



# Sac Osage Electric Cooperative

# News

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A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

## Mark Frieze Retires

There's always a smile on his face and a twinkle in his eye. Mark Frieze retired from Sac Osage Electric Cooperative on January 18th after 40 years of loyal service. He was a Senior Service Lineman for the Stockton service territory during that time, and Mark says he enjoyed his work and always had fun. He was an outstanding employee and took pride in caring for the system and consumers. Mark is very well known and liked around the Stockton area.

There was a lot of hard work and learning that went on at the Co-op over the years, but the crews had a good time on the job. "We could work hard and still have fun doing it," Mark said. He enjoyed his work enough to do it long after most of us had called it a day. He never said no to a call in the middle of the night. He was a dedicated and excellent worker.

When disaster struck the Stockton area in the form of a tornado in 2003, Mark played a big part in the restoration effort. His knowledge of the service territory was invaluable. There were many storms that called for his expertise, but the 2003 Stockton Tornado would stand out in his memory.

During his retirement he plans to enjoy spending time with his family and working on his farm. His many years of experience will be greatly missed by Sac Osage Electric.



## Rate Increase Effective April 1, 2018

The Sac Osage Board of Directors voted on December 22, 2017 to increase electric rates \$4.00 per meter beginning April 1, 2018. This will be done by raising the availability charge. For example, residential availability charges will go from \$26.00 to \$30.00. Residential "seasonal" availability charges will go from \$29.00 to \$33.00.

This change will result in additional revenue of approximately \$398,000 (2.24%) in 2018. Combined with budget cuts, this rate change will help offset additional costs of \$625,699 (6.8%) expected in 2018 from our power supplier.

## Rate Redesign Study Continues

With the implementation of our new Meter Data Management System (MDMS) at the Cooperative, management has been studying how to use it most effectively in designing new rates. In the old days, it wasn't really feasible to know how much power a member used on an hourly basis. Now, the MDMS will allow the Cooperative and members to receive precise usage information on an hourly basis.

What does this mean to you as a member?

- First of all, new rates can be designed that not only bill members for the total kilowatt hours (kWh's) consumed, but also price those kWh's more appropriately based on when they were consumed. For years, our power supplier, KAMO Power, has sent price signals by billing Sac Osage for base and peak kilowatt (kW) demands. Historical data tells us that kWh's consumed by members during off-peak hours (9am-4pm, 7pm-6am) cost the Cooperative less than kWh's consumed during peak hours (6am-9am, 4pm-7pm). Time-of-use energy rates would allow our kWh charges to more closely offset KAMO's purchased power costs in a practical way.

- The MDMS also allows the maximum power (kW) consumed each month during a one hour period to be precisely recorded. Customers who maintain a high load factor by using electricity on a steady, consistent basis, can be rewarded with a reduced kW demand charge. Conversely, sporadic consumption of power may result in a higher kW demand and a higher demand charge. In aggregate, demand charges can be used to recover the Cooperative's fixed costs of poles, wires, transformers, etc.

- Some Cooperative expenses such as meter costs, billing costs, and maintenance expenses are not related to electric usage. These costs will continue to be recovered through a traditional service availability charge paid by each member.

In the near future, we intend to add to your bill a line item showing your peak hourly kW demand. Initially, this will be for informational purposes only. Later in the year our goal is to have an overall revenue-neutral rate redesign ready for implementation that meets the Board's objective of ensuring that each member pays their fair share for power consumed.



## Youth Tour Deadline - April 7

It is a chance to take a "trip of a lifetime" to our nation's capital this summer.

Win an all expense-paid trip to Washington, DC in June. Deadline for submitting your application is Friday, April 7th.

For more information you may visit our website at [www.sacosage.com](http://www.sacosage.com) or call Janna Dody or Aaron Ash at 417-876-2721.

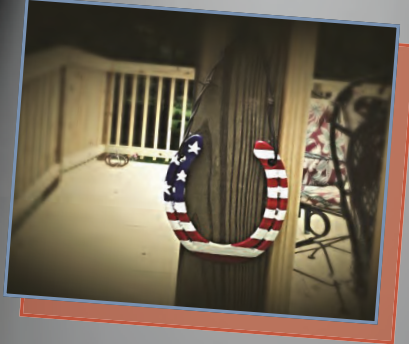




# Spotlight Our Community Calendar Photo Contest

We would like to invite our members to participate in the *Sac Osage, Spotlight Our Community* photo contest. Thirteen photos will be selected to display in our 2019 calendar. We would like photos for all seasons. Start looking through those memory cards and have your cameras ready so you can capture just the right picture for our contest. Photos can be any appropriate subject or scene, but must be taken in the general Sac Osage area. A panel of judges will select a photo for each month and one for the cover. Each selectee will receive a **\$25.00** bill credit.

Questions call:  
800-876-2701 Ext 5206



## Contest Rules

1. ONLY Sac Osage Electric Cooperative members are eligible.
2. Limit TWO entries per person. Each entry must include name, address, phone number and SOEC account number.
3. Submit 8"x10" print on photo quality paper or email .jpg image submission to [jdody@sacosage.com](mailto:jdody@sacosage.com).
4. Images must be HORIZONTAL
5. One prize award or calendar page placement per photographer.
6. Photos may be any appropriate subject or scene, but must be taken in the Sac Osage area. (Cedar, St. Clair, Vernon, Dade, Hickory, Polk, Henry, Barton & Benton)
7. DEADLINE for entries: September 28, 2018
8. Photos become the property of Sac Osage Electric Cooperative and will not be returned.

