



SmartHub User  
wins Radmini  
e-bike!



Net Meter Focus:  
CC Blue Ranch



Good News for Members:  
No Rate Increase in 2019!

NOVEMBER 2018

# ENERGYWISE

YOUR SAN MIGUEL POWER MEMBER NEWSLETTER



Touchstone Energy® Cooperatives  
The power of human connections®



## CONTACT INFORMATION

**Nucla**  
170 W. 10th Ave.  
P.O. Box 817  
Nucla, CO 81424  
(970) 864-7311  
Toll Free: 1-877-864-7311

**Ridgway**  
720 N. Railroad St.  
P.O. Box 1150  
Ridgway, CO 81432  
(970) 626-5549  
Toll Free: 1-877-864-7311

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

[www.smpa.com](http://www.smpa.com)  
[www.facebook.com/SanMiguelPower](https://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](mailto:energywise@smpa.com)  
(970) 626-5549 x212

## SAFETY TIPS

### IS YOUR HOME ELECTRICAL SYSTEM READY FOR WINTER?

- Professionally-installed outlets are cheaper than electrical fires. Call an electrician before overloading your circuits.
- Turn off all electrical gadgets & appliances before going to bed.
- Routinely check the condition of your wiring, sockets and plugs. Replace what is worn or damaged.

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](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.intakeusda.gov](mailto:program.intakeusda.gov).

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

## Lucky SmartHub User Selected in e-Bike Drawing. "With SmartHub, Everyone Wins"

Whenever Telluride resident, Noah Sheedy needs to get to work, he now has another option. As the winner of the SMPA drawing for the Radmini e-bike, Noah can hop on his 750W, 48V battery-powered bike, and cruise up the hill to his job in Mountain Village or to anywhere else without breaking a sweat.

The Radmini is equipped with comfortable but compact 20" x 4" wide ("Fat") tires, front suspension and disc brakes. When Noah wants to bring the bike on long trips, he can fold it into a compact position and pack it into his vehicle.

The funny thing is... Noah didn't even know he was entered to win this little wonder.

"I downloaded the SMPA SmartHub app because it just makes paying my power bill easier," said Noah. "I had no idea about the contest."

...and he's right. With SmartHub's automatic notifications, and compatibility with any bank draft or pay card, it can reduce the bill paying process to just a simple tap on the smart phone.

SmartHub also puts the latest co-op news, account management options and powerful energy analysis tools right in the palm of your hands.

These are just a few of the reasons that we say, "With SmartHub, everyone wins."



Get connected  
to SmartHub.



<https://smpasmarhub.coop/>

SMPA Board President, Ruben Felicelli (right) & SMPA Key Accounts Executive, Paul Hora (left) present the Radmini e-bike to winner, Noah Sheedy of Telluride (center).

# Net Metering Member Focus: CC Blue Ranch

## "It's All About the Flow"



Construction on the 35-acre plot began in 2010 and made use of only local materials as well as local labor and craftsmen.

Just off County Road 24 in Pleasant Valley, there lives a rare property that joins the past and the future in a most remarkable way.

The "CC Blue Ranch," owned and operated by former Boulder residents, Cynthia ("Cindy") Carrillo and Matthew Valadez stands as an example of not only net metering for energy efficiency, but of sustainable living and compatibility with the land, the seasons and the basic "flow" of life.

The property includes main and guest houses, a modern barn, a guest yurt, a crop garden and greenhouse that grows year-round produce and blue tilapia!

Powering it all, is a solar / wind grid-tied generation system with battery backup. Not wanting to be isolated, the pair continue their membership in SMPA. With this, they have increased reliability and the knowledge that their excess generation is not wasted. "Is that weird?" asks Cindy. We think it's kind of awesome!



Cindy and Matthew gave their architect a list of priorities he later dubbed their "Mission Statement." The list included sustainable building practices, and the ability to live off the land. "We wanted to create an environment, not just a house."



CC Blue's essential systems draw power from their battery backup system when their renewable generators aren't producing. SMPA provides additional insurance with the grid.



**REMINDER:**  
SMPA Offices will be closed **Nov. 21<sup>st</sup>** & **Nov. 22<sup>nd</sup>**  
We'll see you after Thanksgiving!

Is your roof not ideal for solar panels?

Learn how you can go...

970-626-5549 ext. 212



**Apply for 2019 Youth Leadership Camp**  
Application Deadline: Wednesday, January 2, 2019

## NO RATE INCREASE!

### SMPA Holds Consumer Rates Steady in 2019

Although all voting directors acknowledged the eventual need to raise the SMPA access charge to cover fixed costs, no director moved to adjust the SMPA energy rates nor access charge for the calendar year of 2019. This may provide relief to budget-conscious member-consumers

who may have been expecting an increase in their electric bills.

This decision followed a report from Chief Financial Officer, Bill Mertz explaining that the cooperative is meeting financial goals and is on good financial footing as of October, 2018.

The board also approved the 2019 SMPA budget and plans to discuss the possibility of distributing member dividends at a later board meeting. Read future issues of EnergyWise for updates.

Growing Pains

Our conversion to a new information management system temporarily interrupted online payment processes for some members. We apologize for any inconvenience.

OK



Coming Up...  
**Knowledge Bowl**  
- November 12<sup>th</sup>, 3PM  
- Norwood School

**2019 SMPA Scholarships**

[www.smpa.com](http://www.smpa.com)»community programs  
»youth programs»scholarships

# SMPA POWER PLAY

**This Month's Puzzle: MEET NITE NRG**  
**Hint: It's Renewable Power with Grid Backup. The Best of Both!**

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

**EnergyWise**  
**PO Box 1150**  
**Ridgway, CO 81432**

**DOWNLOAD SMARTHUB**  
<https://smpa.smarthub.coop>