

January 2015



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# Sac Osage Electric Cooperative

# News

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## Happy New Year from Sac Osage Electric



## Sac Osage Electric Recognizes Years of Service

Experience is a valuable commodity in any workplace, especially in a cooperative where we serve member owners every day. Sac Osage Electric Cooperative is extremely proud to have these nine dedicated employees who have given many years of quality service to the Cooperative. At the annual Christmas Dinner in December, employees shown below were honored for their years of service at Sac Osage Electric Cooperative. These employees were presented with a cooperative service pin. These employees were recognized for their years of service, from right to left: Rodger Culbertson, Line Superintendent, 40 years; Roxene Robison, Accountant, 40 Years; Nahwana Maslen, Accounting Clerk, 40 years; Kelly Eck, 1st Year Apprentice Lineman, 5 years; Gina Whitlock, Cashier, 15 Years; Dan Hackleman, Stacking Engineer/Surveyor, 15 Years; Jim Davis, General Manager, 35 Years; not pictured, Mike Coleman, Journeyman Lineman, 15 years and Mark Boultinghouse, 1st Year Apprentice Lineman, 5 years.



**Sac Osage Electric will be closed  
on Thursday, January 1, 2015.**

*Happy New Year!*



January 2015

## Feast of the Epiphany

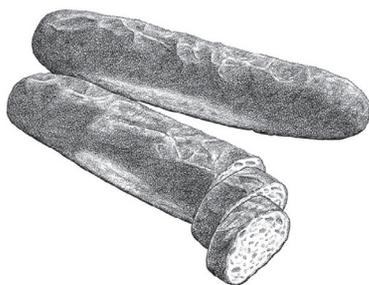
Jan. 6 is the Feast of the Epiphany, or Twelfth Day, the end of Yule festivities. It translates as “manifest one,” from the Greek epiphaneia, meaning “manifestation” or “appearance.” More recently, Epiphany became associated with the coming of the Magi as the first



manifestation of Christ’s divinity to the gentiles or, in the Eastern Church, the baptism of Christ. Tradition advises the removal of Christmas greens by the end of Twelfth Night (the night before Epiphany), lest bad luck come in where the drying evergreen needles fall.

## First Footer

In many countries, it is believed that the first person to cross the threshold in the new year, the “first footer,” will bring good luck into the house for the coming year. Although this custom is known in countries from Ireland to China, it is particularly well observed in Scotland and parts of England.



Generally, a tall, dark male is thought to bring the best luck, but in some regions fair men (especially redheads) are preferred. Regardless of his looks, the visitor must never arrive empty-handed. Traditional gifts are a piece of coal for the fire or a loaf of bread.

## Propitious for women

In ancient folklore, the 14th day of the month was seen as particularly propitious for the birth of women. The 13th was considered propitious for marriage, and the 10th and 11th were lucky days for the birth of men. Hesiod, from the 8th century B.C., marked each day of the month as fortunate for some



things and unlucky for others. The 9th was seen as a good day for the “works of men,” while reaping fruit and shearing sheep were best done on the 10th or 11th. Although women had only one propitious birth day, their day was considered “holy above all.”

For recipes, gardening tips and weather forecasts, visit:  
[www.almanac.com](http://www.almanac.com)

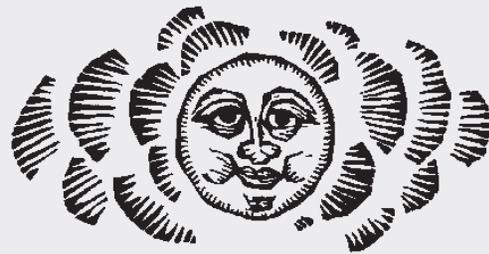
### Recipe for Alfredo Sauce



1/4 cup butter  
1 cup heavy cream  
1 clove garlic, crushed  
1-1/2 cups freshly grated Parmesan or Gruyère cheese  
1/4 teaspoon nutmeg  
1/4 cup chopped fresh parsley

Melt the butter in a saucepan over medium-low heat. Add the cream and simmer for 5 minutes, then add garlic, cheese and nutmeg. Stir in the parsley and serve over pasta. Makes 2-1/2 cups.

## THE OLD FARMER'S



# WEATHER PROVERBS

**On St. Distaff's Day (Jan. 7), neither work nor play.**

**Fog in January makes a wet spring.**

**A fire hard to kindle indicates bad weather.**

**When the North Star twinkles, expect stormy weather.**

**When oak trees bend with snow in January, good crops may be expected.**

**It will be the same weather for nine weeks as it is on the ninth day after Christmas.**

**A fair day in winter is the mother of a storm.**

# Faucets that save water and energy

*New touch-control faucets not only look attractive, but save in the long run*

Dear Jim:

My kitchen faucet has a very slow drip and the finish is worn. I want to replace it with one that is attractive and convenient to use. I often wash dishes by hand, so what is the most efficient design to purchase?

— Pat D.



by Jim Dulley

Dear Pat: Most people think of a kitchen faucet as just a simple valve to turn water on or off and to set the water temperature. But the proper selection of a kitchen faucet has a significant impact on water and energy savings, not to mention convenience, health and kitchen decor.

You should never ignore a dripping faucet, even if it seems to be leaking cold water. The leak may actually be coming from the hot water side, but it feels cold by the time it gets to the faucet and drips out. Even a slow leak from the hot water line can add up to substantial energy costs over time. Keep in mind, heating water is the greatest home energy consumer following general home heating and cooling.

Although you will not see it directly on your electric bill, using cold water consumes energy too. It requires a great deal of energy to purify, pump and treat.

Two primary factors affecting water and energy efficiency of a kitchen faucet are the maximum flow rate and the convenience of controlling the flow and temperature.

For many years, two-handle (hot and cold) controls were popular. Today, one-handle kitchen faucets are almost always the choice. In addition to defining your style and decor, the size and shape of the faucet may impact your overall water consumption.

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has a listing for plumbing products, similar in concept to EnergyStar for appliances, called WaterSense. To qualify for a WaterSense label, the faucet must be 20 percent more efficient than standard products in a category. The industry standard is 2.2 gpm (gallons per minute) maximum water flow rate. Look for the WaterSense label.

The most recent, convenient and efficient feature for kitchen faucets is the touch-control feature. Without having to turn off the water via the handle, the water flow can be controlled with the wave or touch of a hand. By not having to adjust the handle each time, water is not wasted by readjusting the temperature.

This provides significant water and energy savings — particularly when rinsing during food preparation and when washing dishes by hand. For most people, using a standard faucet consumes more water and energy when washing dishes by hand than when running a properly loaded efficient dishwasher. With the touch-control feature, careful hand washing can be more efficient than the dishwasher.

Another advantage of this feature is the faucet handle is touched less often with dirty hands, so the attractive finish lasts longer. Also, with all the health concerns today about



photos courtesy of Delta

Here, the user simply touches the faucet to turn water on and off without adjusting the flow rate.

diseases from cross contamination of foods, touching the handle less is a real plus. Very few people wash the handle each time they have touched it.

Of the two no-hands technologies, I use the type that senses touch from your body (hand, elbow, etc.). It detects the slight electrical change from your touch to open or close a special valve.

For example, when I am rinsing dishes, I can hold several plates in each hand and just tap anywhere on the faucet fixture with my elbow to start the water flow and stop it when they are rinsed.

The other technology has a proximity sensor on the top and in the front of the faucet neck. Waving a hand over the top sensor triggers the solenoid. This does require one free hand. The sensor on the front of the neck knows hands when they are in a typical hand-washing position.

Tall spouts with a pull-down sprayer are convenient to use and also result in savings. They provide a professional look, which is popular in kitchens today. Depending upon the under-cabinet clearance, select the tallest one you can. Some are as tall as one foot. You will appreciate the height of the faucet when you have to rinse a large platter or fill a large pot.

The pull-down sprayer increases the functionality of the faucet. If you use the sprayer feature often, select one with a pause button. This allows you to stop the flow of water temporarily when moving utensils or rinsing foods as you cook without having to wave over or touch the fixture.



photos courtesy of Moen

A pull-down sprayer with a pause button allows you to pause the water flow when needed,

*Do you have an energy-efficiency question for Jim? Email him at [contact@dulley.com](mailto:contact@dulley.com) or write to: James Dulley, Rural Missouri, 6906 Royalgreen Drive, Cincinnati, OH 45244.*

*The following plumbing suppliers offer several efficient kitchen faucets::*

• Delta Faucet; 800-345-3358; [www.deltafaucet.com](http://www.deltafaucet.com)

• Moen, 800-289-6636; [www.moen.com](http://www.moen.com)

• Kohler; 800-456-4537; [www.kohler.com](http://www.kohler.com)



## OPERATION ROUND-UP AWARDS LOCAL PROJECTS

The Board of Directors authorized the Sac Osage Electric "Operation Round-Up" Committee to distribute funds collected from our members throughout the year to several local and regional projects. The Operation Round-Up program uses the generosity of cooperative members who participate to provide these additional funds.

As members of Sac Osage Electric Cooperative, you can voluntarily choose to have your monthly electric bill "rounded up" to the next whole dollar. The most money individual members could possibly contribute is \$11.88 over a 12 month period. These excess payments are collected in a special account that is used for such special purposes. "This program is a very easy way for our members to help families who need a little help", said Jim Davis, manager of the cooperative.

Please contact our customer service representatives to set up your account, and start putting your pennies to work. Together your little change may make a big change for someone else.



*Sac Osage Electric's Board Secretary/Treasurer, Jan Neale presents Steve Wiseman a check for the El Dorado Springs Christmas Basket Fund.*



*Sac Osage Electric's Board President, Neale Johnson presents a check to Mike Tunnell, treasurer for the Stockton Area Ministerial a check for the Stockton Christmas Fund.*

The Operations Round-Up committee awarded \$250 to the following organizations:

1. El Dorado Springs Christmas Basket Fund
2. Christmas Fund, Stockton, MO.
3. Christmas Fund, Community Outreach, Nevada, MO.
4. St. Clair County Senior Center, Osceola, MO.

## Christmas Parade

Sac Osage Electric Cooperative is proud to participate in community events like the El Dorado Springs Christmas Parade. Kids at the parade enjoy seeing the cooperative's trucks and scoop up the candy thrown. Special thanks to Rodger Culbertson, Line Superintendent, along with Janna Dody, Communications Coordinator, and her children, and their friends for participating in the Christmas Parade and throwing candy from the truck to all the youngsters.



## SAFETY FIRST!

Extension cords should be used on a temporary basis only. They aren't a permanent wiring solution. Have additional outlets installed where you need them. Never use an indoor extension cord outdoors. Instead, use an extension cord designed specifically for outdoor use.



### Energy Efficiency

### Tip of the Month

To determine if a door leading out of your house needs new weatherstripping, look for daylight around it. If even a sliver of daylight remains visible between the door and its frame or the floor, you need to add weatherstripping.