

# Today, I am grateful for you

**Stewart Somerville**

Alternative Power Systems, Inc.

Writing these articles is rather like building a house. To get the job done you have to lie to yourself about how easy the project will be. Otherwise, the article would remain so many crude lines on a Big Chief's tablet and it would forever languish in vaporous dreams of menacing grandeur.

I enjoy writing these articles and hope my scribbling on the page is of some worth to the people who read them. I have become acquainted with several resourceful, experienced and downright smart people in the years I have been doing solar/electrical/wind.

I have to give thanks for the knowledge and support they have given me over the years.

There are so many aspects to solar. At times it is overwhelming. Keeping up with codes, new products and equipment can be mind boggling.

This time of the year, trying to finish jobs on the mountain before it snows, makes it hard to get back with people as soon as I would like. Another week and it will all be done.

I have struggled this week to come up with an interesting theme. It seems our neighbors in Nevada are planning a coal burning power plant.

It is to be located north of Mesquite and will, with no doubt, yellow our skies. It is interesting that upon selling the plant to the people of Nevada, the power company billed it as the cleanest ever built. By what standard? How does it compare to natural gas or diesel? How will this affect my solar production?

California is beginning to buy only green energy. What would it

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take for the rest of the country to follow suit?

There is one clear fact upon which everyone may agree. Our world has changed and is changing so quickly we can't keep up. How do we prepare for our future? Will the power grid be as

reliable as it is today? California is still having brownouts. How long will it be before Utah has the same problem? In some areas we already have brownouts. Lines are stressed and power production is reaching its maximum in the summer. Gas lines are to capacity in the winter. Where is that feeling of "things will be alright" we had as kids? Good

thing i got a solar power system. My wife and I have lived off grid since 1993. We have a deep well, green houses, a hot tub we use in the summer and all the things a house should have. We start a generator maybe twice year. We are in want of nothing when it comes to our energy needs. We cook, heat water and dry clothes with propane.

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We live in such a narrow space of existence. If the temperature varied either way by just a few degrees we would be crossing the veil. That reminds me, get some wood gathered up. The earth is changing. How we adapt to that change will make all the difference to our children and grandchildren. We will prosper or sink as a society. The world economy

is so intertwined that if one country falls the whole world will fall.

Well, it all turns out ok. I read the end of the book.

All we need to do is the best we can with what we have. It does not matter how slowly we go so long as we do not stop. Take the time to wave to your neighbors. By nature, men are

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are nearly alike; by practice, they get to be wide apart. When it is a nice day, take the time to notice. Everything has its beauty but not everyone sees it. Try to learn something every day to keep the mind young. I am not one who was born in the possession of knowledge; I am one who is fond of antiquity, and earnest in seeking it there.

All italics are quotes from Confucius. From all of us at Alternative Power Systems, Inc.: May this holiday season bring you a joy, like you have never had and you get all your needs and most of your wants.

*Stewart Somerville, a representative from Alternative Power Systems, Inc., can be found at 1038 West Industrial Road, Cedar City, Utah or can be contacted at 586-9181.*