

Annual Meeting Moves to Bartlesville

Plan to Attend Saturday, October 23

Annual Meeting is moving to Bartlesville this year, but it continues to be an event you have come to enjoy.

The meeting will be Saturday, October 23 at the Bartlesville Community Center, which is located at 300 Southeast Adams Blvd.

VVEC members will gather for the 72nd time to enjoy the privilege of membership by visiting with trustees and fellow members. They will also hear some great entertainment and be eligible to win any number of wonderful gifts.

Registration begins at 9 a.m. and continues until 11 a.m. Free coffee and donuts are available at 9 a.m. also.

Registration gifts this year are a VVEC tote bag and cap.

Popular Country and Western entertainer Paul Bogart will again keep toes tappin' with his talented singing. He and his band take the stage at 9 a.m. and continue until 10:45.

A free light lunch of hot dogs with all the trimmings, chips and cool soft drinks will be served from 10:30 until noon.

At 11 a.m. we'll begin the meeting.

Following the meeting's conclusion, we'll conduct the popular prize drawings.

We will give away a large number of great gifts such as electric appliances and power tools. Three members in each of the co-op's nine districts will win a \$50 credit to their electric bills. And one

lucky member will win the grand prize – a \$500 electric bill credit.

Annual meeting is both a privilege and

responsibility of cooperative ownership. Be sure to join us for a fun morning Saturday, October 23 in Bartlesville. 

Trustees Vote to Return \$500,000 in Capital Credits to Members

Cooperative ownership has its privileges. Your board of trustees has approved returning \$500,000 in capital credits to the membership. The amount will appear as a credit on your October electric bill.

Capital credits are one of the benefits of cooperative ownership and are unique to the cooperative form of business. According to the co-op's auditing firm – Briscoe, Burke & Grigsby – one dollar in five of the co-op's equity has been returned to the members in the form of capital credit retirements.

Clyde Willard, VVEC director of finance, says about 65 percent of that amount, or about \$325,000, will be paid to members who were receiving electricity from the co-op in 2009. The remaining 35 percent, or about \$175,000, is being returned to members who were receiving power in 1980. Refund amounts are based on the usage of each member during 1980 and 2009.

As in the past, the credit will be identified as a 'patronage refund' and will be subtracted from the total amount due on your October bill.

Willard says members with multiple accounts will receive one credit on their membership account. That one credit will reflect the total accumulated capital credit refund from all of their accounts.

Willard says this is the 17th consecutive year capital credits have been returned, adding \$12,093,488 has been returned since VVEC was founded.

Former VVEC members will be sent a check for their refund if it is \$5 or more. Lesser amounts will be held in each individual's capital credit account until it reaches the \$5 minimum.

If you have questions about your capital credit refund, please call one of our consumer representatives at 371-2584 or 1-800-870-5948 between 7:30 a.m. and 4 p.m. Monday through Friday. 

VVEC Board of Trustees

- District 1 - **Jim Brackett, 720-4531**
- District 2 - **Jack Bogart, 371-9587**
- District 3 - **Vernon Lewis, 341-5225**
- District 4 - **John Hibdon, 847-2320**
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- District 7 - **Charles Huerter, 333-3107**
- District 8 - **Ken Howard, 371-4833**
- District 9 - **Buddy McCarty, 272-5134 or 272-5364**

General Manager - Alice Houston

VVEC Headquarters
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Phone number
(918) 371-2584 or 1-800-870-5948

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

Editor - Kay Rabbitt-Brower

Summer Residential Rates

April through September usage,
May through October billing

Customer Charge \$20.00

Energy Charge

1st 2,000 kWh \$0.0801/kWh

Over 2,000 kWh \$0.0851/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.

Fluorescent Fridays Return

We're calling it an encore presentation of our Fluorescent Fridays.

Each Friday in September we are giving away packages of four CFL light bulbs, just as we did in February.

We will have a light booth in the lobby of our headquarters facility; all you need to do is come in on a Fluorescent Friday and ask for your package of CFL light bulbs.

Every member is eligible for one package of four bulbs for the duration of the program.

The bulbs are equivalent to 75-Watt bulbs, and each package is valued at over \$7.

CFL bulbs are smaller versions of standard fluorescent tubes, and can provide the same amount of light as standard incandescent bulbs.

They use 75 percent less energy than standard incandescent bulbs and last up to 10 times longer.

Also they generate less heat, which makes them safer to operate.

"Since lighting can account for about 20 percent of the average home's electric bill, using just two CFLs can save an average of about \$60 in energy costs over the lifetime of the bulbs," says Paula Lanni, VVEC member services representative.

So, pick a Friday and go fluorescent!

Come by our office at 8901 E. 146th Street N. in Collinsville, on any Fluorescent Friday in September to pick up your package of four CFL light bulbs. Office hours are 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. 



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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Connections® Card Saves Members Thousands at Pharmacies

The cost of prescriptions and medical supplies are continuing to increase. But members who do not have prescription coverage are using their Co-op Connections® card to enjoy savings especially for them.

From January through June 2010 VVEC members saved over \$58,260 by using their Connections card at area pharmacies.

Connections cards are accepted at over 48,000 pharmacies nationwide, such as Walgreens, Walmart, Target, CVS and more.

There is no cost to you for this pharmacy discount program. Just show your card when purchasing your prescriptions. 

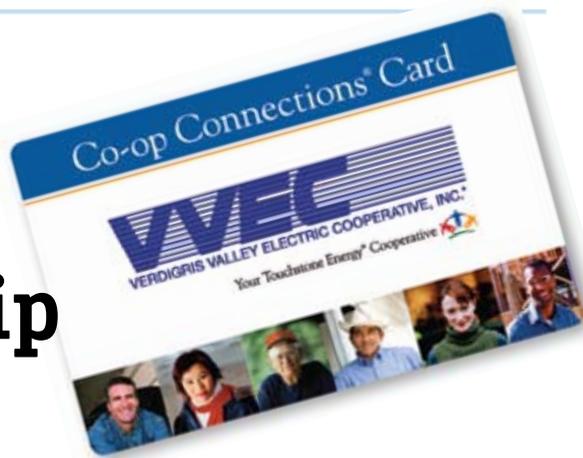
Members Owed Capital Credits Listed on Co-op Web Site

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. 

Benefit of Ownership



Use Your Co-op Connections® Card at these Businesses for Specials and Discounts

- Eye Care of Claremore, Claremore**
10% discount on exams & materials (not applicable w/insurance discounts)
- Super 8 Motel, Claremore**
10% off of regular rate
- 1st Choice Lawncare, Bartlesville**
\$20 off new customer application; 10% off existing customer optional services
- 5 Buck Ads.com, Skiatook**
Free posting of classified ads online at www.5buckads.com
- Advantage Eye Care, PC, Skiatook**
10% off (not redeemable if patient has insurance)
- Andersonville Cottage Bed & Breakfast, Claremore**
15% off, some restrictions apply, call for details
- Body Blast, LLC, Bartlesville**
One week free with month paid membership
- Brown's Shoe Fit, Bartlesville**
10% off any regular priced item
- Crystal Bay Marina, Skiatook**
\$60 off each cabin rental booked online - call for discount code
- Dave's Technology, Talala**
Free first visit up to 1-hour
- Freegaragesaleads.com, Skiatook**
Free posting of garage or yard sale ads
- Green Country Outdoor Equipment, Skiatook**
10% off repair labor charge on power equipment service
- Gogetitus.com, Skiatook**
Free business listings & free public use
- Quality Vision Center, Inc., Bartlesville**
15% off an order for a complete pair of glasses (frames & lenses)
- The Daily Grind Sandwich Shop, Bartlesville**
Free 12 oz. coffee or 16 oz. soda with purchase of breakfast or lunch item, or 10% off purchase of \$10 or more
- The Village Salon, Claremore**
10% off retail or hair care service
- Thomas Kwik Kar, Owasso**
10% off any services

Visit www.VVEC.com for a complete list of participating businesses, discounts and special offers.

Bigger isn't Better When it Comes to A/C

If your older air conditioning system didn't keep your home as cool as you'd like this summer, you might want to replace it before the end of the year. If you buy an energy-efficient air conditioning system by Dec. 31, you could qualify for a federal tax credit of up to \$1,500.

One of the biggest mistakes homeowners make when replacing their a/c systems is to believe bigger is better – so they buy one that's too big for their home.

When it comes to air conditioning, it's actually better to err on the side of smaller. A system that's too big for your home will leave the air feeling clammy because it won't regulate indoor humidity properly. High humidity indoors can lead to all kinds of problems – and not just with your comfort. Uncontrolled humidity can invite mold.

An air conditioning unit that's just the right size for your home will run long enough to bring your home to the temperature you like, and it will cycle the moisture out of the air. A unit that's too big for the home won't run long enough to wring out the humidity. It will cool your home too quickly, and then cut itself off before it has time to deal with the humidity. So you'll wind up with cool, clammy air.

That said, you don't want to buy a unit that's too small, either. An undersized unit will run all the time without ever making your home as cool as you'd like it to be.

Let an HVAC professional determine the right size for your new air conditioning unit. You'll be more comfortable, and you'll save money and energy. 



RECIPE

Caramelized Chipotle Chicken

- 1/4 cup extra-virgin olive oil
- 8 lg. garlic cloves, thinly sliced (about 1/2 cup)
- 2 med. onions, chopped (about 2 cups)
- 1 cup ketchup
- 2 Tbsp. Dijon mustard
- 2 Tbsp. packed dark brown sugar
- 1/4 cup chopped canned chipotle chiles in adobo (from a 7-oz. can)
- 1 Tbsp. Worcestershire sauce
- 2 Tbsp. cider vinegar
- 1/2 tsp. cinnamon
- 2 whole chickens (about 3&1/2 lb. each), each cut into 8 pieces

Heat oil in a 12-inch heavy skillet over medium-high heat until it shimmers. Cook garlic, stirring constantly, until golden, then transfer with a slotted spoon to a plate. Reduce heat to medium and cook onions, stirring occasionally, until golden-brown, about 15 minutes. Add garlic and remaining ingredients, except chicken, to skillet with 1 tsp. salt and 1/2 tsp. pepper and simmer, stirring occasionally, until sauce is slightly thickened, about 25 minutes.

Preheat oven to 450° with rack in middle.

Coat chicken with half of sauce, then roast, skin side up, in a 17- by 11-inch heavy 4-sided sheet pan 25 minutes. Remove from oven and brush with remaining sauce, then continue roasting until chicken is cooked through and well-browned in spots, 20 to 25 minutes more.

SERVES: 6