

The Kilowatt COURIER

October 2018

HEA Homer Electric
Association, Inc.
A Teahouse Energy Cooperative

NATIONAL COOPERATIVE MONTH

Join Homer Electric Association (HEA) in celebrating cooperatives in Alaska and across America during National Cooperative Month.

Every October, cooperatives are recognized for the qualities that make the business model unique: local democratic control, commitment to supporting the communities they serve and improving quality of life, special benefits and services, and the return of margins (the co-op term for profits) back to members in the form of capital credits.

Rural America is served by a network of about 1,000 electric cooperatives, most of which were formed in the 1930s and 40s to bring electricity to farms and rural communities that large, investor-owned power companies had no interest in serving because of the higher costs involved in serving low-population and low-density areas.

In addition to providing the vital power co-op members depend on, HEA is committed to its community and participates in HEA Homer Ski Day, Kenai Chamber Job Shadow, Caring for the Kenai, Power Pledge classroom presentations, and offers energy savings information at such events as the New Technology Workshop hosted next month.

To celebrate National Co-op Month, HEA will be hosting its annual fall area meetings. 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.

Cooperatives are set apart from other businesses in which we have an obligation to provide reliable, affordable, and 99896002 safe electricity, but we take that a step further. We also have a responsibility to support our members, enrich schools, and enhance our communities.

Electric cooperatives were formed because rural communities were struggling for lack of investment. Neighbors banded together and lit up the countryside when no one else would. That's what HEA and its cooperative neighbors celebrate each October. 

MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR HEA FALL MEETINGS

- October 11 at 5:00 pm - Funny River Community Center
- October 15 at 5:00 pm - Anchor Point, Chapman School
- October 18 at 5:00 pm - Sterling Community Center
- October 24 at Noon - Soldotna Chamber Luncheon, Sports Complex
- October 25 at 5:00 pm - Nikiski Community Recreation Center
- November 1 at Noon: Presentation at Homer Rotary Luncheon 

WIN \$50 BILL CREDIT! TAKE A SELFIE USING YOUR CO-OP CONNECTION CARD

To celebrate National Co-op Month and to show appreciation to our members, we're giving away a \$50 bill credit to one lucky winner who takes a selfie with their Co-op Connections Card at one of the local participating businesses that offer a discount to HEA members. Email your photo to us at contest@homerelectric.com by November 15, 2018. Visit www.homerelectric.com for more information regarding the contest and our Co-op Connection Card program. 



HEA
Energy
Technology
WORKSHOP

Thursday, November 8th

5 pm - 9pm

**KPC'S
KACHEMAK BAY
CAMPUS IN HOMER**

Workshops Include Topics On:

- SOLAR ENERGY
- HOME ENERGY EFFICIENCIES
- ELECTRIC HEAT PUMPS
- ELECTRIC VEHICLES

**FOOD
REFRESHMENTS
DOOR PRIZES**

TREES & POWER LINE SAFETY

Trees growing near power lines are not only one of the leading causes of power outages, but they also present a safety hazard. Strong winds and storms can topple trees or shatter 99085003 branches pulling down power lines and causing outages. But it gets more serious when electric lines come in contact with trees creating a potential for fire hazards to occur. To mitigate tree-related problems, HEA maintains an aggressive tree management/tree clearing policy. This has proved to be effective by increasing reliability as well as being proactive in safety prevention.

In addition, if you have a tree that appears to be a threat to power lines, HEA can assess and evaluate the removal of dangerous trees that grow outside the right-of-way. **Do not** attempt to remove the tree yourself. Please contact HEA with questions regarding potential trees impacting the power lines. 🌳

ALASKA POWER ASSOCIATION HONORS SIKORSKI

Alaska Power Association (APA) honored Merrill Sikorski, founder of Caring for the Kenai and a longtime supporter of Homer Electric Association (HEA), with the APA David P. Hutchens Public Service Award on August 23, during its 67th Annual Meeting in Fairbanks. The Hutchens Award honors those outside the utility industry who have provided exceptional service in the interest of electric consumers in Alaska.



Besides fostering an environmental awareness among generations of the Peninsula's youth, Sikorski was also recognized for his longtime support for HEA. He has supported the Kenai Peninsula electric cooperative through actively supporting local control, member programs, and support at various electric cooperative events. One of the Seven Cooperative Principles that electric co-ops follow is concern for community, and Merrill exemplifies this principle.

Sikorski joins other Alaskans from outside the electric utility industry who have been awarded the Hutchens 94229001 Award for supporting their utility and community. 🌳

RATE INCREASE FOR 4TH QUARTER

Homer Electric members will likely see a rate increase as of October 1st. HEA submitted a filing with the Regulatory Commission of Alaska (RCA) that requested an increase in the Cost of Power Adjustment (COPA) from 7.27 cents per kilowatt hour to 8.15 cents per kilowatt hour.

COPA reflects the cost of the fuel purchased by Homer Electric to generate electricity and is adjusted on a quarterly basis. If approved, the new rate will mean an increase of \$4.85 per month for the average HEA residential member using 550 kilowatt hours a month. The increase is in anticipation for HEA's Nikiski Plant due to routine turnaround maintenance and inspection in October. This will require HEA to temporarily obtain power from other sources not as cost efficient as Nikiski. 🌳

MONTHLY FINANCIAL UPDATE

Homer Electric finished the month of July 2018 with a total asset base of \$247.4 million. Operating revenue for the year was \$57.8 million and total costs were \$56.3 million, bringing net operating margins to \$1.5 million through July 31, 2018. This chart is a breakdown of key financial indicators comparing July 2018 to July 2017. 📊

Year to Date	July 31, 2018	July 31, 2017
Operating Revenue	\$57.8 million	\$58.1 million
Cost of Purchased Power	\$36.7 million	\$36.7 million
Cost of Electric Service	\$19.6 million	\$17.8 million
Operating Margins	\$1.5 million	\$3.6 million
Total Kilowatt Hours Sold	267.4 million	277.8 million
Total Number of Meters	34,701	33,852

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 October 1, 2018

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)
 8.15 cents per kWh*
 (*Subject to change on a quarterly basis and upon RCA approval.)

See www.homerelectric.com for the latest residential and commercial rates.

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