

The CIRCUIT



*** Proudly Serving Rural Kansas for Over 75 Years

March 2018

Considering Solar?

As the interest of solar generation is growing across the country and for our members, Ark Valley wants to make sure our members know we are here to assist with any questions they have when making their purchasing decision. We also would like our members to be aware of how the Cooperative pays for the generation because it could affect their decision.

In 2016 a neighboring cooperative installed a 4kW solar array at their headquarters. This is similar in size to many residential solar arrays. In a twelve month period the array generated 6,200 kWh of electricity, an average of 516 kWh per month. If all of the energy from the solar array was used at an Ark Valley member's residence, it would calculate an average savings of \$66 per month. Take note that would be the savings if all the solar generation was used by the residence at the time it is produced. But for any energy that isn't used by the member, the Cooperative purchases it at 150% of the wholesale energy rate. If the member is unable to utilize all the energy that is produced, then the average savings is reduced.

The positioning will vary by location to optimize the sunlight throughout the year, but these particular panels are positioned to maximize exposure during the peak times in the summer months. There are generation factors within the example that affect the production and should be considered when installing solar.

To know whether or not the potential energy savings are enough to justify a solar invest-

Continued on page 2...

Notice of the Seventy-Ninth Annual Meeting of the Members

The Seventy-Ninth Annual Meeting of the Members will be held Tuesday, April 17, 2018, at the north Sunflower Building (State Fairgrounds) in Hutchinson. Ray's Countryside Catering will begin serving dinner at 6:30 p.m.

As a member-owner, you're invited to air your views, discuss things with your fellow members, and vote for Directors to serve on the Co-op Board.

Steve Schweizer (Plevna), Judy Kinsler (Kingman) and Elaine Wendel (Ellinwood) are the 2018 nominees. Steve has served on the Ark Valley Board since 2009 and is the current President. Judy has served on the Ark Valley Board since 2012. Members will be voting for two Trustees to serve for the next three years.

An Ark Valley Umbrella will be given to each member that attends. There will also be numerous items that will be drawn as door prizes.

If you have not attended the annual meeting in the past or if it has been a few years, we encourage you to take the time to gather with your fellow co-op members.

Ark Valley Electric is connected to you by more than just powerlines. We are your neighbors, and we look forward to seeing you at *your* annual meeting



2018 Grand Prize Winner

Board Meeting Highlights

The Board of Trustees for the Ark Valley Electric Cooperative Association held its regular meeting for the month of January on January 21, 2018.

The Board heard a report on the Nominating Committee, which was comprised of Ark Valley members Randy Smith, Ron Ensz, Jim Combs, David Hayes, Doug Barr, Bret Dunn, and Randy Goering. The Nominating Committee met on January 13, 2018 and selected three (3) candidates to run for two (2) trustee positions at the April Annual Meeting of Members. Those selected include Steve Schweizer, Judy Kinsler, and Elaine Wendel. Schweizer and Kinsler currently serve on the Board of Trustees and are running for re-election.

The Board also heard a report from the Audit Committee. The Audit Committee, consisting of Larry Froese, Judy Kinsler, and Budd Fountain, met on January 13, 2018 to review expense accounts and petty cash reimbursements. It found no discrepancies.

The Kansas Electric Cooperatives held its annual conference in Topeka between January 20th and January 23rd. Ark Valley staff and Board members attended portions of the event to participate in training seminars instructed by the National Rural Electric Cooperatives Association. Strategic planning issues, Board policy, and line safety were among the topics discussed.



Ark Valley Electric Cooperative
10 East 10th Avenue, South Hutchinson, KS 67505

(620) 662-6661
www.arkvalley.com

December 2017 Unclaimed Capital Credit Checks

Below is a partial list of members whose capital credit checks were returned due to a improper address. If you are able to get in touch with these individuals or their family members, please have them call Ark Valley Electric's office at 888-297-9212.

Moore, Tim	Redger, Kevin	Schrag, Gilbert	Theede, Steve
Morris, Lilly	Reece, H Dean	Schrag, Vida	Thimmesch, Clarence
Morrison, Christy A	Reynolds, Rex	Seibert, Randy	Thimmesch, Francis
MPI Partners	Rierson, Ginger	Simon, Matt	Tobias, James
Nelson, Tena	Ripley, Nancy	Simon, Tony	Tope, Patricia D
Nielsen, Melvin	Ritchie Paving Inc	Spencer, Melvin	Travis, Robert
Nienke, Scott	Rodarmel, Melvin	Spencer, Sharon	Vanzant, Tommy
Nisly, Michael	Ronsick, Steve	Spradley, Terry	Vicentainer, Cesar E
Ohalloran, Leo	Rosebrough, G R	Stahl, Justin	Vincent, Kirk
Oleary, Rosalia	Roth, John	Standlee, Bob	Walker, Harold
Oneok Resources	Rubner, Alma L	Starnes, Fred	Wallace, Joe
Parkhurst, William	Russell, Jackie	Stephens, Stanley W	White, James D
Phillips, Connie	Sanchez, Gilbert	Stephenson, Jerry	Wiard, Buck
Pocock, Toni	Satterfield, Mike	Stowe, Chad	Wilson, Kevin
Proffitt, Clinton	Schiffner, Fred	T&L Properties, LLC	Withroder, Irlene
Quesada, Ray	Schmucker, Harvey	Talbott, Orton L	Wittwer Paving Inc

Cold Weather Rule Ends March 15th



The Cold Weather Rule ends on March 15th. Be sure to have your bill caught up prior to that date.

Please be aware that prior to March 15th, the Cooperative can disconnect service for non-payment if the local forecasted temperature will not drop below 32 degrees within the following 24-hour period (see the notice posted in the November 2017 newsletter for allowed circumstances, available at arkvalley.com).

Considering Solar? ... continued

ment will vary depending on individual expectations, as well as, the cost of the system, installation costs, and continued maintenance costs. We will continue to share information about solar in future newsletters, but we hope members will contact Ark Valley if considering a solar investment.

Energy Efficiency Tip

In spring and summer months, set your ceiling fans to turn in the counterclockwise direction. This will create a cool breeze. Remember, ceiling fans cool people, not rooms. Turn them off when you leave the room. *Source: energystar.gov*

Drawing Winner



CODY R. SMITH is the winner of our \$25.00 readership drawing. Cody, to claim your prize, please contact Ark Valley by March 30, 2018 & give us the account number from your electric bill.



Want to Become a Lineman?

Ark Valley Electric Cooperative is offering its members a \$1,000.00 SCHOLARSHIP to any graduating senior, high school graduate, or recipient of an equivalent degree (GED, etc.) that plans to enroll in a Kansas line school.

(Must be a member or have parents that are members of Ark Valley Electric to qualify.)

If interested, call (620)-662-6661 or pick up an application from your School Counselor.

Applications must be returned to Ark Valley Electric by March 15, 2018.

The Ark Valley Electric Cooperative Association, Inc. is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

If you wish to file a Civil Rights program complaint of discrimination, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form, found online at http://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint_filing_cust.html, or at any USDA office, or call (866) 632-9992 to request the form. You may also write a letter containing all of the information requested in the form. Send your completed complaint form or letter to us by mail at U.S. Department of Agriculture, Director, Office of Adjudication, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20250-9410, by fax (202) 690-7442 or email at program.intake@usda.gov.