

# Ninnescah Rural Electric Watts Ahead

P.O. Box 967, Pratt, KS 67124 • 620-672-5538 • 800-828-5538 • [www.ninnescah.com](http://www.ninnescah.com)

## Ninnescah Rural Electric Cooperative, Inc.

### Board of Trustees

**Ronald Schultz**  
President

**Glen Honeman**  
Vice President

**Paul Unruh**  
Secretary

**Edwin D. Lenkner**  
Treasurer

**Michael Christie**  
Trustee

**Bryan Francis**  
Trustee

**Lori R. Jones**  
Trustee

**Ruth Teichman**  
Trustee

**Kenneth E. Unruh**  
Trustee

### Staff

**Teresa Miller**  
General Manager

**Robert Lamatsch**  
Manager of Operations

### In Case of an Outage

If your electricity is off for more than a few minutes, please call 800-828-5538. The office hours are 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday–Friday. After hours, calls will be answered by dispatch and forwarded to our on-call personnel.

## Join Us for Ninnescah's 80th Annual Meeting on March 20



Join us for a FREE dinner!

Ninnescah Electric  
Cooperative's

### 2018 Annual Meeting

at the Pratt Municipal Building  
on Tuesday, March 20

Registration at 5 p.m.

Dinner at 6 p.m.

Meeting to follow

**Don't Forget!**

Send in your reservation card,  
call or register online by

**Friday, March 16**

**Don't miss out on this year's events:**

- Election of three trustees
- Co-op reports
- Door prizes
- Youth Tour winner announcement

*Each member will receive a credit on his or her electric bill.*

# Welcome New Members

Paula L. &/or Thomas M. Buchanan – *Cunningham*  
 Kenneth D. Roberts III – *Rozel*  
 Nathan G. &/or Marlena R. Hunley – *St. John*  
 Teresa J. Dill – *Isabel*  
 C. F. McBride Trust – *Chickasha, OK*  
 Fredrick A. &/or Paula L. Neier – *Greensburg*  
 Roger A. Emerson – *Peck*  
 Bryan &/or Kami Nickelson – *Pratt*  
 Jorns 13 Squared Farm LLC – *Pratt*  
 Dwight &/or Jayci Smitherman – *Haviland*  
 Dana J. &/or Ken Davidson – *Harper*  
 NGL Crude Transportation LLC – *Denver, CO*  
 Tad &/or Shannon L. Tranbarger – *Macksville*

## 2017 Property Taxes

County	Annual Taxes
Barber	\$ 48,948.94
Comanche	\$ 896.62
Edwards	\$ 85,609.56
Harper	\$ 24,402.63
Kingman	\$ 36,638.62
Kiowa	\$100,721.44
Pawnee	\$ 1,703.20
Pratt	\$222,861.60
Reno	\$ 16,283.42
Stafford	\$ 79,737.28
<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$617,803.31</b>

The Ninnescah Rural Electric Cooperative Association, Inc., Pratt, paid a total of \$617,803.31 in ad valorem property taxes in 2017.

Through payment of property taxes, rural electric cooperatives share the cost of the state's educational system, highways and city and county facilities such as roads,

libraries, parks, and hospitals.

Paying our share of taxes is one of the many ways Ninnescah Rural Electric Cooperative and nearly 1,000 other rural electric co-ops—now serving more than 26 million people through out the United States—help build a stronger, more prosperous America. In addition to the ad valorem property taxes, we pay approximately the same amount in other taxes.

Ninnescah Rural Electric provides electricity to 4,111 services.

# Nominating Committee Report

The Nominating Committee for Ninnescah Rural Electric Cooperative met on Friday, Feb. 2, 2018, at 1:30 p.m. at the cooperative office on NE 20th St., Pratt.

The following members of the Nominating Committee were present: Jay A. Derley, Larry B. Foulk, Gilbert M. Larkin, Ken W. Lewton, J. Dale Lonker, Morgan J. Trinkle and Bruce E. Warren, this being all the members of the Nominating Committee with the exceptions of Steve Moore and Jon M. McClure, who were unable to attend.

Lewton was selected as the Chairman of the Nominating Committee, Trinkle was selected as Secretary and Lonker was selected as Inspector of Elections.

Danny Lynch of Johnston, Eisenhauer, Eisenhauer & Lynch, general counsel for the cooperative, reviewed with the Nominating Committee the qualifications and

## 2018 Board of Trustees Nominees



Michael E. Christie



Bryan L. Francis



Ronald R. Schultz

eligibility requirements for election as a trustee as set forth in the bylaws of the cooperative. Based upon the information available and the bylaws of the cooperative, the Nominating Committee determined whether each potential nominee was eligible for election.

The following individuals were nominated to serve three-year terms on the Ninnescah Board of Trustees: **MICHAEL E. CHRISTIE**, Stafford; **BRYAN L. FRANCIS**, Harper; and **RONALD R. SCHULTZ**, Haviland.

An election to select three trustees from these nominees will be held at the Ninnescah Rural Electric Cooperative Annual Meeting on Tuesday, March 20, 2018.

## Statement of Nondiscrimination—March 2018

The Ninnescah Rural Electric Cooperative Association, Inc. is the recipient of Federal financial assistance from the Rural Utilities Service, an agency of the U.S. Department of Agriculture, and is subject to the provisions of Title IV of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Age Discrimination Act of 1975 and the rules and regulations of the U.S. Department of Agriculture, which provides that: "In accordance with Federal law and the U.S. Department of Agriculture's policy, this institution is prohibited from discriminating on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age, or disability (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs)."

The person responsible for coordinating this organization's nondiscrimination compliance efforts is the general manager.

To file a complaint of discrimination, write USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, Room 326-W, Whitten Building, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, D.C. 20250-9410, or call 202-720-5964 (voice or TDD). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

## Ninnescah Electric Begins Rate Study

Have you ever wondered how the rates you pay for electric service are established? The revenue derived from the rates paid by the members for electric service funds the operation of the electric co-op. It is the responsibility of the board of trustees and management to examine rates periodically to be sure that they are just and reasonable and will allow the cooperative to fulfill its obligations to the members and the co-op's lenders. Ninnescah Electric is beginning the process of a rate study to accomplish this. Over the next few months, we will explain the different parts of the rate study process.

Rate studies are complicated.

In a sense, they are an attempt to predict the future, or at least the answers to a few questions. What revenue will be required to fund the operations of the cooperative for the foreseeable future and what is the fairest way to collect that revenue through rates? What external factors will have an effect on the co-op's financial picture in the future? What will the weather be like in the coming years? While we may never accurately predict the weather in the future, an attempt can be made to predict the other variables that affect rates.

The rate study has several stages. First, we will use existing data to determine what revenue will be required to operate the co-op successfully in the future. Next, we will perform a cost-

of-service study to assign the costs to provide electric service to customer classes using traditional ratemaking principles. And last, we will design rates to meet the cost recovery obligations, to recover the revenue fairly from each customer class, and to meet any other strategy or goals identified by the board in the rate study process.

When the rate study is completed, it will be reviewed by the board in detail. Kansas law then requires that we provide the membership with

notice of the time and place of any meeting of the board of trustees where rate changes will be discussed and voted on. That meeting notice will appear in the

pages in this section of the magazine and an attempt will be made to provide you with as much detail as possible on any proposed changes to the rates. You will have the opportunity to attend the board meeting to hear the discussion and vote of the board, and even express your opinion on the changes, if you desire.

You show confidence in your board of trustees when you cast a vote for their election to the position. The board takes its responsibility to set fair rates very seriously. After all, they are members of the cooperative and pay the same rates.

We will keep you informed as this rate study progresses. Next month, we will discuss the revenue requirement aspect of the rate study.

**It is the responsibility of the board and management to examine rates periodically to be sure that they are just and reasonable.**

## Daylight Saving Time Reminders

On March 11, remember to **spring your clocks forward** one hour. This is also a great time to check fire, smoke and carbon monoxide alarms, and change out batteries. Make sure smoke detectors work properly by using the alarm test option. Use a vacuum to make sure there are no cobwebs, spiders or other little insects taking up residence that would hinder the effects of the smoke alarm.

Detectors play a larger role in survival than one might think. Experts determined that inoperable smoke alarms caused two-thirds of fire-related deaths due to damage, defects and missing batteries. It is recommended writing the date on the new battery in the detector so there will be no question as to when it was last replaced.

Daylight saving time is also a great time to review with family members home safety including escape routes and checking all electrical outlets. Practice home safety and test procedures on getting out safely in an emergency situation. Look through the house for any hazards, such as overloaded or improperly placed extension cords. It is recommended to make sure areas around the furnace, water heater and stove are clear of debris that can cause fire.



## HAPPY EASTER—APRIL 1

Ninnescah's Board of Trustees, management and employees wish you peace, love and happiness this Easter.

# Recipes

from Our  
Members' Kitchens



## ITALIAN PINWHEELS

4 oz. cream cheese	15 slices genoa salami
1/4 tsp. garlic powder	10 slices ham
1/2 tsp. Italian seasoning	1/2 cup banana pepper rings, mild, chopped fine
1 pinch salt and pepper	1/2 cup red peppers, roasted, chopped fine
10 slices provolone cheese	5 (8-inch) flour tortillas
10 slices deli/sandwich style pepperoni	

Mix softened cream cheese, garlic powder, Italian seasoning, salt and pepper. Spread a thin layer of cream cheese mixture on flour tortillas. Layer meats and cheese on tortilla. Sprinkle diced peppers on top of meat and cheese. Roll tortilla and secure with a toothpick. Refrigerate until ready to serve. Slice rolls and serve.

*Diana Barnard, Pratt*



## BANANA BREAD

1 cup sugar	2 tsp. baking powder
3/4 cup butter or margarine	1 tsp. baking soda
1 cup brown sugar	1/2 tsp. salt
1 cup milk	3 cups flour
2 eggs	1 tsp. vanilla
3 bananas, very ripe, mashed	1 cup pecans, chopped
1 Tbs. grated orange rind, if desired	

Cream sugars and butter. Add other ingredients in order given. Beat for 3 minutes. Pour batter into two greased and floured loaf pans. Bake at 350 degrees about 1 hour or until toothpick comes out clean.

*Charlotte Ringer,  
Bunkhouse Bed and Breakfast, Medicine Lodge*



## CHICKEN TATER TOT CASSEROLE

1-32 oz. package frozen tater tots	1-1 oz. package ranch dressing mix
1 1/2 cups grated cheddar cheese	Salt and pepper to taste
1 1/2 cups pepper jack cheese	4 boneless chicken breasts
1-2.8 oz. package real bacon bits (optional)	3/4 cup milk

Spray crock pot; put half of the tater tots in bottom. Mix cheeses; place half of the cheese mix on top of tater tots and add bacon bits. Coat chicken in ranch dressing mix and salt and pepper to taste. Place chicken on top of cheese and tater tots, sprinkle rest of ranch mix on top of chicken. Add remaining tater tots then cheese. Pour milk on top. Cook on high 3 to 3 1/2 hours

*Marilyn Foster, Pratt*

## Want to share your recipe?

We hope you enjoy the recipes from your neighbors.

Please consider submitting your favorite recipes for all to enjoy. In your submission, include the following:

- ▶ Your name and contact information;
- ▶ Ninnescah account number; and
- ▶ The recipe (clearly printed or typed).

### Mail your entry to:

Ninnescah Rural Electric Attn: Recipes  
P.O. Box 967, Pratt, KS 67124

### Or email your entry to:

[naschenbrenner@ninnescah.com](mailto:naschenbrenner@ninnescah.com)

