methodology.

Victory Electric's ACSI score substantially outperforms the industry average score earned by publicly

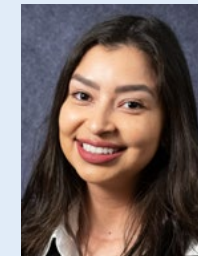


measured utilities reported in the 2025 ACSI Energy Utility Study. This award is a testament to Victory Electric's ongoing efforts to provide the best possible member experience. The 2025 Customer Satisfaction Award affirms that Victory Electric's hard work has been noticed by its members. Victory Electric is grateful for its members and will continue to strive for excellence through constant dedication to improvement.

*AWARD CRITERIA ARE DETERMINED BY THE ACSI® AND ARE BASED ON CUSTOMERS RATING THEIR SATISFACTION IN A SURVEY INDEPENDENT OF THE SYNDICATED ACSI ENERGY UTILITY STUDY. FOR MORE ABOUT THE ACSI, VISIT WWW.THEACSI.ORG/BADGES. ACSI AND ITS LOGO ARE REGISTERED TRADEMARKS OF THE AMERICAN CUSTOMER SATISFACTION INDEX LLC.

HERTEL PROMOTED TO HR AND MSR COORDINATOR

BRENDA HERTEL was recently promoted to human resources (HR) and member services representative (MSR) coordinator. She joined



Brenda Hertel

Victory Electric in September 2019 as an MSR. In her new role, Hertel will take on additional responsibilities for our HR team while continuing to provide excellent service to Victory Electric members.

Hertel graduated from Dodge City High School and attended Dodge City Community College. She received an associate degree in general studies with an emphasis in human services from Fort Hays State University.

CONGRATULATIONS, BRENDA!

VICTORY ELECTRIC CELEBRATES CO-OP MONTH

In October, more than 30,000 cooperatives in the U.S. celebrated National Co-op Month, highlighting what makes co-ops special and celebrating the value of co-op membership. Victory Electric demonstrated its commitment to community throughout the month.

- ▶ All month long, Victory Electric had weekly giveaways for bill credits and gift baskets.
- ▶ On National First Responders Day Oct. 28, Victory Electric took pizzas to Dodge City and Ford County fire departments and the police stations.
- ▶ On Halloween, we hosted a pop-up event at Victory Electric and gave goodie bags to trick-or-treaters.

By engaging with people where they live and work and holding community activities like these, we aim to power meaningful connections and build stronger relationships with those who matter most — you, our member-owners!

Watch for more member appreciation events in 2026.

TOP RIGHT: Trick-or-treaters visit the Victory Electric office on Oct. 31 to pick up Halloween goodie bags.

BOTTOM RIGHT: Communications Coordinators Shauna Rumbaugh (far left) and Adriana Tipton (far right) deliver pizza to first responders at the Dodge City Fire Department.





Bright Lights, Safe Nights

OUTDOOR HOLIDAY LIGHTING SAFETY

- Use outdoor-rated lights with UL safety labels.
- Plug into GFCI outlets for shock protection.
- Stay at least 10 feet from power lines when hanging lights.
- Don't hang lights with tacks, nails or screws — use clips instead.
- Keep cords away from water and snow.
- Inspect for damage like broken sockets or frayed cords.
- Don't overload extension cords or outlets.
- Turn off lights before bed or when away; a timer makes it easy.



SOURCE: WWW.SAFEELECTRICITY.ORG

Medical Needs Status Available for Qualified Members

For some Victory Electric members, access to electric service is not just a convenience — it is a necessity. Victory Electric cares about your well-being, and we understand some member-owners depend on life-sustaining medical equipment that requires a consistent source of power.

Although the cooperative aims to provide reliable electric service to member-owners with as few interruptions as possible, circumstances beyond our control may result in occasional power outages. It is not possible to guarantee uninterrupted power 100% of the time.

If your health or well-being depends on a continuous electrical supply, please contact Victory Electric at 620-227-2139 to see whether you qualify for Medical Necessity status.

MEDICAL NECESSITY DESIGNATION

1 Complete Victory Electric's Medical Necessity form and submit the requested information. Your physician will need to complete a section of the application and verify your medical equipment needs.

2 If your application for Medical Necessity status is approved, it will be noted on your Victory Electric member account. We will then contact members with Medical Necessity designation to inform them before any planned outages. For an extended, widespread outage such as an ice storm, Victory Electric crews will attempt, if possible, to give precedence to those with a documented medical need as they safely restore power for all members.

3 Regardless of Medical Necessity status, member-owners are responsible for arranging for any necessary on-site back-up capabilities for their medical device, temporary

relocation to a family member's home or other secondary location with power, or other alternatives in the event of an outage.

4 The application for Medical Necessity status must be renewed annually.

Please note that qualifying for Medical Necessity designation does **NOT** guarantee uninterrupted electrical service, prioritize your individual electric service during a power outage, remove the obligation to pay for electric service, or prevent disconnection for failure to pay.

BACKUP PLANS

It's critical for members with electric medical equipment to obtain backup power sources and develop a personal backup plan in the event of a planned or unexpected power outage. Discuss your specific medical needs with your physician and make sure you understand and follow the manufacturer's recommendations for backup power for your medical equipment. These power sources might include:

- ▶ Uninterruptible power supply
- ▶ Backup oxygen tanks
- ▶ Extra charged batteries
- ▶ Standby or portable generators

Also create an emergency contact list and an evacuation plan in case you need to temporarily relocate to a secondary location during a power outage. Always call 911 if you have a medical emergency.

Please contact Victory Electric at 620-227-2139 if you have any questions about the application process for the Medical Necessity designation. Follow Victory Electric on Facebook for outage updates and electrical safety tips. We also offer tips on creating an emergency kit and making outage preparations on our website at www.victoryelectric.net/preparing-power-outage.

2026 APPLICATIONS ARE NOW OPEN!

Attention all high school juniors! You could score an all-expenses-paid trip of a lifetime plus receive a \$500 scholarship upon graduation!

YOUTH TOUR



SCAN TO APPLY



ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE YOUTH TOUR | JUNE 13-19
STEP INTO HISTORY IN WASHINGTON, D.C.! TOUR INSPIRING MUSEUMS AND MONUMENTS, CRUISE THE POTOMAC RIVER, AND EVEN MEET ELECTED LEADERS. ALONG THE WAY, YOU'LL

GAIN A DEEPER UNDERSTANDING OF THE COOPERATIVE DIFFERENCE AND BUILD FRIENDSHIPS WITH STUDENTS FROM ACROSS KANSAS AND 43 OTHER STATES.

COOPERATIVE YOUTH LEADERSHIP CAMP | JULY 10-16
ADVENTURE AWAITS IN THE COLORADO ROCKIES! GO WHITEWATER RAFTING, TOUR AN ENERGY FACILITY, AND SOAK IN THE STUNNING MOUNTAIN VIEWS. YOU'LL SHARPEN YOUR LEADERSHIP SKILLS WHILE CONNECTING WITH NEARLY 100 OTHER STUDENTS FROM KANSAS, COLORADO, WYOMING, AND OKLAHOMA.

APPLICATIONS OPEN
11.01-12.15

APPLY TO GO ON THE TRIP OF A LIFETIME!



MERRY
Christmas
AND HAPPY NEW YEAR



From all of us at Victory Electric,
we wish you a season that
is merry and bright!