

SALT RIVER NEWS

A monthly publication for the members of Salt River Electric | JULY 2023

www.srelectric.com



Message from the President

Celebrating 70 years of Salt River News

Like many of you, I look forward to receiving my *Kentucky Living* magazine in the mail each month. We've surveyed members through the years, and the statewide publication, which boasts a circulation of more than 477,000 readers a month, is always a hit!

And like many of you, the first thing I do when I get my magazine is flip to the center and read *Salt River News*, our locally-produced newsletter for the members of Salt River Electric. It's always a good place to find the latest news from the cooperative, in addition to safety articles, energy efficiency tips and stories from our communities.

As you might have already noticed, the layout and design of *Salt River News* is different this month than when you last picked it up back in May. That's because July marks 70 years of our locally-produced, member-focused newsletter—and what better way to celebrate the occasion than with a fresh new look for our members?

For those who don't remember or weren't around (including myself), *Salt River News* was first published in July 1953 by then-Salt River RECC Manager J.S. Broaddus and clerk Charleen J. Conley. Then known as *Co-Amp News*,

the publication was created to keep members of the still-young business up to date on the latest cooperative news and community information. At a price of 25 cents per year, members were also treated to tips on how to electrify their homes, from the barnyard to the kitchen. Going through our archive of newsletters, you can see monthly columns congratulating a member on their new "electric homes."

70 years later, publications like *Salt River News* are still important to our members. In many ways, today's newsletter remains unchanged.

Sure, it now has a fresh, clean and updated look, but its objective remains the same as when Mr. Broaddus offered this quote seven decades ago:

WHAT WILL BE MY NAME?

July, 1953

First Edition
Of Your
REA News

SALT RIVER RURAL ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE CORPORATION—BARDSTOWN

Over the Manager's Desk

BY J. S. BROADDUS

For the past several years, during the month of August the Annual Meeting and Electric Farm show has been held for the members of this Cooperative. This program has grown so fast, become so expensive and takes so much time that your Board of Directors has decided that, to save a part of this expense, there will not be an annual meeting this year. We have thought of having a large meeting every second year.

It will be necessary that a notice be sent out for election of directors and also a proxy card. If you members will sign and return the proxy cards by mail it will help your Cooperative very much.

We hope after reading the first edition of this paper which we are sending to all the members of this Cooperative, you will write and give us your opinion of it.

We hope that by sending it to you, we will be able to keep you better posted about the operations of your Cooperative. From time to time we will have articles about how some members are using electricity, hoping the information will help the other members.

Let's all send in a name for the paper and the name that is judged the best will receive \$5.00.

YES, YOUR METER CAN BE TESTED

We have had members come into the office with complaints that their meter is running fast. Ninety-nine times out of a hundred it is the fault of wiring rather than the meter. Remember, the meter installed is a tested meter. However, we will have meters sent off for a test provided the members pay the \$2.00 test fee. If the meter proves to be fast the \$2.00 is refunded and the bill adjusted according to the percentage it tested fast.

You Enjoy Better Living—
When You LIVE ELECTRICALLY!

NAME-ME CONTEST

We are sponsoring a "NAME-ME" Contest for members to select a name for your Co-op paper. The winner is to receive \$5.00, so get your thinking cap on. We suggest something short and snappy. Fill in the blank below with the name you suggest along with your name and address and return to us. We need a name before your paper goes to press next month; therefore, the contest will close July 24, 1953. In case of a tie the entry with the earliest postmark will be judged the winner.

Name I Suggest _____

My Name _____

Address _____

MONEY'S WORTH

When I think of my electricity costing too much I sit down and compare my monthly electric bill with my monthly gasoline bill for my automobile.

Not too many years ago I used to buy 5 gallons of gasoline for \$1.00, now I can't buy 4 gallons for one dollar.

It doesn't seem to me like I drive farther one month than I do another, but my bill is 5 dollars higher than others. Of course my car is getting older and this winter driving takes more gas.

I don't complain to the gas station man about the cost when he fills my tank or complain to him that his pump register is wrong, or that I used more this month than I did last. I just don't feel that he is going to purposely cheat me and it isn't his fault that I use more this month than last.

Now take my electric bill, I'm not paying any more per kilowatt than I did 10 years ago. It does seem like we use more some months than others but my equipment is getting older, darker days this winter so we use more lights, and that tele-

(Continued on Page Four)

SALT RIVER ARCHIVES

"We hope, by sending this [news]letter, that we are better able to keep you, our members, informed about the cooperative."



**SALT RIVER
ELECTRIC**

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative



President and CEO
Tim Sharp





**SALT RIVER
ELECTRIC**

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

Announcements

Office Closure:



Our offices will be closed
Tuesday, July 4, in observance
of Independence Day.

Salt River News

A monthly publication for the 55,321 members of the Salt River Electric Cooperative Corporation, serving Bullitt, Nelson, Spencer, and Washington County, plus portions of six surrounding counties, since 1937.

Zachary Epperson, Editor

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To report outages call:
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Board of Directors

Linda West, **Chair**

David Stevens, **Vice Chair**

Darrell Tingle, **Treasurer**

Wm. George Maddox, **Secretary**

John Hutchins, **Director**

Joe Osbourne, **Director**

Tim Sharp, **President & CEO**

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Congratulations to the winners of annual meeting gift cards!

Nelson District

Shirley A. Harrell

Lee L. Milburn

Stephen D. Leake

Bruce Hutchins

Keith T. Veech

Georgia Hatfield

Donald R. Becker

Kelly T. Hagan

Gerald Ashby

Elizabeth V. Bradley

Bullitt District

Dorothy M. Gentry

James W. Skidmore Jr

Michelle Hysell

Darrell R. Owen

Carol D. Wiegner

Betty Burns

Karen Sullivan

Marty Moutardier

Maxine D. Vertz

Patricia A. Delaney

Spencer District

Jane Miller

David A. Shelburne

First Baptist Church

Joseph Hendren

Marylou G. Steever

Lula Bell Maddox

Barbara Foust

Karen Scherer Ford

Jennifer L. Smith

Robert L. Sarver

Washington District

Kathy Bunch

Leo Keeling

Philip Ray Wheatley

Steve Baker

Terry Foster

Connie L. Gabhart

James Sidney Osbourne

Marilyn Durham

Betty Lou Chesser

Imelda R. Mudd

Maddox to represent Salt River on EKPC Board of Directors

Salt River Electric has a new face representing the cooperative at East Kentucky Power Cooperative.

During the power provider's annual meeting on June 13, East Kentucky's 16 owner-member cooperatives gathered at the company's Winchester headquarters to, among other things, nominate and appoint new leadership to the EKPC board of directors. It was announced that George Maddox will now represent Salt River Electric at East Kentucky's board meetings.

"I'm more than happy to represent our co-op at East Kentucky, and that our local board trusts me to do so," Maddox says. "I'm looking forward to getting to know more about the generation and transmission side of the business, in addition to representing our co-op's needs."

The nomination and appointment



ZACH EPPERSON

of Maddox comes just a year after Salt River's longtime EKPC representative Jimmy Longmire stepped down due to his resignation from the Salt River board. Darrell Tingle, director for Washington County, had filled in on the East Kentucky board following Longmire's departure.

Salt River representation at EKPC

Since joining in March 1949, Salt River Electric has seen seven individuals represent the board of East Kentucky Power Cooperative. Bullitt County director George Maddox became the eighth person after being nominated and confirmed this past month.

- J.S. Broadus: June 1948 to September 1949
- W.F. Thompson: March 1949 to December 1950
- G.S. Greer: December 1950 to May 1951
- J.S. Broadus: May 1951 to March 1953
- G.S. Greer: March 1953 to February 1974
- Robert D. Yates: June 1974 to July 1990
- Joseph Tichenor: July 1990 to June 1995
- Jimmy Longmire: June 1995 to June 2022
- Darrell Tingle: June 2022 to June 2023



Jimmy Longmire's portrait at East Kentucky Power Cooperative. Photo: Zach Epperson

JULY IS NATIONAL GRILLING MONTH!

Safety tips:

- Your grill should be placed well away from the home, deck railings and out from under the eaves and overhanging branches.
- Always make sure your gas grill lid is open before lighting it.
- If you're using a charcoal grill, only use charcoal lighter fluid and no other flammable substance.

And **NEVER** leave a grill unattended!



TORIAN PHOTO/ADOBE STOCK
RUZANNA RUTUNYAN

2023 annual meeting

Photos by Zach Epperson





Salt River Electric celebrates members and annual meeting

Enjoying clear skies and moderate temperatures, Salt River Electric staff once again manned the drive-thrus at all four offices to show their appreciation during the cooperative's annual Member Appreciation Day.

Last year, participation for the event was high, with the cooperative seeing the largest number of participants for an appreciation day/annual meeting in the last 30 years. Participation exceeded expectations again this year, as more than 3,200 members registered for gift card giveaways and picked up their treasured bucket and bulbs.

"This really is one of the best times of the year at Salt River," President/CEO Tim Sharp says. "We wouldn't be here without our members, so it's an opportunity to show our members that we appreciate their support of the cooperative idea."

In addition to the buckets and bulbs, members received a custom Salt River Electric yardstick, as well as a bank draft sign up form and recipe postcards from *Kentucky Living* magazine.

Election results announced during annual meeting

That evening, Salt River's board of directors gathered for the co-op's 85th annual meeting. The event, which took place at the cooperative's main office and streamed live on various online platforms, announced the results of the 2023 Nelson County board election. Elaine Hammond, speaking on behalf of the member-populated election commission, announced that Linda West and John Hutchins had been re-elected by the district's membership to the board. The two were re-elected to four-year terms.



JOHN STONE

Election Results

Linda West: 1,212

John Hutchins: 1,207

Mark Etheredge: 904

David French: 649

Following the annual meeting, the board met in an organizational meeting to determine leadership roles. West was once again named board chair, with David Stevens (Spencer County) serving as vice chair, Darrell Tingle (Washington County) serving as treasurer, and George Maddox (Bullitt County) serving as secretary.

Co-op presented with safety award

Before the annual meeting began, Salt River Electric was presented with a safety award from Kentucky Electric Cooperatives, congratulating the co-op on 235,686.30 hours of work without lost time due to an accident or injury. The award was presented by Randy Meredith, the statewide association's director of safety and training.



ZACH EPPERSON



Firework safety tips

Whether you're in charge of a fireworks display for your community or you're just having fun with your kids and some sparklers, put safety above all else this Fourth of July.

Steer clear of power lines: A fireworks display, no matter how grand or how modest, should take place only in open areas where there are no power lines at all. Fireworks that contact power lines can start a fire, injure spectators and leave nearby homes without electricity.

Have water nearby: No matter if it's a bucket of water or a simple garden hose, make sure you have quick access to water in the event that you need to put out a firework.

Keep an eye on sparklers: You might think of them as kid-friendly, but sparklers can cause serious injury, burning at around 2,000 degrees Fahrenheit. If you decide to give them to kids, make sure to properly supervise them.

One at a time: You certainly want your fireworks to be the talk of the neighborhood, but unless you're a pyro professional, make sure to light one firework at a time to decrease the risk of an accident.



PHIVETZ/ISTOCK/ADOBESTOCK



ZACH LEPPERSON

Help stock RMHC

Throughout July, Salt River Electric is rallying members and employees to help stock the Ronald McDonald House with needed items to comfort and support the families of critically ill children receiving care at a Louisville-area hospital.

By supporting Ronald McDonald House, you'll be giving families essential resources they need and provide a home-away-from-home. You'll be helping to give a sick or injured child the one thing that they need most: family.

The co-op is collecting ordinary, everyday items, such as:

- Cleaning products
- Laundry supplies
- Paper towels
- Trash bags

Bulk-size food items, plastic storage containers and individually packaged items are also needed to fill the house's pantry. Travel-size personal hygiene items are also requested.

All donated items must be new and unopened. A detailed wish list can be viewed at rmhc-kentuckiana.org/get-involved/wish-list.

Bring your donated items to any of our four Salt River Electric offices by Monday, July 31.

Annual “Salt River Show” returns to Stephen Foster Story with *Cinderella*

A bit of fairytale magic can be seen in Bardstown this summer—if you know the right place to look. The Broadway musical *Cinderella* will hit the stage of *The Stephen Foster Story* this summer, marking the return of the longtime “Salt River Show” to the summertime venue.

“We can’t wait to have a Broadway musical back on our stage,” Stephen Foster Drama Association Executive Artistic Director Johnny Warren explains. “We selected *Cinderella* primarily because we wanted a well-known and family-friendly title that would appeal to as many guests as possible. Every version of *Cinderella* is unique

and ours will be extra special in the great outdoors.”

For years, Salt River Electric has annually sponsored the second show of the season at *The Stephen Foster Story*, often a musical for families. Known by many as simply the “Salt River Show,” the tradition of helping to bring a production to the J. Dan Talbott Amphitheater was paused in 2020 due to the pandemic.

“After co-sponsoring the main show for the past two seasons, we’re excited to pick back up with sponsoring the second show of the season,” Salt River Manager of Communications Zach Epperson says. “It’s one of the many long-running

examples of our commitment to bettering the communities we serve.”

“We are proud to partner with Salt River Electric to bring this show to our region,” Warren says. “Support for the arts is crucial to developing a thriving community and Salt River Electric is an incredible leader in that support. We need events that families can attend together and this is a great one.”

Cinderella will begin entertaining audiences this month, with the first show scheduled to take place July 12 at 8 p.m. Those interested can purchase tickets online by going to www.stephenfoster.com.

JOHNNY WARREN/STEPHEN FOSTER STORY



Salt River Electric Offices

Nelson County

111 West Brashear Ave,
Bardstown
M–F, 8 a.m.–5 p.m.
(502) 348-3931

Bullitt County

6260 Hwy 44 E,
Shepherdsville
M–F, 8 a.m.–5 p.m.
(502) 543-3083

Spencer County

127 Settlers Center Road,
Taylorsville
M–F, 9 a.m.–12 p.m.
and 1–4 p.m.
(502) 477-5133

Washington County

805 Bardstown Road,
Springfield
M–F, 9 a.m.–12 p.m.
and 1–4 p.m.
(859) 336-5080