

Sheridan Electric Cooperative

LiveWire

Sheridan Electric Cooperative - Medicine Lake, Mont. 406-789-2231

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Two selected for Washington, D.C., Youth Tour

BY SCOTT WESTLUND

Every year, Sheridan Electric Cooperative sponsors one or two young people to represent Sheridan Electric on an all-expense-paid trip for a week to Washington, D.C.

Applicants were asked to write an essay on this topic: “Why should I be Sheridan Electric Cooperative’s Youth Tour delegate?” Those who submitted essays were also interviewed by a team at the cooperative.

As the interviews drew to an end, the interview team faced difficult decisions. Most, if not all, of the applicants interviewed well and had written essays to back it up. Seventeen applicants vied for the opportunity to go on the Youth Tour or win the \$100 for the best non-member essay.

Our decision was not an easy one, but choices were made based on the essay and the interview process.

Your cooperative will send two lucky individuals to the Youth Tour this year, as we did last year.

Haley Labatte and Bruce Carter were chosen.

Following is Haley’s essay:

My name is Haley Labatte. I am a sophomore at Froid High School. I live with my parents and sister on a farm south of Froid. My older brother lives and works in Billings. Our home and farm is kept running by electricity from Sheridan Electric. At FHS, I am involved in basketball, volleyball and track, as well as band and choir. I currently hold the office of treasurer for our BPA chapter and historian of the FFA chapter. I also attend Froid Lutheran Church.

A few weeks ago, a Sheridan Electric representative came to our school and talked to us about the Washington, D.C., Youth Tour. The representative told us about writing an essay explaining why we would be chosen to attend the



Above: **Haley Labatte**, center, is congratulated by Sheridan Electric Cooperative representatives. Left: **Bruce Carter**, right, will also attend the Youth Tour. Below: **Karrington Kjos**, center, was the non-member \$100 winner.



Washington, D.C., Youth Tour. I think that being able to travel across the states would be so fascinating and to see all the cool and exciting things that are out in the world. It would be an amazing opportunity to have kids who haven't really learned or experienced this kind of thing and for them to be able to learn and look at this kind of thing would be amazing. I personally want to look at the Lincoln Memorial, the White House and the awesome cherry blossom trees.

Having electricity is always good, because you need it for water, power, heat and cooling and having Sheridan Electric do their job every day is amazing because they go out there and work all day to have everybody have electricity in their houses or in their barns or grain bins.

I think that going on this trip will change me into a better person to explore this big opportunity that only comes once a year.

I have been able to travel a few times for FFA and BPA. I had the opportunity to attend State FFA last spring in Bozeman. There, I participated in livestock judging. We also were able to tour a goat farm. We only have cows, so that is always fun to see. Last year, I attended a leadership weekend at Fairmont Hot Springs. I attended workshops on fundraising, presentations and interacting with new people. I think the opportunity to attend the Washington, D.C., Youth Tour would be amazing. I have not traveled out of the tri-state area. The chance to explore the eastern U.S. is something I have wanted to do. I enjoy getting out and meeting new people and learning about different parts of our country.

My family relies on Sheridan Electric to run our house, water the cows, and run the grain bin fans.

Without electricity, our lives would be much different. There have been a few times where we were without power for several hours after storms. We were very grateful to the workers who were out working to restore our power. I would appreciate the opportunity to attend this learning experience.

Following is Bruce's essay:

As proud supporters of Sheridan Electric, I should be chosen to go on the Sheridan Electric Cooperative Youth Tour to Washington, D.C. Sheridan Electric runs the electricity throughout the farm. They run electricity through the house, shops and corrals. I am thankful that they give us electricity so I can watch TV.

First, I would be responsible on the trip. Everyone needs to be responsible when they grow up. As being raised on a farm, young kids take responsibility at a young age.

Workers at Sheridan Electric are all responsible. It does not matter what time or place it is, they will be there to help you. One time, the wind knocked down a power pole during the winter. We had no heat in the house and the cows had no water to drink. My dad called them around 12:30 in the morning to come and fix it. They got the job done. It took a long time, because they had to get a boat and fix the power line from a boat. After they fixed that, they helped us by giving us power to heat us in the house and giving the cows water. One of the seven principles that sticks out to me is, "Concern for the Community." This means that Sheridan Electric will always have your back when you need it.

Then, I would be kind to everybody. Being kind to everybody makes you look nice. When you say please and thank you to everybody, they will think that your momma taught you

the rights steps of being a good man. I will not be rude. Being rude makes you a bad person and people will not like you if you are rude. Being rude is mean and disrespectful. The guide will not like you if you are picking on another person. That person will not make the trip fun for anybody.

Third, I will show class. I will represent Montana in a good way. I will meet people from around the country. I think it's great to travel around the United States. This is a great way to make new friends from around the country.

The fourth reason why I want to win is because of the scholarships. You need a deep pocket when you go to college because the price to attend a college is ridiculous. Going to a trading school can cost a lot. The cost of books, tools and living are all expensive. Having a scholarship would definitely help me out in a big way.

It would be an honor to represent Sheridan Electric at Washington, D.C. Having an opportunity to go on a free trip like this will never happen again in your lifetime. It would be amazing to go on a trip that is full of history. I would fulfill my goal of visiting Washington, D.C. It would be mind-boggling to see all the monuments and the historical buildings that make Washington, D.C., great. It would be cool to see the different lifestyles than mine. I am really shy when it comes to big crowds. It would be great if I could meet new friends so they could help me not be shy anymore. Every young adult should go on a big trip like this.

Our \$100 non-member essay, Karrington Kjos:

Karrington turned in a powerful essay and had a tremendous interview. Congrats to Karrington for winning the non-member \$100. ■

Capital credit addresses sought

Every year, Sheridan Electric Cooperative retires capital credits to its membership based on a 16-year cycle. Although most of these checks, paid to the membership, are cashed by the members, some are returned because the address is no longer correct.

Sheridan Electric Cooperative makes further attempts to find these folks.

So, if anyone may know how to contact a member from the list, please call Sheridan Electric Cooperative at 406-789-2231 and speak to Jamie Ator.

Thank you for your help.

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|---------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------|--|-----------------------------------|
| Aberdeen Pet. (USA) Inc. | Dominion Exp. & Prod. Inc. | Johanson, Tracy & Betty | Olson, Ron
Panther Creek Res. LLC | Smith, Jodie L.
Taylor, Vermae |
| Andersen, Curtis D. | Equitable Resources | Johnson, Kelly | Pederson, Ivan | Thompson, Ted |
| Bleazard, Ross J. & Laura | Farley, Dave C. | Kampen, Agnes | Perales, Raymond A. & Brenda M. | Tipperary Oil & Gas Corp. |
| Boyd, Eugene | Ferrellgas | Loans Arrow, Shannon | Petersen, Dennis | Trinder, Curtis & Patricia |
| Boyd, George F. | Germany Oper. Co. | LycO Opr. Co. | Petro Hunt Corp. | UMC Pet. Corp. |
| Brooks Exp. Inc. | Guenther, Vern L. | Makoil Inc. | Pfliger, William R. | Wascana Pipeline Inc. |
| Bryla, E.S. and Linda R. | Halvorson, Boyd | Malovich, Michael & Mary K. | Pinion, David E. & Jane R. | Weinberger, Donald R. |
| Buck Elk, Darice | Haugland, Larry | MCI Gen. Partnership | Rierson, George & Adeline | White, Francis C. |
| Burlington Resources | Hausol, Mary | Murphy Exp. & Prod. Co. | Sandmeier Luft, Yvonne D./ Rodney A. Sivertson | Wireless Industries |
| Daarud, La D. | Headington Resources Inc. | O'Connor Oleen M. | | |
| Dahl, Merle | Hosko, William L. | O'Connor, Richard | | |
| Danelson, Ray | Hunt, W.H. estate | | | |
| Daniels, Shari | Intoil Inc. | | | |
| Day, Annette | Jacobson, Cody | | | |

Will we see the last of the incandescent bulbs?

BY SCOTT WESTLUND

Most of us grew up with the incandescent light bulb lighting our home or shops, but this bulb is quickly fading into extinction. In 2014, the manufacture and importation of the 40-100 watt incandescent light bulb was banned in the United States as part of an effort to get Americans to use less electricity.

The lighting industry moved toward compact fluorescent, halogen and most recently and successfully, bulbs that use light-emitting diodes (LEDs).

We probably will not see the incandescent bulb again other than in appliances or decorative applications. ■



Lighting to be given away

In the spirit of efficiency, Sheridan Electric Cooperative is giving away compact fluorescent lights (CFLs) each month. Each month's winner will receive 24 new CFL bulbs. A CFL produces the same amount of light for less than half the cost. The bulbs also produce about 75 percent less heat, so they are safer to operate. They can also last up to 10 times longer than the standard incandescent bulb. You could save \$80 a year by switching to CFLs throughout your home!

So this month, take a moment to complete and mail the coupon. Maybe you'll be this month's lucky winner and save on your energy costs. Good luck! ■

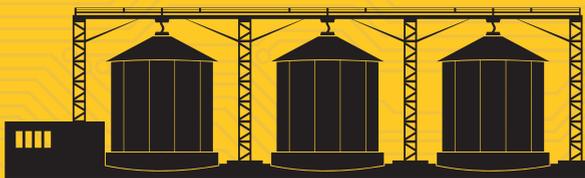
Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone number: _____

Account number: _____

*Congratulations to **Gordon Severson** for winning this month's light giveaway.*



Sheridan Electric Cooperative STATISTICAL REPORT

	November 2015	November 2016
Total miles of line	2,849	2,833
Consumers billed	3,950	3,090
Kilowatt-hours purchased	n/a	10,714,545
Kilowatt-hours sold	11,016,845	9,914,649
Average KWH per residential consumer	1,327	1,110
Average bill per residential consumer	\$110	\$108.40
Cost of purchased power	\$541,841	\$588,130
Margins year to date	\$3,599,416	\$3,183,793

LINE DEPARTMENT STATS

	November 2015	November 2016
Weather	13	8
Age or deterioration	0	3
Animals and public	0	1
Power supplier	0	0
Equipment	5	0

SUMMARY OF WORK COMPLETED

	November 2015	November 2016	Year to date
Pole installations	55	0	109
New construction	1,461 ft.	6,364 ft.	60,418 ft.
Miles driven	24,302	22,296	210,663
New accounts	5	5	56
Accounts retired	0	0	27

SHERIDAN ELECTRIC CO-OP

Medicine Lake, Mont. 59247
406-789-2231

TRUSTEES

Wayne Deubner, President..... Brockton, Mont.
 Rod Smith, V. President..... Dagmar, Mont.
 Rob Rust, Sec. Alkabo, N.D.
 Kerrey Heppner, Treas. Plentywood, Mont
 Alan Danelson, Trustee Scobey, Mont.
 Andrew Dethman, Trustee Brockton, Mont.
 Rick A. Hansen, Trustee Froid, Mont.
 Warren Overgaard, Trustee Westby, Mont.
 Harlan Skillingberg, Trustee..... Plentywood, Mont.

EMPLOYEES

Rick Knick Manager
 Riley Tommerup Office Mgr./Accountant
 Scott Westlund Marketing/Member Service Manager
 Pam Lund Billing Supervisor
 Jamie Ator Accountant
 Lisa Salvevold Office Assistant
 Torie Waller Work Order Clerk
 Kory Opp Line Superintendent
 Bryan Lenz Line Foreman
 Nick Oelkers Staking Tech
 Tim Ereth Operator/Utilityman
 Josh Johnson Electrical General Foreman
 Tom Hinds Electrical Foreman
 Steve Augustine Line Sub Foreman
 Tristan Ereth Apprentice Electrician
 Ronnie Gillett Journeyman Lineman
 Dan Roeder Journeyman Lineman
 Shawn Sansaver Journeyman Lineman
 Josh Marottek Apprentice Lineman
 Bill Baillie Apprentice Lineman
 Josh Ming Apprentice Lineman
 Jim Bakken Material Specialist
 Vicky Haddix Custodian

OUTAGES • CALL 24 HOURS A DAY

406-789-2231

OFFICE HOURS: 7 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Monday through Friday

Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative