



**Sumner-Cowley
Electric Co-op., Inc.**

Building on our past. Lighting the way to the future.

P.O. Box 220, Wellington, KS 67152
888-326-3356
www.sucocoop.com

**SUMNER-COWLEY
ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE**

NEWS FROM THE WHEAT CAPITAL

SUMNER-COWLEY ELECTRIC CO-OP, INC.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

John Schon
President, District 7

Keith Leddy
Vice President, District 4

Jeff Swanson
Secretary-Treasurer, District 2

John Beard
Director, District 3

Craig Knudsen
Director, District 1

Jim McMullin
Director, District 5

Gabe Schlickau
Director, District 6

STAFF

Coni Adams
CEO

Jordan Creed
Director of Operations

Stacy Wiley
Director of Finance

Abbi Jo Moulton
Member Services/
Communications Specialist

FROM THE CEO

Get Involved!

Join Us at the Annual Meeting

One of my favorite events is coming up on Tuesday, April 16, 2024, when Sumner-Cowley Electric Cooperative will host our annual meeting for you, the members we proudly serve. I always look forward to this event because it's a great opportunity for our employees and me to talk with our members and hear what's on their minds.

We hope that you'll join us for the annual meeting, which will take place at Wellington High School. We thank you in advance for getting involved because your participation means so much to us.

During the annual meeting we will share a few brief business updates, board election results and cooperative updates. But we are going to have a lot of fun too! We'll have activities for the

kids, tasty food from Boss Hog's BBQ, prizes and demo booths for renewable energy and surge protectors.

Spending time with you and hearing your take on our cooperative's energy future is so important to us. In fact, it's essential because everything we do is shaped by the members of our community. As I am sure you know, the energy industry is in the midst of massive change. Consumer needs and changing technology impact nearly every aspect of how we manage and deliver energy to local homes, schools and businesses.

As we navigate major changes in the coming years and strive to meet the

Continued on page 12D ▶



Coni Adams

LIKE US ON FACEBOOK

Join us on Facebook for updates from Sumner-Cowley Electric. Simply search for Sumner-Cowley Electric Cooperative and click the "like" button.



ANNUAL MEETING APRIL 16

The Annual Membership Meeting of Sumner-Cowley Electric Co-op will be held on Tuesday, April 16, 2024, at Wellington High School.

- ▶ Registration and meal will be at 5:30 p.m.
- ▶ Business Meeting will be at 6:45 p.m.
- ▶ Cooperative updates.
- ▶ Prizes.
- ▶ Meet your board of directors.
- ▶ Board election results.
- ▶ Renewable energy and surge protector demo booths.

APRIL 2024

S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

SHELBY HALLORAN

Embracing Love Across Sumner-Cowley

As the landscape of celebrations evolves, two venues in Kansas are set to debut in 2024, offering picturesque settings and top-notch amenities for weddings and events.

OAK HOLLOW: WHERE ELEGANCE MEETS AFFORDABILITY

Nestled in Winfield, Kansas, **OAK HOLLOW** promises a blend of elegance and practicality. With a capacity to accommodate up to 300 guests, this venue caters to various event sizes. What sets Oak Hollow apart is its dedication to catering to diverse budgets offering a range of packages, including off-season

and weekday pricing, and providing flexibility without compromising quality. Additionally, Oak Hollow extends a curated vendor list offering discounted rates from photographers, caterers and planners, ensuring couples have access to trusted services for their special day.

Oak Hollow is a wedding venue created for people in love, by people in love.



Oak Hollow owners, Jason and Shelby Halloran, in front of their newly built venue, located on a beautiful piece of land only 35 to 40 minutes from downtown Wichita.



JULIA STRNAD

“When asked about the motivation behind our efforts, it’s simple – we have this stunning Kansas ground, and we want others to witness its beauty and share it with their loved ones. In our inaugural year, we’re assembling an incredible team dedicated to making your events unforgettable,” said owners Amy Shoffner and Julia Strnad.



JULIA STRNAD

THE VENUE AT DIAMOND SPRINGS: A CANVAS FOR YOUR IMAGINATION

Just a stone’s throw away in Mayfield, Kansas, **THE VENUE AT DIAMOND SPRINGS** unveils a captivating canvas for couples to paint their dream celebrations. Inspired by the breathtaking landscapes of Sumner County, this venue, founded by a family with a farming background, boasts a clean white slate design, providing a blank canvas for personalization.

With a capacity for approximately 250 guests, the venue offers a plethora of amenities, including bride and groom rooms equipped with private facilities and individual comforts. This all-encompassing space features internet connectivity, strategically placed big screen TVs, a commercial-sized kitchen, and the unique option of incorporating the outdoors with a large glass garage door.

At Diamond Springs they are continuously enhancing the land and facilities to ensure a fantastic choice for your upcoming events. They are thrilled about the potential here and can’t wait to showcase all the exciting developments. Lodging options will be available soon, adding another dimension to your experience.

Thanks to the support from the local Sumner County Economic Development group, they’ve secured grants, bringing various phases of their vision to life. Their goal is to showcase the scenic landscapes of Kansas and the abundant offerings of Sumner County.

The dream of this venture has long been cherished by the mother/daughter team of Amy Shoffner and Julia Strnad. With prayers and anticipation, they wholeheartedly embraced the project, choosing the piece of land they already owned as the birthplace of Diamond Springs.

BOOKING YOUR DREAM EVENT

Both venues offer unique experiences and cater to different visions for events. The Venue at Diamond Springs advises booking in advance, with 2025 dates already in high demand, while Oak Hollow remains open to bookings, emphasizing the importance of early reservations for preferred dates.

Whether it’s the sprawling landscapes of Oak Hollow or the versatile canvas of The Venue at Diamond Springs, these new venues promise unforgettable experiences for couples seeking the perfect backdrop for their celebrations. Sumner-Cowley also serves two additional venues: **HAYMAKER LODGE** located in Mayfield, Kansas, and **SLATE CREEK LODGE** located in Wellington, Kansas.

As the year unfolds, these venues stand as promising additions to the vibrant event scene in Kansas, each offering its own distinct charm and amenities to create lasting memories for all who step through their doors. Be sure to keep all four of these venues in mind when it comes to upcoming events you might have in the future.

Join Us at the Annual Meeting Continued from page 12A ▶

long-term needs of all Sumner-Cowley Electric members, we need to hear from you and your neighbors to inform our planning.

YOU HAVE A SAY

You may be wondering if your opinion really makes a difference, and yes, it does! Insight and perspective from our members and board helps set priorities for the co-op and guide future decisions. At our annual meeting, we raise issues for future voting consideration by the general membership (that's everyone who pays for electric service from Sumner-Cowley Electric Cooperative.)

Annual meetings are also a time for members to meet the co-op's board of directors. Our board of directors is comprised of seven members who live and work right here in our local service areas, so they are in the best position to know where community investments are most needed. This local input

means those closest to the communities know its needs and priorities and help direct where the co-op's dollars are spent.

Each time you pay your electric bill, you're investing in your cooperative and community. The money we take in stays local. We invest funds to make updates to our local system, which helps maintain reliability and grid resilience. By making these investments in our system, we can power your everyday life.

Most members likely don't equate active involvement in their electric company with helping their community. But Sumner-Cowley Electric Cooperative is not an ordinary utility company. We're a co-op, and our business model is meant to serve the members and the communities in which we operate.

Our core purpose and mission are to provide safe, reliable and affordable power. But as a co-op, we're also motivated by service, rather than profits. We hope you'll exercise the benefits of your co-op membership and join us for the annual meeting on April 16, 2024. We look forward to seeing you!

Class of 2024

SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITY

Sumner-Cowley Electric Cooperative will award academic scholarships to high school seniors pursuing a post-secondary degree or certification program in the fall of 2024. Recipients must meet the eligibility requirements and will be selected by the scholarship committee. Apply online at www.sucocoop.com or mail directly to Sumner-Cowley Electric, 2223 North A Street, P.O. Box 220 Wellington, KS 67152

APPLICATIONS ARE DUE MARCH 11, 2024.

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

Each applicant must meet the following requirements to be eligible for scholarships under this program.

- ▶ The applicant's parents or legal guardian must be a member of Sumner-Cowley Electric Cooperative receiving electric service.
- ▶ Applicants must meet the academic and any other requirements for entrance into the accredited school of their choice.

NOTE: A family member (as defined by SCEC's Bylaws and Policies is a person who, by blood or in-law, including half, foster, step and adoptive kin is either a spouse, child, grandchild, parent, grandparent, brother, sister, aunt, uncle, nephew or niece) of SCEC Board of Directors and employees are not eligible to participate in the scholarship competition.