You can’t fit into our jets,” the Air Force officer told a disappointed Wes Ediger at age 19. He had joined the ROTC to learn how to fly but at 6’2” and 235 pounds he more easily fit into football pads than jets. Oregon State University awarded him a full ride scholarship. His 48-yard pass reception and run set up the first touchdown at the new Parker Stadium in 1953 and Wes kicked the extra point to seal the 7–0 win over the Washington State Cougars.

After graduating from OSU Wes signed a contract with the Philadelphia Eagles. After a partial season he was drafted into the Army. Following his tour of duty he played football for a year in Canada with the Calgary Stampeders. He gave up the big money ($12,000/year) after meeting Joan Seamster one night at a Salem drive-in. Perhaps his new Corvette caught her eye initially, but Joan told him after they were engaged, “this probably won’t work very well as a family car.”

In 1958 the newlyweds moved to his hometown of Dallas, where he taught science and biology while Joan continued her job at the Oregon DMV. “We were blessed with a wonderful daughter, Janell, born in 1961,” he said. “At the time, my net pay was $350 per month and Joan’s $150. We worried how we’d get by just on my salary, but we did.”

In 1964 they moved to Corvallis where he taught and coached at the high school. During that decade, Wes also received his Masters in Counseling and Administration. In 1968 they moved to West Salem and eventually bought a historic home on five acres. He retired in 1989 after a career as assistant principal and principal in two Salem high schools and three years as the school district’s Director of Secondary Education. Retirement lacked some of the luster and challenge Wes was accustomed to, so he drove a truck for his brother-in-law’s paving company and worked nights refinishing furniture — a side business of his since the 1960s.

In 1985 he and Janell attended the National Horse Show at the state fairgrounds. The event triggered a passion for horses. At one point both father and daughter competed nationally. Showing and raising Appaloosas “gets in your blood,” he said. Wes won World Champion in the Western Pleasure class five times and National Champion twice. Janell was also a National Champion. Joan, never as interested in competition as Wes or Janell, exhibited her talent with fine art painting while managing the farm with as many as thirteen horses at one time.

In 1993 Wes accepted the Executive Director position with the Oregon School Activities Association and later resigned in 2001 after eight years commuting to Wilsonville. That same year they sold their last Appaloosa brood mare and in 2005 sold the farm to a couple who turned it into a riding center where horses provide therapy for children with disabilities.

Now, at 81, Wes says that his greatest delight is spending time with Joan. “She’s always been the apple of my eye and I don’t know how I would’ve gotten through life without her.”
When the temperature starts to climb, utility bills can do the same. There are several ways to manage your energy use this summer and Salem Electric is happy to help you whether it’s a simple, no or low-cost task or a more complicated project. Here are a few ideas that will lower your energy use and save you money.

If you are making changes to your home it’s a good time to consider products that will also make it more efficient. The biggest energy users in our homes are heating and cooling systems, so making upgrades in efficiency just makes sense.

If you’re converting an attic or basement into living space a ductless heat pump system is a great option. A ductless system does not require traditional ductwork to be added making it more affordable. Ductless systems tend to be more efficient which means homeowners use less energy and save more on their electric bills.

If making a change in your heating and cooling system doesn’t fit your needs right now, consider installing a smart thermostat. These devices learn your behavior and adjust heating and cooling settings with the goal of saving energy. Smart thermostats have the capability to connect to the Internet, allowing homeowners to manage energy use using an app on their phone or other smart device. There are several options on the market costing $200 to $400.

If you are considering replacing your appliances for more energy efficient models but your budget doesn’t allow a complete appliance overhaul, a new clothes dryer is a great place to start. Clothes dryers use approximately 900 kWh annually compared to a refrigerator that uses approximately 455 kWhs. Look for a dryer with a moisture sensor to avoid unnecessary drying time.

Also, in recent years there have been big changes to clothes dryers. EnergyStar-rated heat pump clothes dryers received the 2014 Emerging Technology Award. Using heat pump technology, these dryers offer 40 percent in energy savings if operated on their most efficient setting and can save several hundred dollars over the life of the dryer. Visit energystar.gov for more information on dryers and check out their Most Efficient 2015 products.

Don’t forget Salem Electric is your partner in energy savings. From rebates for energy-efficient appliances to energy efficiency experts who are trained to help you make good decisions for your home — we’ve got your needs covered!

Visit SalemElectric.com or contact our Member Services Department at 503 362-3601.
It’s All in the Mix

As with most consumer-owned electric utilities in the northwest, Salem Electric is fortunate to be able to purchase low-cost, reliable power from the Federal Columbia River Hydro System. The Bonneville Power Administration (BPA) has been meeting the needs of northwest consumers for over 75 years. We are fortunate to have a renewable resource of this magnitude to back up wind, solar and other valuable but less reliable energy sources. The following information represents the energy resource mix purchased by Salem Electric. Salem Electric purchases all the power it distributes from BPA.

What does this mean? It means at least 95% of the power used by Salem Electric members every day comes from non-carbon-emitting resources.

SalemElectric.com — Your Cooperative

Did you know, as a member of an electric cooperative you join the 50 million Americans who belong to a consumer-owned organization? Oregon co-ops provide electric services to about 235,000 Oregonians, serving on average five members per mile of line; Salem Electric serves a more urban area which averages 75 members per mile of line. Do you know what makes a cooperative different than an investor-owned utility? Cooperatives are non-profit and consumer-owned. As a co-op member you have a vote as to who serves on Salem Electric’s Board of Directors. In fact, you can choose to run for the Board of Directors through our annual petition and election process.

Visit SalemElectric.com and click on the Your Cooperative tab which includes Salem Electric’s Goals, Frequently Asked Questions, Service Policies and Bylaws, Fast Facts and additional information about co-ops.
Electrical safety is the top priority at Salem Electric and it should be a priority in your home too. Although people of all ages can experience electricity-related accidents, it is wise to be aware of a few scenarios that may be particularly hazardous to seniors.

- Be aware of scams targeting seniors. Scam artists are known to call and demand payment of an electric bill over the phone with a credit card, threatening power will be shut off if a payment is not made. Never give out any personal information over the phone unless you initiated the call. Salem Electric never calls and demands payments over the phone. If you receive this type of call, contact Salem Electric immediately to report the scam.

- It is important for seniors who live alone to establish a relationship with a family member, friend or neighbor who can check on their safety during an extended power outage.

- Do not overload outlets with multiple plugs or rely on extension cords on a long-term basis. If there are a limited number of outlets in your home, only plug in appliances as they are needed.

- Keep electrical cords tied up or out of sight in high-traffic areas. Tripping on cords is a safety and electrical hazard. Never run cords under rugs.

- Check to see if it is time to upgrade your space heater. Older models of electric space heaters do not have safety cut-off switches which can create a safety hazard if tipped over.

- Never use the oven to “take the chill off.” Your oven is an unprotected heat source that can easily be left on longer than intended and is also an expensive choice. Also, if you have a gas oven, there are carbon monoxide dangers to consider.

If you have any questions or would like additional information, please contact Salem Electric at 503 362-3601.
**MEET YOUR Board of Directors**

### Jerry Berger  
**President**  
**Current term 2013 – 2016**  
- Retired President of Chemeketa Community College  
- Salem Electric Member since 1972; lives in West Salem  
- Appointed to the board in February 2002; has served as President and Vice-President  
- Graduate of the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association's Credentialed Director Program

### Carl Beach  
**Director**  
**Current term 2014 – 2017**  
- Retired after 38 years in banking  
- Salem Electric Member since 1960; lives in Keizer  
- Appointed to the board in February 2002; has served as Secretary/Treasurer  
- Graduate of the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association’s Credentialed Director and Board Leadership programs

### Joe Van Meter  
**Vice-President**  
**Current term 2015 – 2018**  
- Retired from the Oregon Youth Authority and currently a training consultant  
- Salem Electric Member since 1972; lives in Keizer  
- Appointed to the board in January 2004; has served as President, Vice-President and Secretary/Treasurer  
- Graduate of the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association’s Credentialed Director and Board Leadership programs

### Alicia Bonesteel  
**Director**  
**Current term 2014 – 2017**  
- Homemaker and retired educator  
- Salem Electric Member since 1949; lives in West Salem  
- Elected to the board in 1987; has served as President, Vice-President and Secretary/Treasurer  
- Graduate of the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association’s Credentialed Director and Board Leadership programs

### Jeff Anderson  
**Secretary/Treasurer**  
**Current term 2015 – 2018**  
- Secretary/Treasurer for the United Food and Commercial Workers Union Local 555  
- Salem Electric Member since 1978; lives in Keizer  
- Elected to the board in 1985; has served as President, Vice-President and Secretary/Treasurer  
- Graduate of the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association’s Credentialed Director Program

### Paul Ennor  
**Director**  
**Current term 2013 – 2016**  
- Retired from the Oregon Department of Forestry  
- Salem Electric Member since 1977; lives in West Salem  
- Appointed to the board in November 2001; has served as President and Vice-President  
- Graduate of the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association’s Credentialed Director Program

**Dave Bauer**  
**Director**  
**Current term 2014 – 2017**  
- Co-owner of his family business — R. Bauer Insurance  
- Salem Electric Member since 2001; lives in Keizer  
- Elected to the board in 2014
When I was elected to the board in 1985, Salem Electric had already been active in energy conservation for a few years. The Conservation Department staff spent their time conducting home energy audits, as well as assisting members with insulating their homes and adding storm windows to save electricity and reduce their electric bills.

Over the years things have changed. For one, the Conservation Department is now called Member Services to reflect the added programs and services Salem Electric offers. What used to mainly consist of a residential weatherization program has now expanded to lighting, appliances, heating systems, and energy education and solar generation — just to name a few. The Member Services staff works with hundreds of members annually by recommending the most cost-effective ways to save energy in their homes and businesses. Our energy experts also inspect completed projects to verify compliance with our installation standards. In 2014, authorized incentives totaling nearly $590,000 helped members save over 2.4 million kWhs. That's enough energy to provide power to 220 average homes for one year.

Each month the board receives updates on conservation activities. I continue to be impressed by the number of projects completed and the associated kWh savings. By helping to conserve energy we can delay the need to build new, more costly, generation resources.

For information on how to reduce your electric bill contact our Member Services Department at 503 362-3601 or visit SalemElectric.com.

---

**Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI) and SmartHub® — What a Team!**

New AMI meters for the expanded pilot project will arrive within the next few months. Once the meters are delivered to Salem Electric they will be tested by our Metering Department and installation will begin. The project includes 400 meters in parts of West Salem and Keizer. Prior to a new meter being installed, members who reside in the pilot project area will receive a notification letter and then, a week before the meter is installed, a reminder postcard.

The best way to access account information is by using the SmartHub app. Visit SalemElectric.com, click on the SmartHub link and register as a new user.

---

Once you’ve registered you can:

- Make a payment
- Manage notifications
- Request paperless billing
- View account history
- Sign up for AutoPay

Other AMI benefits include:

- Monitor your energy usage (down to hourly intervals)
- Remote connect and disconnect features
- Access to meter information that helps our staff quickly answer your questions
- Quicker power outage identification

*SmartHub is a trademark of NISC*