



\$1 Million in Member Dividends Sent!



SMPA: Lighting the Way into 2019.



PalmKids Expands Its Programming, Thanks to SMPA.

JANUARY 2019

ENERGYWISE



Touchstone Energy® Cooperatives
The power of human connections®

YOUR SAN MIGUEL POWER MEMBER NEWSLETTER



CONTACT INFORMATION

Nucla
170 W. 10th Ave.
P.O. Box 817
Nucla, CO 81424
(970) 864-7311
Toll Free: (877) 864-7311

Ridgway
720 N. Railroad St.
P.O. Box 1150
Ridgway, CO 81432
(970) 626-5549
Toll Free: (877) 864-7311

Both Offices Open:
M - TH, 7:00a.m. - 5:30p.m.

www.smpa.com
www.facebook.com/SanMiguelPower

In the event of a power outage, contact your local SMPA office to reach our 24-hour dispatch.

QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS

energywise@smpa.com
(970) 626-5549 x212

SAFETY TIPS

SET A NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTION FOR SAFETY

- Heavy snow accumulation brings branches into power lines. Call us if you see any contacts.
- Look for a UL listing on portable heaters and electric blankets.
- Keep a good supply of water, candles, and a first aid kit materials and handy in case of a power outage.

San Miguel Power Association is an equal opportunity provider and employer. In accordance with Federal civil rights law and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and policies, the USDA, its Agencies, offices, and employees, and institutions participating in or administering USDA programs are prohibited from discriminating based on race, color, national origin, religion, sex, gender identity (including gender expression), sexual orientation, disability, age, marital status, family/parental status, income derived from a public assistance program, political beliefs, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity, in any program or activity conducted or funded by USDA (not all bases apply to all programs). Remedies and complaint filing deadlines vary by program or incident.

Person with disabilities who require alternative means of communication for program information (e.g., Braille, large print, audiotape, American Sign Language, etc.) should contact the responsible Agency or USDA's TARGET Center at (202)720-2600 (voice and TTY) or contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800)877-8339. Additionally, program information may be made available in languages other than English.

To file a program discrimination complaint, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form, AD-3027, found online at http://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint_filing_cust.html and at any USDA office or write a letter addressed to USDA and provide in the letter all of the information requested in the form. To request a copy of the complaint form, call

(866) 632-9992. Submit your completed form or letter to USDA by:

(1) mail: U.S. Department of Agriculture
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights
1400 Independence Avenue, SW
Washington, D.C. 20250-9410;

(2) fax: (202) 690-7442; or

(3) email: program.intake@usda.gov.

USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer, and lender.

SMPA Board Kicks Off 2019 by Sending Out Over \$1Million in Member Dividends!

ONE MONTH AFTER OPTING NOT TO INCREASE THE SAN MIGUEL POWER ASSOCIATION (SMPA) ACCESS FEE IN 2019, THE SMPA BOARD OF DIRECTORS APPROVED THE RETURN OF \$1.1 MILLION IN MEMBER DIVIDENDS TO THE CONSUMER-MEMBERS. THIS MOVE COMPLETES THE PROCESS BY WHICH EXCESS REVENUES GET SHARED BACK WITH CONSUMERS OVER TIME

In a typical year, SMPA collects more than enough revenue to cover its expenses. The excess revenue, called "margins" is allocated to each consumer in proportion to their contributions for that year. The cooperative reserves this money for a period of time. When the Board determines the time is right, allocations for a given year or combination of years are cashed out as "Member Dividends" and returned to the members.

This month, many SMPA members received checks in the mail. The dividends represent allocations from the years 1989, 1991, and 1992. The majority of members received dividend checks between \$20 and \$250. Some large power users, including towns, counties, and schools received checks over \$1000.

ALLOCATION

Year you contributed

Joe	Abe	The Shop	The Café
Sue	Meg		

Expenditures → SMPA → Margins

Joe	Abe
Café	Meg
Sue	The Shop

RETIREMENT

Amount Returned (Paid)

Joe	Abe
Café	Meg
Sue	The Shop

Month-Year → [Calendar Icon]



Giving member dividends back to you is one of the ways we distinguish ourselves from investor-owned, for-profit utilities. It's a commitment that is absolutely foundational for an electric cooperative like SMPA.

RUBE FELICELLI,
SMPA BOARD PRESIDENT

2019 SMPA Scholarships

www.smpa.com»community programs
»youth programs»scholarships



Center Stage: PalmKidz Expands with Support from SMPA

Since 1960, scientists have been collecting data supporting the theory that stimulating environments bolster brain development—especially for the young. Palm Arts Inc. of Telluride seeks to help provide just such a stimulating environment for children in Telluride and the surrounding region with its PalmKidz program.

PalmKidz brings affordable, live, diverse and inclusive family programming to the region. Last year’s performances included such artists as the Creede Repertory Theater, Opera Colorado, Hip Hop artist Mr. Kneel, Latino artists Jarabe Mexicano, and award-winning classical violinist Tessa Lark.

In 2018-19 Palm Arts expanded the PalmKidz program by increasing the number of performances and making it a year-round program. Regional funding from donors like SMPA have allowed Palm Arts Inc. to make the program 100% free for all attendees and the program was able to grow its audience and serve over 1300 patrons in the region!

“The PalmKidz program has been an amazing success thanks to the generosity of San Miguel Power Association,” said Chris Vann, Palm Arts Programming and Development Director.



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Sharing Success Economic Development Grants Awarded

Local business owners have it tough. Never mind the litany of concerns that owners must address in order to keep their doors open, they must also invest in their communities to help ensure there are enough customers to walk through those doors. For all our sakes, local businesses work, risk and invest for the communities they serve.

SMPA, and cooperative partners, CoBank and Tri-State Generation and Transmission recognize and appreciate the efforts of local businesses. That’s why we’ve partnered to provide the Sharing Success Economic Development Grant to help support community initiatives that aim to benefit the entire business community of a region.

These initiatives:

- Stimulate job creation in our area
- Promote economic growth
- Create/improve local commerce
- Maintain/strengthen existing businesses
- Enhance regional prosperity

Congratulations to the winners of the following 2018 Sharing Success Economic Development Grants:

Town of Naturita: \$10,000

Top of the Pines: \$3,000

Silverton Farmer’s Market: \$2,500

Town of Silverton: \$2,500

West End Economic Development Corporation (WEEDC): \$2000



LIGHTING THE WAY

SMPA was proud to support local holiday festivities with floats in Christmas Parades of Ouray, Nucla, Norwood and Ridgway. Thanks to all who came out to see us!



This Month’s Puzzle: I, LE NICE, CRAFTI, REDI TEC
Hint: Need more outlets? Call me.

SUBMIT YOUR ANSWER and be entered into a drawing for a fun prize to:

EnergyWise
PO Box 1150
Ridgway, CO 81432

Last Month’s Scramble Answer: MEMBER DIVIDENDS