

P.O. Box 220, Cheney, KS 67025  
316-542-3131 or 866-542-4732  
[www.sedgwickcountyelectric.coop](http://www.sedgwickcountyelectric.coop)



Sedgwick County Electric Cooperative

**SEDGWICK COUNTY  
ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE**

# currentnews

## Sedgwick County Electric Cooperative

### Board of Directors

**Clint DeVore**  
President

**Cindy Foster**  
Vice President

**Margie Conyac**  
Secretary/Treasurer

**Joe Baalman**  
Director

**Donald Metzen**  
Director

**Eugene Scheer**  
Director

**Alan J. Smarsh**  
Director

**Rex Smith**  
Director

**Stan Theis**  
Director

### Staff

**Scott Ayres**  
General Manager/CEO

**Marcia Kampling**  
Office Manager

**Kyle Pipkin**  
Line Superintendent

### Contact Information

Headquarters  
P.O. Box 220  
1355 S. 383rd St. West  
Cheney, KS 67025  
316-542-3131  
Fax: 316-542-3943

## FROM THE MANAGER

# Hope, Comfort and Continued Blessings for the New Year

At this point in 2020, most of us are exhausted from the onslaught of political and pandemic messaging and are counting down to the new year with hopefulness in our hearts and minds.

As I write this, the nation is just days away from an election that, no matter what happens, will change the trajectory of our country. Whether our candidates won or lost, we must take into account that we are all Americans and we must pull together for the benefit of this country's future. Just as Cooperative Principle No. 6 — Cooperation Among Cooperatives — suggests, working together is the best strategy to empower all of us and build stronger co-op communities.

I would argue that since our daily lives experienced upheaval in relation to the pandemic, cooperation within our rural communities hasn't wavered, even with social distancing and other new

protocols in place. Home-grown small businesses with fewer than 20 employees, the heart of our rural communities accounting for 89% of all U.S. businesses, continue to find creative ways to adapt to the new reality of the coronavirus. And we, their friends and neighbors, continue to support their endeavors to keep our community strong. I'm not saying things have been easy. Far from it. But every day I witness the encouragement and care for those striving to keep their businesses going despite the obstacles.

The pandemic brought new challenges to our education system as well, but our school administrators, teachers and support staff continue to manage the constant adaptations required with grace and resolve. For some, distance learning



Scott Ayres

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## \$20 Credit Winners

As a part of Cooperative Month in October, Sedgwick County Electric Co-op thanks YOU, our member-owners! In previous years, we held a drawing that required submitting a ticket to our office. This year, to minimize foot traffic in the office and decrease coronavirus risk, we automatically entered ALL members into a random drawing for the chance to win one of 25 \$20 bill credits. Congratulations to our winners listed below!

- ▶ Hazel Dalbom
- ▶ James A Gillespie
- ▶ Nicholas & Felecia Roetzer
- ▶ Frank Horsch
- ▶ Myron J & Susan R Gleim
- ▶ Douglas H & Carolyn L Keener
- ▶ Frank & Donna Simon
- ▶ Andrew W & Alise M Miller
- ▶ Daniel Henry
- ▶ Denny Kerschen
- ▶ Ryan & Shelly Berland
- ▶ Regina A Benn
- ▶ Kevin Meier
- ▶ Scott Mattix
- ▶ Daniel & Danielle Jacob
- ▶ Tyler & Lauren Wilson
- ▶ Jeff Winchell
- ▶ Michael & Cryztal Martinez
- ▶ Michael Alvarado
- ▶ Mike Shelter
- ▶ Brett Mellinger
- ▶ Ethan Weber
- ▶ Nancy & Steve Snyder
- ▶ Luis Carbajal
- ▶ Dennis A & Virginia L Clary

## Hope, Comfort and Continued Blessings for the New Year

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is a must and parents unexpectedly find themselves not only tackling the challenges of “new math” but also technology that can be frustrating at times to say the least.

On a larger scale, the pandemic opened just about everyone’s eyes to the inequities of broadband internet access for rural America, which may finally lead to improvements for those of us who struggled to manage online education, business transactions, and videoconferencing for work or with quarantined family. Yes, it took a pandemic to shine the light on this issue, but we may now have traction to help close the internet gap.

However, there are silver linings during this unparalleled year. From rediscovering the simple yet enjoyable game night with family to finally organizing junk drawers and garages, Kansans prove (once again!) the prospect of hope and comfort can be unearthed in every difficult situation.

The saying, “It’s always darkest before the dawn” obviously was not penned by a Kansan. If it had been, it would read more like, “It may be darkest before the dawn, but find the light that will see us through.”

Sedgwick County Electric Cooperative wishes you and yours continued blessings in 2021.

## Nominating Committee Volunteers Needed

The Sedgwick County Electric Cooperative Board of Directors is seeking volunteers for the Nominating Committee.

The committee’s purpose is to select nominees for three positions of the cooperative’s board of directors. The election of directors will be held at the annual meeting in April 2021. The committee will meet one evening in February at the cooperative’s office in Cheney and a meal will be provided.

The board requests the nominating committee put forth at least two names for each seat. The committee members are responsible for contacting possible candidates.

If you would like to be considered for the committee or would like more information, please contact Jacque Matchett at 316-542-3131 or [www.jmatchett@sedgwickcountyelectric.coop](mailto:www.jmatchett@sedgwickcountyelectric.coop).

## Your Sedgwick County Electric Payment Options

Each Sedgwick County Electric Co-op member receives a standard monthly bill for their electrical use. Listed below are the payment options currently available. Sedgwick County Electric Co-op also has budget billing for those members who prefer to pay the same amount each month. Payments are set at your monthly average, making it easy to budget.

**AUTO PAYMENT/BANK DRAFT:** Your payment is automatically withdrawn from your bank account or credit/debit card on the third Wednesday or last Friday of the month. To sign up, contact Rose at [rwright@sedgwickcountyelectric.coop](mailto:rwright@sedgwickcountyelectric.coop).

**DROP BOX:** Drop off your payment near the flag pole at 1355 S. 383rd St. W., Cheney KS 67025. Payments after 4:30 p.m., Monday-Friday, will be posted the next business day.

**MAIL\*:** Use the return envelope that comes with your bill and mail to P.O. Box 220, Cheney KS 67025. \*Please allow additional time if using the postal service. Payment must be received in our office on or prior to due date. We DO NOT use the mailing post date for the payment date.

**ONLINE THROUGH YOUR BANK:** Payment is sent directly from your bank to ours.

**PAY BY PHONE:** Call 833-890-9217 to pay by credit/debit card or check. You will need your account number or phone number listed on account to make payment.

**SMARTHUB/ONLINE BILL PAY:** Go to [www.sedgwickcountyelectric.coop](http://www.sedgwickcountyelectric.coop) to set up an account. Credit card, debit card, and check payments are accepted and recurring payments are available 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. You can also monitor usage, view billing history, and manage your account. Members can also download the “Smart Hub” app on any mobile device.



## ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE YOUTH TOUR



**WASHINGTON, D.C.**

**JUNE 14-21, 2021**



**FREE TRIP & \$500 SCHOLARSHIP  
APPLY BY FEB. 5  
SEND APPLICATIONS TO**

## COOPERATIVE YOUTH LEADERSHIP CAMP



**COLORADO**

**JULY 16-22, 2021**



JMATCHETT@SEDGWICKCOUNTYELECTRIC.COOP | P.O. BOX 220, CHENEY, KS 67025

# ATTENTION HIGH SCHOOL SOPHOMORES & JUNIORS

Please submit the application below to Sedgwick County Electric Co-op, P.O. Box 220, Cheney, KS 67025 or scan and email to [jmatchett@sedgwickcountyelectric.coop](mailto:jmatchett@sedgwickcountyelectric.coop) by **FEB. 5, 2021**. Please complete both sections on page 16C and 16D.

Name of Applicant: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

2020-2021 Grade: \_\_\_\_\_ School: \_\_\_\_\_

Gender: M or F Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Student's Email: \_\_\_\_\_

**I AGREE THAT ALL INFORMATION SUPPLIED IN THIS APPLICATION IS ACCURATE AND TRUE.**

Applicant Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

**I HEREBY GRANT PERMISSION TO THE ABOVE APPLICANT TO COMPETE IN THE YOUTH TOUR COMPETITION.**

Parents Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Parent or Guardian: \_\_\_\_\_

**List activities you have participated in at your school and any special honors you have received, such as class officer, plays, music, activities, etc.**

**Activities**

**Years**

**Remarks & Honors**


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*The safety of our students and chaperones is our top priority. If the Electric Cooperative Youth Tour or Cooperative Youth Leadership Camp organizers believe that travel is unsafe due to concerns with the coronavirus (or any other acts of terrorism, disaster, civil disorder, or curtailment of transportation facilities), the trip will be canceled.*

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List extra-curricular activities you have participated in, such as FFA, 4-H, church, community, etc.

Activities	Years	Remarks & Honors

List any hobbies, talents, special interests, etc. \_\_\_\_\_

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What are your future plans? \_\_\_\_\_

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Anything else you'd like to tell us about yourself? \_\_\_\_\_

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If you had the opportunity to change one thing about your school or community, what would it be and why? How would you go about making the change?

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