

# The CIRCUIT



\*\*\* Proudly Serving Rural Kansas for Over 75 Years

January 2019



Ark Valley Electric would like to wish everyone a new year full of happiness and success.

## Members Beware of Third-Party Payment Sites

When searching for Ark Valley Electric Cooperative's online bill payment site members have unknowingly clicked on a link to Doxo.com instead of Ark Valley's website. Doxo.com is a third-party website that allows people to pay their electric bills via their site. The website is not affiliated with Ark Valley.

Doxo.com charges the member extra fees, and the payments are not credited to your account immediately. Ark Valley has no control of when the payments are received, so the delay could result in a late payment from the member or even disconnection due to non-payment.

Ark Valley does not partner with this company or other companies to accept payments for our members and do not recommend our members use third-party payment sites. Rather, Ark Valley members can pay bills directly to their account by visiting our website, [www.arkvalley.com](http://www.arkvalley.com) or by downloading the app on their mobile device.

As always, if you receive suspicious phone calls or emails requesting payment from someone claiming to be a representative of Ark Valley, please call our office at 620-662-6661.



## Nominations Committee

The By-Laws of your Cooperative provide that the Board of Trustees shall appoint a Committee on Nominations.

In keeping with this provision, the Board has appointed the following members to the 2019 Committee:

Doug Barr  
15105 W 56th  
Nickerson, KS 67561

Bret Dunn  
19904 W Red Rock Rd  
Abbyville, KS 67510

Randy Goering  
22806 S Mohawk Rd  
Pretty Prairie, KS 67570

Leslie Krehbiel  
2435 N Marquette St  
Kingman, KS 67068

Mark Milford  
25605 S Peace Rd  
Kingman, KS 67068

Stan Ediger  
63 9th Ave  
Inman, KS 67546

Rodney Hurst  
1319 N Jordon Springs Rd  
Plevna, KS 67568

Budd Fountain will be up for re-election as of the date of the next Annual Meeting of the Members on April 16, 2019. The Committee on Nominations will meet on Saturday, January 12, 2019, for the purpose of making nominations for Trustees to fill these vacancies. The Committee will post a list of such nominations in the office of your Cooperative. Additional information concerning each candidate will be published in the Annual Report, which each member will receive prior to the Annual Meeting.

Other nominations may be made by a signed petition of 15 or more members, not less than 15 days prior to the Annual Meeting. Such nominations shall also be posted in the Cooperative Office. Additional nominations may be made from the floor at the time of the Annual Meeting.

The Board of Trustees consists of seven members. The present board members are: Steve Schweizer, Plevna: President; Keith McNickle, Stafford: Vice-President; Dan Schnurr, Sterling: Secretary; Joseph Seiwert, Pretty Prairie: Treasurer; Budd Fountain, Langdon; Larry Froese, Inman; and Judy Kinsler, Kingman.

An Annual Meeting of Members shall be held each year in Hutchinson, Kansas, usually between March 15th and April 15th, unless the Board of Trustees shall designate by resolution some other city, place, date, and/or time.

The Board resolved to host the next Annual Meeting of Members on April 16, 2019, at the North Sunflower Building on the State Fair Grounds in Hutchinson, Kansas.



## The 2019 Annual Meeting April 16th

- Vote for Board Members
- Learn about your Cooperative
- Enjoy a night out with your neighbors
- Win prizes donated by Vendors



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

(620) 662-6661  
[www.arkvalley.com](http://www.arkvalley.com)

# Account Management on the Go !

A new year is a great opportunity to get organized. That's why Ark Valley provides our members with a quick and easy option to manage their account.

## What is SmartHub?

SmartHub is your all-in-one hub for your Ark Valley account information. It gives you 24/7 access to following services through your smartphone, tablet or computer:

- View your current and past billing statements
- Make or schedule payments
- View your electricity use
- Sign up for text alerts for bill reminders



## How do you get SmartHub?

SmartHub is available through [www.arkvalley.com](http://www.arkvalley.com) and it is available for download on iOS and Android devices. Search for "SmartHub" on your device's application store. If duplicates appear, the correct application is provided by National Information Solutions Center.

## How do you use SmartHub?

Members will need to follow the step-by-step instructions to get started with an e-billing account. If you already have an e-billing account, simply login to begin using the application.

If you have any questions about SmartHub, call our customer service representatives at 620-662-6661 for assistance accessing your account.

## Board Meeting Highlights

The Board of Trustees for the Ark Valley Electric Cooperative Association held its regular meeting for the month of November on November 26, 2018.

General Manager, Jackie Holmberg, made a presentation to the Board concerning the insurance premiums to be charged by Blue Cross Blue Shield for 2019. She compared the cost of the new premiums to the 2018 insurance premium level. The premiums are expected to increase by \$7,067.04, or 3.54%, over last year.

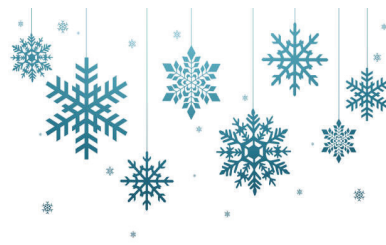
The Board also reviewed and approved an audit agreement with Jackson Thornton Certified Public Accountants & Consultants. The National Rural Electric Cooperative Association requires an audit of the Cooperative's benefits once every five (5) years to verify that employee eligibility, participation, and contributions are being properly administered according to plan terms. The accounting firm's services will cost the Cooperative \$2,500. The Board was also briefed about accounting standards and under what circumstances the auditors are required to make disclosures to the Board.

## Drawing Winner



**MARTIN PFANNENSTIEL** is the winner of our \$25.00 readership drawing.

MARTIN, to claim your prize, please contact Ark Valley by January 31, 2019 & 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, 2019.



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](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](mailto:program.intake@usda.gov).