

# The Kilowatt COURIER

September 2017



**HEA** Homer Electric  
Association, Inc.  
Homer Electric Association, Inc. is an Equal Opportunity Employer

## ATTENTION OUTDOOR ENTHUSIASTS

**Homer Electric reminds ATV riders, hunters, dog mushers, & snowmachiners: POWER LINE RIGHTS-OF-WAY ARE NOT PUBLIC LAND! Trespassing on these areas without permission from the landowner is ILLEGAL.**

**Utility easements that cross private property are NOT for public access.**

**Thank you for respecting private property.**

## ENJOY FOOD, GIVEAWAYS, CO-OP UPDATE AT FALL MEETINGS

**H**omer Electric will be hosting its area meetings in September and October to connect with members and share an update on the cooperative. General Manager Brad Janorschke will be on hand, as well as other key members of the HEA staff, to provide information on the cooperative's activities and current projects.

Meetings were held in Seldovia and Port Graham in August. Other community meetings will continue at the end of September through October. Presentations will also be made at the

local Chamber of Commerce business luncheons.

Area meetings typically begin at 5:30 p.m. with complimentary food and refreshments followed by a brief presentation and the opportunity for members to ask questions. Door prizes for energy credits will also be drawn.

Homer Electric looks forward to another opportunity to connect with our cooperative members and hear their thoughts.

### Attend a Meeting Near You

- September 28 at 5:00 pm - Funny River Community Center
- October 12 at 5:00 pm - Sterling Community Center
- October 16 at 5:00 pm - Ninilchik Fairgrounds
- October 18 at Noon - Presentation at Kenai Chamber luncheon ,Kenai Visitors & Cultural Center
- October 19 at 5:00 pm - Nikiski Community Recreation Center

### REAL-TIME OUTAGE UPDATES: "LIKE" HEA ON FACEBOOK

**A**s we approach the fall season, Alaskans can experience different weather conditions that can cause power outages due to high winds causing trees and branches to fall on power lines. In a few months, we will see our season change and you will want to be prepared for any outage in severe weather.

HEA's Facebook page provides up-to-the-minute outage updates as they occur. In order to see the most current HEA Facebook posts at the top of your news feed, "Like" us on Facebook, select "See First" in Following option to receive outage and restoration notifications automatically and can prepare accordingly.

As many households only have cordless telephones which do not work without electricity, it is a good idea to have at least one "old-fashioned" push-button corded telephone in your home. It is also not uncommon these days for people to use their cell phones as their main phone number. Just remember to list your cell phone number as the telephone number for your **service location**. If you call HEA's toll-free outage report number at 1-888-8OUTAGE (1-888-868-8243) to report an outage from your cell phone, HEA's outage answering system must be able to match your call to your electric service location. Additionally, if you report your outage from your neighbor's house or from work, the outage system will not be able to match your call to your service location. Please make sure HEA has your current number on file.



Steve Cannon, HEA's Metering/Apparatus Superintendent, cooks burgers and hot dogs at a 2016 community meeting.

## EFFICIENT KITCHEN LIGHTING

Kitchen sizes, styles and configurations have changed dramatically through the years. In the past, a simple florescent ring placed in the center of the ceiling operated by a single switch was the norm for a typical American kitchen. Now, the proliferation of TV networks and shows devoted to every aspect of home decorating, remodeling, building and sales reflect current consumers' higher standards and expectations for a home's appearance. Lighting, once considered an afterthought, is now an integral part of home décor and function – particularly in a focal area such as the kitchen.

### Layering effect

The effect of a single overhead light source can be too much light in one area and not enough in others. Layering different types of light from different sources is not only a smart plan, but it makes good sense from an efficiency perspective.

Task lighting, such as under-counter lighting illuminates a particular work surface without a shadowing effect. Energy efficient options typically feature LED-powered puck lights that can be placed precisely where they are most needed under the cabinets. Another option is the thin-diameter fluorescent tube that use about 25 percent of the electricity of halogen or incandescent bulbs and have a much greater life span. Regardless of the type of light selected, when installing the 58214001 lights, place them toward the front of the cabinet so they illuminate the whole countertop rather than the wall. Most types of under-counter lights can be



plugged into a standard outlet. Overhead lights, whether from a central fixture, track lights or recessed, can offer indirect illumination and complement the task lights.

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### Shining a light on flexibility

Efficient lighting in the kitchen does not necessarily mean more lights, but rather more versatile lighting.

Dimmer switches create more flexible lighting options for existing lights. There are times when maximum illumination is required for tasks such as food preparation or clean-up. At other times, it makes more sense to turn down the lights to create a cozier ambiance. By placing different sets of lights on dimmer switches, you increase your options, minimize the energy used for lighting and thereby allow for greater energy efficiency. However, when installing dimmer switches, make sure they are compatible with LED lights.

Lighting accounts for up to 15 percent of a home's energy budget, and since the kitchen still remains the heart of the home and is a high traffic hub, it makes good sense to focus here. For basic energy efficiency in the kitchen and elsewhere, sometimes small adjustments can make a big impact.

The simplest area to focus is on the light itself. LED lights use a small fraction of the energy of CFL, halogen or traditional incandescent bulbs and they are known for their longevity and efficiency. ENERGY STAR-rated LED bulbs typically are the most energy efficient.

At its best, a good kitchen lighting plan is functional, attractive and energy efficient. Whether your kitchen is large or small, old or new, one reliable recipe for energy savings is utilizing more efficient lighting in the heart of the home. 🌱

## MONTHLY FINANCIAL UPDATE

Homer Electric finished the month of June 2017 with a total asset base of \$237.5 million. Operating revenue for the year was \$49.4 million and total costs were \$46.7 million bringing net operating margins to \$2.7 million through June 30, 2017. This chart is a breakdown of key financial indicators for 2017 as compared to 2016. 📊

Year to Date	June 30, 2017	June 30, 2016
Operating Revenue	\$49.4 million	\$46.9 million
Cost of Purchased Power	\$31.5 million	\$30.4 million
Cost of Electric Service	\$15.2 million	\$14.7 million
Operating Margins	\$2.7 million	\$1.8 million
Total Kilowatt Hours Sold	237.3 million	221.6 million
Total Number of Meters	33,844	33,566

**HIDDEN ACCOUNT NUMBERS**  
Three randomly chosen italicized account numbers are hidden in the Kilowatt Courier.  
If you find YOUR account number, call 235-3338 and you'll receive a \$50 credit which will be reflected on your next bill. Thanks for reading!

## CURRENT RESIDENTIAL RATES

As of July 1, 2017

All Residential Customers  
Energy charge = 14.866 cents/kWh  
Customer charge = \$20.00  
System delivery charge = \$22.30\*  
(\*If usage is less than 150 kWh)

Cost of Power Adjustment (COPA)  
7.205 cents per kWh\*  
(\*Subject to change on a quarterly basis and upon RCA approval.)  
33358001

See [www.homerelectric.com](http://www.homerelectric.com) for the latest residential and commercial rates.

## BOARD of DIRECTORS & MANAGER

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## SEPTEMBER 2017 KILOWATT COURIER

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