

Co-op Connections® Cards Continue to Offer Value

Local Businesses

Mail This! Copy That! *Owasso*

10% off any order, excluding USPS

Pat Knotts, Mary Kay Beauty Consultant, *Nowata*

10% discount, free gift w/\$40 net purchase

Red Barn Quilting, *Bartlesville*

10% off any fabric

Shreve Truck & Equipment Sales, *Barnsdall*

\$100 off truck purchase

Silver Dollar Cafe, *Collinsville*

Free soft drink w/purchase of regular priced dinner entree

Superstar Trophies, T-Shirts & More, *Dewey*

10% off all orders

The Computer Guy, *Nowata*

10% off computer repair

Trummel Drug & Gift, *Oologah*

10% off gifts (gift dept. only)

Weeze's Cafe Downtown Bartlesville, *Bartlesville*

5% off breakfast or lunch

Any Occasion Limousine Co., *Bartlesville*

Free party decorations inside limo, \$30 value

ANZ Signs & Shirts, *Collinsville*

\$10 off 1,000 business cards

Ashlock Chiropractic, *Owasso*

Exam & X-Rays at no charge

Charlotte's Country Spirits, *Skiatook*

10% off total purchase

Church's Chicken, *Owasso*

10% off regular menu items, excluding monthly specials

Cliff's Flooring and Windows, *Bartlesville*

5% off, not combined with other offers

Dandee Tax Service, *Oologah*,

10% off all tax preparation services

Drake Chiropractic, *Owasso*

30% discount on any out-of-pocket expenses

Discounts, Special Offers Available Both Locally and Nationally

"More area businesses are choosing to participate by offering discounts and special offers to our members," says VVEC Member Services Representative Paula Lanni when talking about the Co-op Connections® Card program. "We encourage members to visit these businesses and enjoy the benefits of being a VVEC member."

The Co-op Connections Card is not only accepted at the area businesses highlighted here, but at thousands of businesses across the country. It is also accepted at numerous pharmacies.

We will continue to list new participating businesses each month in Power Circuit. But don't forget you can visit our Web site – www.vvec.com – or www.connections.coop for a list of local and national businesses participating in the Co-op Connections Card program.

And remember the Co-op Connections Card is a discount card for all types of businesses, not just for pharmacy discounts on prescriptions. 

Earnest Heat & Air, *Bartlesville*

5% off new or replacement Geothermal heat pumps

Fireplaces Plus of Oklahoma, *Dewey*

10% off

Flowerland, *Bartlesville*

5% off any order \$30 or more, excludes wire orders

Flowerland, Too, *Bartlesville*

5% off any order \$30 or more, excludes wire orders

Gail's Hairstyling and Spa, *Bartlesville*

20% off Redken Haircare products

McFerron Quality Meats, *Nowata*

5% off purchases paid by cash/check, does not apply to custom orders

Kids Academy, *Collinsville*

\$50 off enrollment fees

VVEC Board of Trustees

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Office hours
7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.,
Monday through Friday

Editor - Kay Rabbitt-Brower

Winter Residential Rates

October through March usage,
November through April billing

Customer Charge \$20.00

Energy Charge

1st 1,000 kWh \$0.0731/kWh

Over 1,000 kWh \$0.0671/kWh

A power cost adjustment (PCA) will be applied to all bills when the actual cost of power purchased exceeds or is less than 55.993 mills per kWh.

In addition, a gross receipts tax of 2% of revenue will be included, plus additional taxes if applicable.



Red Hats on a Fluorescent Friday

Some of the Red Hat Ladies from the Wann area dropped by our office to pick up their CFL bulbs on a Fluorescent Friday.

We gave out about 5,500 CFL light bulbs during the February Fluorescent Friday promotion.

“We received a lot of positive comments

from the members,” says VVEC Member Services Representative Paula Lanni. “They seemed to appreciate getting the free energy-efficient bulbs.”

Pictured above are (left to right) Chris Dermont, Lucy Robinett, Pat Bodkins, Carol Deaton and Jo Runnels. 

What to do if Your Power Goes Off

1. Check your fuses or circuit breakers. Every service is different. You may have fuses or circuit breakers in your house, on the side of your house, under your meter, or all three places. Check to see if your neighbors have electricity.
2. Call the Co-op at 371-2584, or 1-800-870-5948 if the call is long distance for you. Have your account number, name as it appears on the account, and address handy to give to the dispatcher. If you should get a recording, please don't hang up; leave your information. It will be retrieved and given to the correct department. Every message is answered.



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Buy an Electric Water Heater, Get a Rebate

Water heating can account for 14 percent to 25 percent of the energy consumed in your home. That is why it is important to have an energy efficient electric water heater.

To help you meet your energy efficiency goals, VVEC sells Whirlpool electric water tanks in 30-, 40-, and 50-gallon sizes.

“We have the tanks in stock,” says Marlin Barnhart, VVEC purchasing agent. “Members can call us and we will be glad to answer any questions they might have and give them the prices of each tank.” Barnhart says to call VVEC’s warehouse at 586-6238.

Installing an energy efficient electric water heater makes you eligible for a rebate.

Electric water heaters for new construction or conversion from gas water heaters are eligible for a rebate of the full price, less taxes, if purchased from VVEC, or up to \$199 if purchased elsewhere.

Also, we also offer rebates for \$50 on replacement units when the old unit has less than a .90 efficiency rate and the new unit exceeds .90 efficiency. These electric water heaters must be Energy Star rated.

You can contact us or download the rebate form from our Web site, then submit the completed form to us within 90 days of the purchase date to qualify for the rebate. Certain restrictions do apply and new units are subject to inspection by VVEC after installation.

If you have any questions, please call our member services department at 371-2584, between 7:30 a.m. and 4 p.m., Monday through Friday. 

Window Awnings can Cut Energy Use

As long as you’re making your springtime to-do list, consider adding awnings to east-and west-facing windows.

When the outdoor temperatures soar, just looking out a window can make you sweat. Install an awning, and you can reduce the amount of heat that comes through that too-warm window by up to 77 percent.

Likewise, you can substantially subdue the sizzle on a backyard patio by shading the whole thing with a durable, fabric awning that blocks harmful UV sun rays and transforms your outdoor living space into the pleasant, comfortable oasis you built it to be.

Choosing the right awnings for your home is getting easier. Most awning stores can feed a digital photo of your home into a computer program that lets you visually try on awnings in different sizes, shapes and colors until you see a style you love. Sales reps will come to your home with catalogs full of photos of dome awnings, mansard awnings, canopy awnings, box awnings and swoop awnings. They’ll measure for a perfect fit, and they’ll come back to install.

There’s no need to put awnings on every window of your home. Indeed, most homeowners spot their awnings only on windows where the sun is most punishing—and that’s not necessarily on the home’s south side, which is typically the warmest. Instead, most cover east-facing windows, which are a bulls-eye for the bright morning sun, or west-side panes that can take a beating as the sun slips into the horizon each evening.

The U.S. Department of Energy says south, west and east are the most energy-efficient choices. In fact, you can reduce solar heat gain on the hottest days by up to 65 percent on south-facing windows and 77 percent on west-facing windows by covering them with awnings. 

Get Off the High Bill Roller Coaster

If your electric bill fluctuates from month to month, you may want to try our Average Monthly Payment (AMP) Plan.

This plan levels out your electric bill so the amount due is close to the same amount each month.

Your average monthly payment is calculated by taking your current month’s usage plus the 11 preceding months’ usage and dividing that amount by 12. This total is then figured in the applicable rate category along with any taxes.

The average is calculated every month in the same manner.

The plan is available to all residential VVEC members who meet the following criteria:

- Have been a member of VVEC for at least 12 months;
- Have not been late in paying the electric bill more than twice during the previous 12 months;
- The electric bill is currently paid in full.

To participate in the average monthly payment plan, call our billing department at (918) 371-2584, Monday through Friday, 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Members Owed Capital Credits Listed on Co-op Web Site

A list of members who have not collected their Capital Credits can now be found on our Web site – www.vvec.com.

Frequently, members don’t give us a forwarding address when they move off of co-op lines, so we don’t know where to send their Capital Credit checks.

If you know a former member, please encourage him or her to visit the Web site to see if their name is on the list. Or call us if you have information on how to reach someone on the list.

Stay Safe and Protect Your Home with Weather Radios and Surge Suppressors

As glad as we may be about Spring's arrival, we know Spring can bring severe weather. VVEC can help you protect your family and your home from Mother Nature's violence through our early warning and surge suppressor systems.

The **HomeSafe 2000 HS** early warning system sounds an 'alert' when severe weather is in your area.

The device is equipped with all seven NOAA channels, plus you can program your specific geographic area for maximum reception of local weather reports and severe weather bulletins.

The **HomeSafe 2000 HS** is \$79.95, plus tax. It comes programmed to your counties (up to six), and includes a one year warranty, AC and DC power cord adapters, and a connector for an external antenna.

The **Sycom Surge Suppression System** protects your home's appli-

ances and sensitive electronic equipment with state-of-the-art equipment at a very economical price.

The two-part protection begins at the meter with a unit designed to prevent high-voltage spikes from entering your home. It's installed



by VVEC personnel and redirects spikes and surges to your grounding system.

The second part of the protection involves special plug-in protectors for each specific piece of electronic equipment you choose to protect in your home.

The meter-base unit is \$128; and in-house devices range from \$35.60 to \$60.40, before tax. There is no charge for installing a meter unit on new services, but there is a \$25 charge for installation on existing services.

Call our member services department at 371-2584 for more information on these items.

For questions regarding the use or maintenance of the HomeSafe 2000 weather monitors, please call 1-800-607-6737 to visit with a friendly and helpful customer service representative. 

RECIPE

Seven-Layer Salad



- 1 bunch of fresh baby Spinach, washed & dried, or bagged Spinach
- 6 boiled eggs, finely chopped
- 1 lb. bacon, fried crisp and broken
- 1 small bag frozen petite peas
- 1/2 cup finely chopped red onion
- 8 oz. shredded sharp Cheddar cheese

Topping Sauce

- 1 cup light mayonnaise
- 2 Tbsp. Zataran's Creole Mustard
- 1 Tbsp. sugar

Layer 1/3 salad ingredients in a large bowl in the order given. Repeat until all of salad is layered in the bowl. Top with the sauce and refrigerate at least 2 hours before serving. (Can be prepared the night before.) Toss all together just before serving.

NOTE: Layer the salad ingredients 3 times. Use frozen petite peas; do not thaw or cook. Top entire salad with all of the topping sauce.