



MANAGER'S MESSAGE // PAT CARRUTH



General Manager

District 5 Election Update

In District 5, incumbent Darryl Bursack and Ross Eischens were nominated at their Caucus Meeting to be put on the ballot for a vote that was to be held at the Annual Meeting, which of course, had been cancelled. They both agreed to a mail ballot process. Ballots were mailed out to members in District 5, were returned to our office by April 15th and then counted. Incumbent Darryl Bursack received the most votes and will represent District 5 for a three-year term. Thank you, Ross and Darryl, both, for their interest in serving the members of District 5.

Capital Credit Allocation Information

We hope you noticed your individual capital credit allocation from the business year 2019 listed on this month's power bill. This number represents your individual share of our \$3.9 million margin this past year. If the cooperative continues to be successful, and there is no reason to believe otherwise, it will all be eventually returned to you in cash. Next year we are planning to retire from the business year 2008, which puts us at a 13-year rotation. We continue to retire in a first in-first out method for our capital credits, as has always been the case.

GENERAC®

Minnesota Valley is now selling and installing Generac Standby Generators! Call for more information on getting an **automatic standby generator installed at your home or farm!**

Contact Member Services Department at 320.269.2163 or 800.247.5051!



Electrical Safety Tips for Your Home



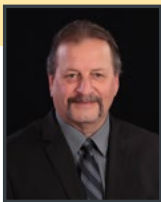
While ensuring the safety of our members and employees is a top priority year-round, during the month of May, Minnesota Valley joins electric cooperatives across the state and nation to recognize *National Electrical Safety Month*. This is an excellent time to review ways to stay safe around electricity.

We all depend on electricity to power our lives, but accidents can happen when electricity is used improperly. Many electrical accidents and tragedies involve common items such as outlets, power cords, appliances, power equipment and extension cords. The good news is that these accidents can be avoided through a few simple precautions.

Here are some tips to keep you and your family safe around electricity:

- 1) Don't use extension cords in high traffic areas or as a permanent power supply.
- 2) Frequently inspect electrical cords for broken connectors or any signs of fraying. Throw away worn cords to reduce the possibility of shock, short circuit or fire.
- 3) If you have young children, use plug covers in outlets. Keep cords and electrical devices out of their reach.
- 4) Always turn off power to a circuit that you plan to work on. You can do this at the circuit breaker in the main service panel.
- 5) Unplug outdoor power tools and appliances when not in use.
- 6) Never place anything flammable near a furnace, water heater, space heater or stove.
- 7) Water and electricity do not mix. Avoid wet conditions when using electricity.





Manager of Operations

Another work plan project has been completed west of the Madison Substation and a five-mile single phase rebuild east of Bellingham has been started. The crews are also replacing poles that need to be done before spring planting occurs, so they don't cause crop damage down the road. Poles that were rejected in wet land areas are being done with the track digger and bucket units.

Projects that require installing underground wire have been started now that the drying of ditches and fields has begun. Karian/Peterson has installed underground wire east of Clarkfield. We can now eliminate some of our wire from poles that we share with Xcel Energy.

Another project that was completed, was the replacement of 232 insulators north of Vallers Substation. These insulators had caused a couple of transmission outages. After the crews inspected the rest, it was determined that a lot more should be replaced.

On March 30th, Minnesota Valley crews back fed Vallers Substation, grounded out the transmission line and went to work replacing them. G two twenty seven zero two It took them just a couple hours and the job was completed with the substation back up and running. As seen in the picture to the right, there were cracks in some of the insulators. The other picture is lineman, Mitch Christensen, working on replacing one string of insulators.

The summer pole treating crew will be starting to treat poles the first of June. Don't be surprised if you happen to see the guys digging holes around some power poles. They will be doing this all summer, checking and testing the strength of some of the older lines throughout our power grid.

At the time of this writing, we have an abundance of old poles to give away in the pole yard. These poles work well for fencing, etc. If anybody is interested, please call the office and arrange a time to pick some up.



Comparative Report

	Jan-Mar 2020	Jan-Mar 2019	Jan-Mar 2000
Kwh Purchased	61,606,232	66,469,722	37,133,729
Kwh Sold	58,025,287	62,758,541	34,885,316
Cost Of Purchased Power	\$2,591,502	\$2,959,740	\$1,001,568
Patronage Capital Margins	\$471,073	\$455,502	\$189,986
Reserve For Taxes	\$66,250	\$63,999	\$66,000
Cost Per Kwh Purchased (mills)	42.07	44.53	26.00

	March 2020	March 2019	March 2000
Total Plant	\$78,034,562	\$73,802,090	\$32,481,003
Number of Active Services	5,273	5,277	5,199
Average Residential Bill	\$231.29	\$247.62	\$102.93
Average Residential Kwh Consumption	2,292	2,588	1,462
Average Kwh Usage All Consumers	3,316	3,579	1,902
Peak Kw Demand (Peak Load)	33,120	40,409	20,697

Find Your Location Number!

There are two hidden account numbers in this newsletter. If you find your location number, you receive a \$10 bill credit (*Operation Round Up participants get a \$10 bonus*). If neither number is claimed before the 25th of the month, **the unclaimed amount rolls over into the next month!**

The bill credit will continue to roll over and accumulate until it is claimed. If both location numbers are claimed in a month, the recipients will split the credit. Once claimed, it will start again at \$10. The current running amount is noted in each issue. If you find your number, call 320.269.2163 or 800.247.5051.

2



CLAIM BY MAY 25TH:

No one claimed the credit in the last few months, so those credits have been rolled into this month's credit!



Do You Know Any of These Former Minnesota Valley Members?

We need your help in locating the people listed below. Their capital credit checks for the remainder of 2006 and 2007, have been returned to us because we do not have a current address. If you have the address of any of these people or one of their heirs, please get in touch with us via one of the methods to the right:

Phone: 320.269.2163 or 800.247.5051

Email: mnvalley@mnvalleyrec.com

Mail: Minnesota Valley R.E.C.
P.O. Box 248
Montevideo, MN 56265

- ▶ Alltel Corporation • Little Rock, AR
- ▶ Blaseg, Randy and Cathy • Watson, MN
- ▶ Brott, Francis • Minneapolis, MN
- ▶ Caron, Robert • Ortonville, MN
- ▶ Coldwell Banker- The Home Team • Marshall, MN
- ▶ Conger, Kenneth A • Minneapolis, MN
- ▶ DeYoung, Paula • Clara City, MN
- ▶ Ensign, Peter and Bette • Rochester, MN
- ▶ Erp, Jason W • Girard, KS
- ▶ Fedorenko, Craig and Joann Perez • McGregor, MN
- ▶ Foreman, Peter • Davie, FL
- ▶ Geyer, Pat • Appleton, MN
- ▶ Golden, Derek • Montevideo, MN
- ▶ Herrera, Dora • Watertown, SD
- ▶ Hunters Blind Sam Simonson • Minneapolis, MN
- ▶ Jensen, Kaj and Sasha • Fairmont, MN
- ▶ Lang, Tina • Taunton, MN
- ▶ Lecy, Orrin H • Minneapolis, MN
- ▶ Legette-Brashears & Graham Inc • Saint Paul, MN
- ▶ Marcella, Thomas Sr. • Vest, MN
- ▶ Marks, Brian J • Appleton, MN
- ▶ Meier, Alvin • Sidney, MT
- ▶ The Hunt Camp- Bruce Neal • Mayer, MN
- ▶ Nelson, Walter D • Montevideo, MN
- ▶ Nyberg, John • Dawson, MN
- ▶ Ortega, Mario • Sleepy Eye, MN
- ▶ Pete's Communication • Willmar, MN
- ▶ Peterson, Kenneth C • Granite Falls, MN
- ▶ Rogers, Jeff L • Milan, MN
- ▶ Sandoval, Victor M • Grulla, TX
- ▶ Schwarz, Beth • Cottonwood, MN
- ▶ Syring, Alvin • Hazel Run, MN
- ▶ Tacket, Pam • Appleton, MN

If Your Power Goes Out

We all look forward to summer weather, but summer storms can bring high winds and lightning which can mean problems with your power lines.

If your power goes out, please follow the guidelines below. Minnesota Valley crews will work to get your power back on as quickly as possible.

And always remember to stay away from downed power lines!

- Check your fuses or circuit breakers.
- Check with your neighbors to see if their lights are out.
- Call Minnesota Valley at 320.269.2163 or 800.247.5051
- Be able to provide the LOCATION NUMBER for the account without power when reporting an outage. This number is printed on your monthly energy bill. Please report anything that may be helpful to our crews such as lines or poles down, sparks on poles, trees or branches on lines, etc. STAY AWAY from downed power lines!
- If you are experiencing low voltage (a brownout) unplug anything with a motor including TV, DVD/VCR, refrigerator, freezer, microwave, computer and any other electronic equipment.



Minnesota Valley Cooperative will be closed Monday, May 25th in observance of Memorial Day.



Meet Your Employees

Name	Brandon Bjelland
Hometown	Bemidji, MN
Family	Wife: Jessica; Children: Brynn and Beckett
When did you start at Minnesota Valley?	October 2006 as an Apprentice Lineman. I am currently the Substation Apparatus Technician.
What do you like best about working here?	Helping members
What do you like to do in your free time?	Spend time with family & friends
If you could do another job just for one day, what would it be?	Air Force Fighter Pilot



MEMBER SERVICES // BOB WALSH

Member Services Manager

Power Outages and Home Standby Generators

Whether it is the result of the heat of summer, freezing cold of winter, high winds or severe storms, being without power can be devastating. Power outages are unpredictable and can be costly for any homeowner. Without electricity, basements can flood, security systems can fail and food can spoil. For people with medical problems, being without power can be especially dangerous. When your power does go out, there are certain steps, precautions and preparations you can take to make that time less troubling. Knowing your hazards could save your life and having an emergency storm safety kit could save you a lot of grief.

When it comes to weather, sometimes utility power outages can't be avoided, but the costs associated with them can be by installing a Generac automatic home standby generator. A home standby generator is an integral part of the preparedness planning process for homes and can greatly reduce disruption when power is interrupted. The home standby generator is permanently installed at a home, sitting outside like a central air conditioning unit and runs on natural gas or liquid propane to automatically deliver power to the home's electrical system. AA one thirty three zero two A standby generator provides added protection by ensuring your home is never without power, which maintains operational efficiency of sump pumps, security systems, heating and cooling controls and other important appliances.

You can't put a price on the luxury of peace of mind. However, Minnesota Valley and Generac Power Systems have partnered together to offer employees and members a special deal. If you're interested in more information on Generac automatic home standby generators, contact our Member Services Department at 320.269.2163 or 800.247.5051 for more details.

About Generac Power Systems

Generac Power Systems is a leading global supplier of backup power, prime power products and systems and engine-powered tools. Back in 1959, our founder was committed to designing, engineering and manufacturing the first affordable backup generator. Sixty years later, the same dedication to innovation, durability and excellence has resulted in the company's ability to expand its industry-leading product portfolio into homes, small businesses, on job sites and many other applications.



STAYING SAFE UNTIL POWER IS RESTORED



How long it takes to get your power restored depends on:

- the extent of the storm's destruction
- the number of outages
- when it becomes safe for utility personnel to get to the damaged areas

There are many steps in the assessment and restoration process—clearing downed power lines; ensuring public health and safety facilities are operational; checking power stations and transformers; repairing transmission lines, substations, and distribution lines; and getting power restored to consumers within the various damaged areas.



Stay safe until we can restore power to you. We recommend the following safety precautions:

- Stay far away and keep others away from downed power lines. Just because they are damaged **does not mean they are dead!**
- Never enter a flooded room if electrical outlets are submerged. **The water could be energized.**
- **Do not** turn power off if you must stand in water to do so.
- Before entering storm-damaged buildings, **make sure electricity and gas are turned off.**
- If you clean-up outdoors after a storm, **do not use electric equipment** when it is wet out.
- If you are driving and come upon a downed power line, **stay away and keep others away.** Contact emergency personnel or your utility company to address the downed power line.
- If your vehicle comes in contact with a downed power line, **do not leave the car!** Wait for utility professionals to make sure the power line is de-energized before exiting the car.

Storm Safety Kit



Drinking water & food
Blankets, pillows, & clothing
Basic first-aid supplies



Prescriptions
Basic toiletries



Flashlights



Battery-operated radio



Battery-operated clock



Extra supply of batteries



Phone



Cash and credit cards



Emergency numbers
Important documents (in a waterproof container)



Toys, books, & games



Baby supplies



Pet supplies

Summer Double Rebate Days

Memorial Day through Labor Day, we are offering **double rebates** on heat pumps! Air source heat pumps will now receive **\$12 per 1,000 Btus** and geothermal heat pumps will receive **\$24 per 1,000 Btus**. Call our Member Services Department at 320.269.2163 for more information!

**DOUBLE
REBATES!**

BEST PRICE!



Office Hours

8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
Monday through Friday

24-Hour Telephone Answering

320.269.2163
800.247.5051

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Website

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Address

501 South 1st Street
P.O. Box 248
Montevideo, MN 56265

