



**MANAGER'S MESSAGE • PAT CARRUTH**



*General Manager*

**Heading into Mid-Year in Good Shape Operationally**

We are working to stay on track with the projects set forth in our 2019 Work Plan. As you all know, it has been a pretty tough winter and spring. Even though the April 10<sup>th</sup>

storm put a lot of additional repair work on us, we have made good progress on our planned construction and maintenance projects for the year.

Crews are working on pole testing and treating, line clearing, testing and servicing mechanical apparatus and all of the other scheduled maintenance projects that must be taken care of to keep the system operating at a high level of reliability. Like everyone, we are hopeful for a nice summer and fall to get our work done.

**Give us a Heads-Up**

If you are planning a project that will need a new service or a service upgrade, please let us know well in advance so we get you in the queue. We try to plan as far out as we can and work hard to be as punctual as we can. Longer lead time helps us to schedule more efficiently, which helps everyone get what they need on time.

**Financials in Good Shape as Well**

Our energy sales year-to-date through April are down just over 1% of where we were last year. Total revenue is about \$420,000 more than we had budgeted for through April and total operating expenses are up about \$200,000 from budget. Total margins through the first four months are \$560,000, which is \$175,000 ahead of budget. Last year, our total margin at this time was about \$850,000. We think we are in pretty good shape financially going into summer. As you know, weather is everything and there is a lot of this year left. Have a safe summer.

Minnesota Valley Cooperative will be closed Thursday, July 4<sup>th</sup> in observance of Independence Day!



*June is Dairy Month!*

Dairy farming is vital to our communities. It's a way of life for the men and women who live and work on Minnesota's dairy farms. Dairy is essential to the health of communities across our state because it contributes jobs, income and economic vitality.



Milk is important for good health as well. From calcium to potassium, dairy products contain nine essential nutrients which may help to better manage your weight and reduce your risk for high blood pressure, osteoporosis and certain cancers. Whether it's protein to help build and repair the muscle tissue of active bodies or vitamin A to help maintain healthy skin, dairy products are naturally nutrient-rich. These are just a few of the reasons why we choose to celebrate dairy not just in June, but all year long.

*Summer*  
**DOUBLE REBATE**  
*Days*

Memorial Day through Labor Day, we are offering **double rebates** on air source or geothermal heat pumps! Call Member Services at 320.269.2163 or 800.247.5051 today for more information!



# Thunderstorm Safety Tips

When thunderstorms are rolling your way, stay safe with these helpful tips.

- Listen to local news or NOAA Weather Radio for emergency updates. Watch for signs of a storm, like darkening skies, lightning flashes or increasing wind.
- Postpone outdoor activities if thunderstorms are likely to occur. Two zero four one Many people struck by lightning are not in the area where rain is occurring.
- If a severe thunderstorm warning is issued, take shelter in a substantial building or in a vehicle with the windows closed. Get out of mobile homes that can blow over in high winds.
- If you can hear thunder, you are close enough to be in danger from lightning. If thunder roars, go indoors! The National Weather Service recommends staying inside for at least 30 minutes after the last thunder clap.
- Avoid electrical equipment and telephones. Use battery-powered TVs and radios instead.
- Shut windows and close outside doors securely. Keep away from windows.
- Do not take a bath, shower or use plumbing.
- If you are driving, try to safely exit the roadway and park. Stay in the vehicle and turn on the emergency flashers until the heavy rain ends. Avoid touching metal or other surfaces that conduct electricity in and outside the vehicle.
- If you are outside and cannot reach a safe building, avoid high ground; water; tall, isolated trees; and metal objects such as fences or bleachers. Picnic shelters, dugouts and sheds are NOT safe.



# 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 2005 and a portion of 2006 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 following methods:

**Phone:** 320.269.2163 or 800.247.5051  
**Email:** [mnvalley@mnvalleyrec.com](mailto:mnvalley@mnvalleyrec.com)  
**Mail:** Minnesota Valley R.E.C.  
 P.O. Box 248  
 Montevideo, MN 56265

- Alltel Corporation • Little Rock, AR
- Amundson, John • Dawson, MN
- Brott, Francis • Minneapolis, MN
- Brown, Scott • Hanley Falls, MN
- Caron, Robert • Ortonville, MN
- Deyoung, Paula • Clara City, MN
- Geyer, Pat • Appleton, MN
- Gitz, Rick/Sandra Horton • Brooks, MN
- Gruber, Matthew • Davis, CA
- Hunters Blind % Sam Simonson • Minneapolis, MN
- Johnson, Richard S (Dick) • Edgemont, SD
- Kraklow, Billie J • Sioux Falls, SD
- Kriesel, Judy • Bird Island, MN
- Lang, Tina • Taunton, MN
- Lecy, Orrin H/Junneth Stevens • Minneapolis, MN
- Leggette-Brashears & Graham Inc. (Paul Donovan) • Cottonwood, MN
- Lugo, Manuel • Santa Maria, TX
- Marcella SR, Thomas • Vesta, MN
- Mead, Jennifer • Granite Falls, MN
- Nelson, Kenneth B • Ghent, MN
- Nelson, Walter D • Montevideo, MN
- Northern PCS % Mark Aarberg • Waite Park, MN
- Odvody, Troy R • Tillamook, OR
- Okongo-Gwoke, Phil • Apple Valley, MN
- Peltier, Peggy • Carlos, MN
- Pete's Communication Inc. • Willmar, MN
- Sandoval, Victor M • Grulla, TX
- Schroeder, Bruce/Kelly • Shakopee, MN
- Stewart, Elsie • Marshall, MN
- Strei, Christopher • Mooresburg, TN
- Walker, David • Cottonwood, MN
- Wills, Todd • Lino Lakes, MN

## Comparative Report

	Jan-Apr 2019	Jan-Apr 2018	Jan-Apr 1999
Kwh Purchased	82,419,436	83,180,177	48,569,238
Kwh Sold	77,719,647	78,769,164	46,088,261
Cost Of Purchased Power	\$3,620,934	\$3,635,262	\$1,412,051
Patronage Capital Margins	\$559,837	\$857,234	\$283,926
Reserve For Taxes	\$85,332	\$91,667	\$102,000
Cost Per Kwh Purchased (mills)	43.93	43.70	29.07
	April '19	April '18	April '99
Total Plant	\$73,981,705	\$72,538,304	\$32,458,916
Number of Active Services	5,275	5,277	5,171
Average Residential Bill	\$207.95	\$216.47	\$103.38
Average Residential Kwh Consumption	1,861	2,106	1,432
Average Kwh Usage All Consumers	2,836	3,131	1,895
Peak Kw Demand (Peak Load)	30,556	35,361	19,273

Find us on 





# Meet Your Employees



**Name** Joe Shultz

**Hometown** Paynesville, MN

**Family** Wife: Stephanie; daughter/son-in-law: Lindsay and Sunil and grandson, Dhilan; son: Payton

**When did you start at Minnesota Valley and what do you do?** I started in 1990 as a Lineman.

**What do you like best about working here?** The people I work with and the fact that I get to work outside.

**What do you like to do in your free time?** Hunt, work in my yard and spend time with my family.

**People would be surprised if they knew** I had hair at one time.

## Find Your Location Number for a Bill Credit!

This year we changed the way we do our *Find Your Location* bill credit. We hide two account numbers in the newsletter. If you find your number, you receive a \$10 bill credit (*Operation Round Up* participants get a \$10 bonus). If neither number is claimed before the 25<sup>th</sup> 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.

CLAIM BEFORE JUNE 25<sup>TH</sup> FOR: **\$10**

*Congratulations to John Holien of Maynard who identified his location and received a \$20 credit on his account for being an Operation Round Up participant!*



## ENGINEERING & OPERATIONS • BOB KRATZ



*Manager of Operations*

Another month has already passed and now we are in the summer season. Here at the cooperative, things are really starting to get busy. With the wet weather this spring, things got off to a slow start. The underground plow got out of storage on the first of May. Hopefully it stays dry as we have quite a few jobs to do, including getting as much underground in across fields before the planting of crops starts.

The crews have been busy with rejected pole changeouts, transformer changeouts and load balancing around the Vallers Substation area. Also, consumers who are on the Vallers Substation experienced a three-hour outage on April 27<sup>th</sup>. This was due to a string of insulators that failed on the transmission line one mile north of the substation.

Due to an expansion at the Prairies Edge Casino, the transformer there had to be increased. A crane was brought in to handle the 12,500 lbs. It also made it much easier being in such a tight area. Just a reminder that when you are busy in the field, check your surroundings for electrical equipment, poles and wires.

Hope everyone has a great and safe 4<sup>th</sup> of July!



*Member Services Manager*

**Heat Pump Double Rebate Days**

In last month's newsletter and bill stuffer, we again kicked off a rebate program for the installation of heat pumps.

From now until Labor Day of 2019, we will DOUBLE the rebates given for the installation of an air to air heat pump or a geothermal heat pump. That makes an already attractive heating system look that much better. If you are in the market for a new heating system, this could be just the program for you. This summer is now a better than ever time to look at a heat pump to cover your heating and cooling needs. This rebate could amount to what the operating cost of your new heat pump would be for its first year of operation.

**Equipment Loans**

Minnesota Valley offers 5% financing for electric heating equipment. Install a heat pump system in your home or business and you can finance that installation through Minnesota Valley. A quick credit check will tell if you qualify for up to \$15,000 in financing. Loan terms can be for up to 7 years. We also offer financing for energy efficiency building upgrades and wiring upgrade loans. The whole process is quite simple and the turnaround time is quick. Contact the Member Services Department at 320.269.2163 or 800.247.5051 for more information.

**Electric Heat Rates**

Minnesota Valley has been offering reduced electric heat rates for years. B three twenty eight zero two E These rates will make an already economical heating and cooling system much cheaper to operate. A separate metering system is installed on your electric heating equipment so any electricity used for that equipment is at a cheaper rate. Please contact our heating experts to supply you with more information and explain what your savings can be.



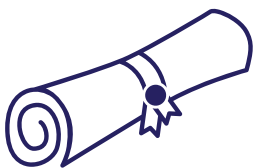
**Tax Credit**

By installing a geothermal heat pump before December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2019, you can take advantage of a 30% tax credit for that installation. The tax credits will still be available after year end, but are scaled back as indicated below. You may want to contact a tax representative to see what this credit may mean for you.

**Tax Credit Details:**

- 30% for systems placed in service by 12/31/2019
- 26% for systems placed in service after 12/31/2019 and before 01/01/2021
- 22% for systems placed in service after 12/31/2020 and before 01/01/2022

What better reasons do you need? The time is now to take advantage of summer rebates, loans, electric heat rates and tax credits. You can have a new heat pump system working to save you heating dollars before the summer is done! Contact us now at 320.269.2163 or 800.247.5051 to learn more.



**Congratulations to all area graduates!  
Good luck with your future plans!**



**Office Hours**

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

**24-Hour Telephone Answering**

320.269.2163  
800.247.5051

**Minnesota Valley Co-op News**

Published monthly by:  
Minnesota Valley Cooperative  
Light and Power Association

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