

Congratulations

2012 Youth Tour Winners



From left: Jaden Butcher, Dodge City; Lindy Bilberry, Garden City; Jennifer Delzeit, Dodge City; Katy Hibbert, South Gray; and Josie Hayes, Hodgeman County.

Victory Electric is sponsoring five local high school juniors to participate in our Youth Tour programs.

LINDY BILBERRY, Garden City, and **JENNIFER DELZEIT**, Dodge City, will attend the "Government-In-Action" Youth Tour to Washington, D.C., in June. During the Youth Tour,

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

JOSIE HAYES, Hodgeman County; **KATY HIBBERT**, South Gray; and **JADEN BUTCHER**, Dodge City; will attend the Cooperative Youth Leadership Camp in Steamboat

Springs, CO in July.

At camp, the Kansas students will join youth from Colorado, Wyoming, and Oklahoma. Campers will form a mock cooperative, learn leadership skills and learn about the cooperative industry.

The five winners were chosen based on an interview, test over cooperatives and cooperative principles, and a résumé.

Congratulations winners!

Sepa Cómo Mantenerse a Salvo Después de las Tormentas

Las tormentas severas, tornados e inundaciones pueden dejar más daños a su paso pueden dejar peligros ocultos también. En algunos casos, más vidas se pierden después de la tormenta que por la tormenta.

"Cuando se trata de limpieza de tormenta o la propiedad afectada por las inundaciones, la posibilidad de un accidente eléctrico no es algo que probablemente se le venga a la mente", dice Victory Electric's, Josh Schmidt. "Pero es la primera cosa que usted debe pensar antes de salir a la calle, poner un pie en un área inundada, o entrar en un edificio dañado por la tormenta."

Al exterior, manténgase alejado de cables eléctricos caídos y esté alerta a la posibilidad de que las ramas de árboles o escombros puede ocultar un peligro eléctrico. Tratar a todos los cables caídos o cables de electricidad colgando como si estuvieran energizados. Las líneas no tienen por qué ser arcos o chispas al ser en vivo. Advierta a los demás a mantenerse alejados, y póngase en contacto con Victory Eléctric.

No toque cables eléctricos caídos, y no tocar objetos o charcos de agua en contacto con esas líneas. No hay forma de saber si están energizados. El encuentro con estos objetos puede ser tan peligroso como entrar en contacto con una línea eléctrica caída en sí.

Victory Electric urge a los padres y otros cuidadores para asegurar que los niños estén conscientes de estos peligros también.

Victory Electric ofrece otras precauciones tras las tormentas:

► **Si está conduciendo y llega a una línea eléctrica caída, permanezca en su vehículo, advierta a los demás a mantenerse alejados, y póngase en contacto con el personal de emergencia o Victory Electric.** Nunca maneje

más sobre una línea caída, ya que puede tirar hacia abajo los postes y otros objetos a lo largo de su trayectoria.

► **Estar alerta en las intersecciones donde los semáforos pueden estar fuera. Pare en todos los cruces de ferrocarril, y de las intersecciones de carreteras con señales de tráfico como paradas de cuatro vías antes de proceder con cautela.**

► **Antes de volver a entrar a áreas afectadas por la tormenta edificios o habitaciones, asegúrese que todos los servicios de electricidad y de gas están apagados.** Nunca trate de cortar la alimentación en la caja de fusibles si debe permanecer en el agua para hacerlo. Si no puede comunicarse con su caja de interruptores de seguridad, llame a Victory Electric para apagar el medidor.

► **No entrar en un sótano inundado o en otra área si el agua cubre los enchufes eléctricos, electrodomésticos, o los cables.** Está alerta a cualquier equipo eléctrico que pueda ser activado y en contacto con el agua. Nunca toque aparatos eléctricos, cables o alambres si usted está mojado o parado sobre agua.

► **Mantenga las herramientas eléctricas y equipo de por lo menos 10 pies de distancia de las superficies mojadas.** No use herramientas eléctricas de jardín, si está lloviendo o el suelo está

mojado.

► **Los motores eléctricos en los aparatos que se hayan empapado o sumergido debe ser limpiado y reacondicionado antes de su puesta en servicio.** Puede que sea necesario para reemplazarlos. No utilice ningún aparato eléctrico dañado por el agua hasta que un profesional lo revise.


► **Si, después de una tormenta o un desastre, la energía de su casa está fuera durante un período prolongado, conocer las reglas de seguridad importantes, como nunca usar una parrilla.**

► **Si usa un generador portátil, asegúrese de que un interruptor de seguridad de transferencia se ha instalado, o conecte aparatos directamente al generador.** Esto evita que la electricidad viaje de regreso a través de la casa como "retroalimentación". Recircular crea un peligro para cualquier persona cerca de las líneas, en particular los equipos de trabajo para restaurar la energía.

Para más información, visite SafeElectricity.org



Una tormenta no solo derriba árboles, sino que también puede reducir las líneas eléctricas. Trate a cada cable de electricidad caído como si estuviera todavía con electricidad, usted no será capaz de decir si es en directo.

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 
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THE VICTORY ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE

electronews



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FROM THE MANAGER Invitation to our Annual Meeting



Terry Janson

Victory Electric Cooperative will soon host its 67th Annual Meeting on Tuesday, April 10, 2012, at the Dodge City Civic Center. Registration begins at 5:30 p.m., dinner will be served at 6 p.m. to the first 950 guests, and the business will follow at 7 p.m.

I invite you to join us for a steak dinner, visit with our board members, management and employees, and learn about how your cooperative is maintaining affordable rates while ensuring safe, reliable delivery of electricity.

In addition to a great steak dinner, there will be a registration gift to the first 600 residential members attending, and chances to win lots of great door prizes.

Soon, you will receive an annual report in the mail. It will have lots of information about the cooperative, and it includes your registration card for the annual meeting. So, keep watch in your mailbox for the annual report and more information on the annual meeting.

Our annual meeting is a great time for the board and employees get to visit with our members. We would love to see you there on April 10.

'Til next time, TJ

April 2012						
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“Our annual meeting is a time we get to see and visit with our members. We would love to see you there on April 10.”



Happy Easter!

Know How to Stay Safe After Storms

Severe thunderstorms, tornadoes, and flooding can leave more than damage in their wake – they can leave hidden dangers as well. In some cases, more lives are lost after the storm than from the storm itself.

“When you’re dealing with storm cleanup or flood-damaged property, the prospect of an electrical accident is probably not top of mind,” says Victory Electric’s manager of member services, Josh Schmidt. “But it’s the first thing you should think of before you go outside, step foot into a flooded area, or enter a storm-damaged building.”

When outside, stay away from downed power lines and be alert to the possibility that tree limbs or debris may hide an electrical hazard. Treat all downed or hanging power lines as if they are energized. Lines do not have to be arcing or sparking to be live. Warn others to stay away, and contact Victory Electric.

Do not touch downed power lines, and do not touch objects or puddles of water in contact with those lines. There is no way to know if they are energized. Encountering these objects can be as hazardous as coming into contact with a downed power line itself.

Victory Electric urges parents and other caregivers to make sure children are aware of these hazards as well.

Victory Electric offers other precautions following storms:

- ▶ **If you are driving and come upon a downed power line, stay in your vehicle, warn others to stay away, and contact emergency personnel or Victory Electric.** Never drive over a downed line, as it could pull down poles and other items along its path.

- ▶ **Be alert at intersections where traffic lights may be out. Stop at all railroad crossings, and treat road intersections with traffic signals as four-way stops before proceeding with caution.**

- ▶ **Before re-entering storm-damaged buildings or rooms, be sure all electric and gas services are turned off.** Never attempt to turn off power at the breaker box if you must stand in water to do so. If you cannot reach your breaker box safely, call Victory Electric to shut off power at the meter.

- ▶ **Never step into a flooded basement or other area if water is covering electrical outlets, appliances, or cords.** Be alert to any electrical equipment that could be energized and in contact with water. Never touch electrical appliances, cords, or wires while you are wet or standing in water.

- ▶ **Keep electric tools and equipment at least 10 feet away from wet surfaces.** Do not use electric yard tools if it is raining or the

ground is wet.

- ▶ **Electric motors in appliances that have been drenched or submerged should be thoroughly cleaned and reconditioned before they are put back into service.** It may be necessary to replace them. Do not use any water-damaged appliance until a professional has checked it out.
- ▶ **If, after a storm or disaster, the power to your home is out for a prolonged period, know important safety rules, such as never using a charcoal or gas grill to cook inside.**

- ▶ **If you use a portable generator, be sure a transfer safety switch has been installed, or connect appliances directly to the generator.** This prevents electricity from traveling back through the home to power lines – what is known as “backfeed.” Backfeed creates danger for anyone near lines, particularly crews working to restore power.

For additional information, tips and safety videos, visit SafeElectricity.org.



Storms leave a variety of safety hazards behind them – from downed power lines to fragile buildings. Be aware of your surroundings as you re-enter your home or property after a storm.

Candidates for Victory Electric’s Board of Trustees

District 1



Daryl Tieben
Dodge City
Incumbent

My name is Daryl Tieben. I would like to thank the people in District 1 for voting me in as their Victory Board Trustee in 2009. As a family man (wife-Carol, children Haley and Heath) and general manager of My-D Handy, a family owned business since 1962, I take the job very seriously and with great passion in order to serve every person in my district well. In these first three years, I have become CCD credited and Board Leadership certified, and currently serving on the KEPCo board in Topeka so that I may become better informed with the challenges we face with electricity. My goal is to make the best decisions and choices to provide my district and community the best quality electricity at an economic price, at the same time, keeping in mind our Victory Electric goal of being a top-notch electric co-op that takes great pride in serving their members.

I would like to ask you to vote for me again to represent you in District 1 as your Victory board trustee. I promise to continue to educate myself and to act in the best interest of the district, the community and Victory Electric to provide us all with safe, reliable, and affordable electricity in the years to come.

District 1



James (Mike) Casey
Dodge City

I have been a life resident of Dodge City, with the exception of a couple of years that I was needed by our “Uncle Sam.”

The main reason I decided to run for the board is because several people encouraged me to do so, to get involved. I feel our area is in for some exciting times with all that is going on in Dodge City and southwest Kansas. I have a vested interest in the area and will not be leaving any time soon. I feel that with my background in several businesses, I have been given the tools to make decisions for our needs. I think it would be an honor to serve on this board and to be involved in the growth of our community.

The business and affairs of the cooperative are directed by the Board of Trustees, which exercise all of the powers of the cooperative. The cooperative territory is divided into districts, all of which are represented by a trustee. Trustees are elected at the annual meeting for a three-year term of office.

Districts 1, 3, 8 and 10 are up for election this year. Every member of Victory Electric will receive an Annual Report in the mail in early April that contains cooperative reports. Inside this Annual Report will be ballots for the four voting districts that will allow you to vote for your district candidate.

District 3



Ken Schulte
Spearville

I had been on the Victory board for four and a half years, representing the Dodge City district when my wife and I moved from Dodge last October to our farm house southeast of Spearville. Doing that, I had to resign from the Victory board, since I no longer lived in the Dodge City district.

While on the board there were a lot of tough decisions made. Most of them involved basic business and common sense. I have and would again bring that to every meeting. Thanks for your support.



The Annual Report contains ballots for the Board of Trustees election.

District 3



Robert Peintner
Spearville

As a lifetime resident of Spearville, I would like to represent Spearville and District 3 on the Victory Electric Board of Trustees. Because I have served on boards in the past, including being president of the Offerle Co-op Board, I believe I have the skills to be a great representative for you.

While I don’t know everything about the electric cooperative industry, I am interested in getting involved at Victory Electric and I am committed to doing what it takes to guide the cooperative to continue to provide electricity to you in a safe, affordable, and reliable manner.

As mentioned earlier, I am a lifetime resident of Spearville and my wife, Jolene, and I raised four children in the community. I would appreciate your vote to represent District 3 on Victory Electric Board of Trustees.

District 8



Cedric Drewes
Dodge City
Incumbent

I am honored to have served District 8 on the Victory Electric Board of Trustees for the past three years, and would like the opportunity to continue to represent our consumer-members for another term. It has been exciting to learn and work through all of the challenges facing the electric utility industry.

I will do my best to ensure that Victory Electric continues to bring its members affordable energy at the lowest cost possible while maintaining standards for safe and reliable delivery of electricity. Victory Electric is a vital part of our community and I am committed to maintaining its future growth and success. Thank You for your vote.

District 10



Max Jantz
Dodge City
Incumbent

It has been an honor serving the members in my district, and since moving to Dodge City I look forward to representing the members of Dodge City. I have been a Victory Electric Trustee for 17 years.

This business has changed significantly since I first started serving and having a trustee that is “up to speed” with the business is an important part of serving on this board.

I have been a local business man for 40 years and can bring the knowledge I have learned from serving on this Board and also my personal business in the decision making on this board. Thank you for the opportunity to represent you for another three years.

District 10



Terri Larson
Dodge City

It is my desire to serve on the Victory Electric Board of Trustees in order to help maintain the most reliable and quality electric service at the most competitive rate for the people of Dodge City. After completing my MBA from Fort Hays State University I was employed by General Dynamics in Fort Worth, TX, as a Logistics Engineer and advanced to Management System Specialist. My husband, Kirk, and I moved to Dodge City 24 years ago where we have raised our three children.

Two daughters are serving in the U.S. Air Force and our son is a sophomore at Dodge City High School. Currently, I am a K-12 grade Substitute Teacher for USD 443 and I am an active member of Grace Community Church. Representing the people of Dodge City is a serious responsibility and great honor and I will strive to be an informed and educated board member on each issue. Thank you in advance for your vote.