

Copper Valley

# Ruralite

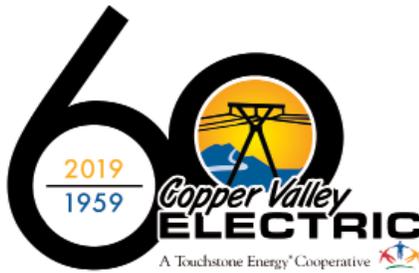
JUNE 2019

BROOKS 7-16  
D-4PA  
WQC REA 03



Callie Jane Winchester took a turn in the bucket truck photo booth at the annual meeting in Valdez.

2019 Annual Meeting and 60 Year Celebration Edition



## 2019 Annual Meeting and 60 Year Celebration



COO Travis Million providing updates to the Membership at the meeting in Glennallen



Joyanna Hoffman and Holly Auble at registration in Glennallen



100 door prizes were given away in each district at this year's annual meeting



Employees line up for door prize distribution at the Valdez meeting; a favorite part of the evening



Jamie Arcienega made 650 60th birthday cupcakes for the meetings



Becky Tetz won the \$2,500 energy credit in the Valdez District



Members going through registration at the meeting in Glennallen



A tasty meal was catered by Toa Finau, Bobbi Sampson, and their team



COO Million (center) with the Copper Basin employee service award recipients (Alex Gearhart not pictured)



**CVEA employees ready to distribute door prizes to members at the Copper Basin meeting**



**Mary Ellen Bedrick announcing the lucky door prize winners**



**Robert Covington with little Covingtons enjoying their popcorn before the meeting in Valdez**



**Every person in attendance got a 60 year commemorative backpack cooler**



**Darin and Madison Sauls handing out meals in Valdez**



**Toni Daniels at the member tour information table in the Copper Basin**



**Zena Disney, Cindy Butherus, and Rebecca Jeffries at the Valdez registration table**



**The Valdez Line Crew was on hand giving Power Town safety demonstrations**



**John Schenk and volunteers man the popcorn bar in Valdez**



**An early glance at all the fun that awaited members in Glennallen**



**Elizabeth Laframboise was the grand prize winner in Glennallen**



**President Lon Rake recognizes Alex Gearhart for 10 years of service to the members of CVEA**



**Bobby Gibbs helps the Love family pose for a picture at the bucket truck photo booth in Valdez**

## 2019 Annual Meeting Recap



**CVEA COO Travis Million (center) with Valdez employee service award recipients (left to right) Anthony Martin-10 years, Mike Haley-10 years, Todd Stahley-15 years, and Wayne McKinzey-5 years**

CVEA members came out in large numbers to celebrate the Co-op's 60 years of service, with approximately 350 people attending the 2019 Annual Meeting in Glennallen and 275 attending in Valdez.

Kids young and old enjoyed a fun bucket truck photo booth that included a take home picture, a gourmet popcorn bar, Power Town electric safety demonstrations, equipment displays, and the opportunity to learn about the member tour program, summer projects, and the Community Foundation. Members also played CVEA trivia and watched the premier of *Behind the Switch*, the Co-op's new educational video.

COO Travis Million, standing in for CEO John Duhamel who was out on medical leave, updated the crowd on the ongoing rate study and discussed several programs that saw great success in 2018; including the Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI) program, ongoing rights-of-way efforts, and the safety program. Million announced that CVEA had another record breaking hydro year and won multiple National awards; one first place safety award, and two awards for the Allison Creek Hydroelectric Project. Finally, he discussed improvements made along the Richardson Highway and the redesign of [cvea.org](http://cvea.org).

Other highlights included the announcement of the Board of Directors election results, the introduction of the 2019 Community Foundation scholarship award recipients, and recognition of employee service awards.

In Board of Director elections Yvette Delaquito was elected and Fred Williams was re-elected in the Copper Basin, and Dan

Stowe was re-elected in Valdez; each to three year terms.

The CVEA Community Foundation awarded Nicole Friendshuh and Cassandra Howard each a \$1,000 educational scholarship, Caden Gerlach, Luke Weimer, Destiny Gray, and Kendall Wesenberg \$500 scholarships, and selected Jessica Hale and Sophia Palomar to attend the Idaho Youth Rally Leadership camp this summer.

In addition, scholarship recipients and volunteers were on hand selling Split-the-Pot tickets to raise funds for the Foundation. Wendy Langseth took home \$299 in Valdez and John Kowalski won \$360 in Glennallen. In total \$659 was raised to benefit Community Foundation programs.

Ten CVEA employees were recognized for their years of service to the Cooperative. Dave Coon, Mark Kirkpatrick, Lindsay Malone, and Wayne McKinzey celebrated 5 years; Alex Gearhart, Mike Rego, Mike Haley, and Anthony Martin celebrated 10 years, and Ryan Cook and Todd Stahley both celebrated 15 years of service.

Everyone in attendance received a very nice 60 year commemorative backpack cooler and over 100 door prizes were given out in each district. Grand prize winners Elizabeth Laframboise and Becky Tetz both won a \$2,500 CVEA energy credit!

CVEA thanks everyone who attended and those that helped make this year's big 60 year celebration successful.

If you have questions on this or any CVEA topic, please contact Sharon Scheidt at 822-5506, 835-7005 or email [scheidt@cvea.org](mailto:scheidt@cvea.org).

# Simple Tips to Reduce Power Bill

*Alaska residents understand the value, and cost, of electricity*

Saying that life in Alaska is tougher than most places in the United States is an understatement to those who live here. Our winters are longer, colder and darker. In many parts of the state, summers never get any warmer than many Lower 48 winter temperatures.

But nothing gets Alaskans' attention like the attributes of the state that impact our wallets. Alaskans tend to perk up and take notice when the bill comes due.

It's no secret energy costs in Alaska are higher than almost all of the other states. Only Hawaii and parts of the Northeast are comparable. It's a function of Alaska's spread out and small population, along with transportation costs of fuel and other aspects in the 49th state.

While the electric utilities serving Alaskan consumers work hard to keep costs low and service safe and reliable, there is no denying the cost of power is high.

To help save on energy costs, it can help to know which household appliances and other fixtures of modern life are the worst energy offenders.

The U.S. Energy Information Administration—a federal statistical agency that is part of the U.S. Department of Energy—took a look at residential electricity



**Reducing your time in the shower is one way to lower your energy costs**

consumption by major end uses in 2017. The snapshot of home energy use they discovered is instructive.

According to the EIA, space cooling and water heating draw the largest percentage of electricity in a house. Alaskan homes don't typically have air conditioning, so the focus is on water heating. The EIA's numbers show 10 percent of a home's electricity use is attributed to a water heater. Typically, water heaters work to maintain the temperature of the water in its tank, regardless of the amount used.

There are ways to reduce home water heating costs without buying a tankless water heater or adding a costly control system.

Allison Casey, who works with the U.S. Department of Energy's Renewable Energy Laboratory, offers her thoughts on the Department

of Energy's website:

- **Reduce your time in the shower.** This may seem obvious, but a nice, hot shower is a luxury on a cold winter day. Unfortunately, using more hot water means your water heater works extra hard to replenish what you use.

- **Lower the temperature of your water heater to 120 degrees.** For every 10 degrees in reduction of temperature, you can save 3 to 5 percent on your water heating costs.

- **Use cold water for the rinse cycle and most laundry loads.**

- **Don't run your dishwasher unless it is completely full, and choose shorter washing cycles.**

More tips on saving energy can be found at [www.energy.gov/energysaver/energy-saver](http://www.energy.gov/energysaver/energy-saver).

Of course, there are many other draws on electricity in your home, all of which

use varying levels of power. A common idea suggested with electronics—particularly TVs, stereos or anything else plugged into a wall outlet—is to plug them into a power strip and turn the strip off when you are done using them. This prevents what is known as phantom loads, or idle power.

According to a New York Times article from May 7, 2016, “Just how much power do your electronics use when they are turned ‘off,’” about 50 devices and appliances in a typical American household are always drawing power, even after a homeowner has switched them off.

This phenomenon is due in part to so many of our electronics being connected to the internet and requiring some amount of power at all times to maintain that connection, even when not in use.

The New York Times article warns that some electronic devices with internal clocks or internet connections may lose their data if they are separated from electricity. Understand exactly how your device works before shutting it off at the power strip.

Alaskans know how to survive the cold, the dark of winter and the constant light of summer. But knowing more about energy efficiency can help save where it counts most: the pocketbook. ■



## CVEA Community Foundation Invests in Local Youth

The CVEA Community Foundation (Foundation) is proud to offer educational scholarships to graduating seniors, leadership scholarships to sophomores and juniors hoping to attend the Idaho Youth Rally, and to make contributions to local nonprofit organizations.

In 2019, the Foundation awarded one \$1,000, and two \$500 general scholarships in each district to help further educational goals, and a scholarship for one student from each district to represent our cooperative, our communities, and our state at the Idaho Youth Rally leadership camp in Caldwell, Idaho, this summer.

Funding of the scholarship program comes from unclaimed capital credits that have reverted to the Cooperative, members who have made one-time or recurring donations to the

Foundation, and from those who participate in Foundation fundraisers.

At this year's meeting, a Split-the-Pot raffle raised \$659 to benefit Foundation programs. John Kowalski won \$360 in Glennallen, and Wendy Langseth took home \$299 in Valdez.

Special thanks to all of the youth who volunteered to help with the raffle and other duties at the annual meeting: Caden Gerlach, Luke Weimer, Jessica Hale, Kassandra Howard, Kendall Wesenberg, Sophia Palomar, Cassidy Matthews, Christian Spring, Ruth Finau, William Matthews, Aisake Finau, and Celia Chmielowski.

Through the Foundation, CVEA is making an investment in our youth and in our future. Please join us in congratulating the 2019 CVEA Community Foundation scholarship winners. ■

## Copper Basin Scholarship Winners



**Nicole Friendshuh**  
**\$1,000**



**Caden Gerlach**  
**\$500**



**Luke Weimer**  
**\$500**

## Youth Rally Scholarship Winners



**Jessica Hale**  
Copper Basin



**Sophia Palomar**  
Valdez



Top left, Lindsay and Cassidy sell Split the Pot tickets in Glennallen  
Top right, John Kowalski shows off his winnings with Director Stowe  
Bottom left, Wendy Langseth took home \$299 from the Valdez Split the Pot  
Bottom right, Kendall and Cassandra volunteer at the Valdez meeting

## Valdez Scholarship Winners



**Kassandra Howard**  
\$1,000



**Destiny Gray**  
\$500



**Kendall Wesenberg**  
\$500



**Board of Directors**

Paul Kildal, President  
 Will Stark, Vice President  
 Dan Stowe, Secretary  
 Yvette Delaquito, Treasurer  
 Lon Rake, Director  
 Jeff Saxe, Director  
 Mark Shorten, Director  
 Fred Williams, Director

P.O. Box 45  
 Glennallen, AK 99588  
 www.cvea.org

**Copper Basin District**

(907) 822-3211  
 (907) 822-5586 (fax)  
 Mile 187 Glenn Hwy.

**Valdez District**

(907) 835-4301  
 (907) 835-4328 (fax)  
 367 Fairbanks Dr.

**After hours outage line**

(866) 835-2832

**Important Dates**

**June**

**CVEA Board Meeting:** The June meeting of the Board of Directors is 1 p.m., Thursday, June 20, 2019, in Glennallen

**July**

**CVEA Offices Closed:** The CVEA offices will be closed Thursday, July 4, 2019, for Independence Day

**CVEA Board Meeting:** The July meeting of the Board of Directors is 1 p.m., Thursday, July 18, 2019, in Valdez

AK-34

# Copper Valley Electric Association 2019 Election Results

At the 2019 Annual Meeting of Members, Board of Director election results were announced. The Copper Basin District elected Yvette Delaquito and re-elected Fred Williams, and the Valdez District re-elected Dan Stowe, each to a three-year term.



The Credentials and Election Committees in both districts reported voting results for the director election as follows:

<u>Copper Basin</u>		<u>Valdez</u>	
Ballots Received	316	Ballots Received	232
Ballots Counted	305	Ballots Counted	214
Yvette Delaquito	229	Dan Stowe	214
George Gillman	168		
Fred Williams	181		

CVEA welcomes new and returning directors and appreciates the participation of everyone involved in the election.

Winners of the 2019 ballot drawing for a \$50 energy credit were: Nora and Mark Peifer in the Copper Basin, and Daryl Box, in Valdez. Thanks to all who submitted valid ballots.