



CONCERN FOR COMMUNITY

The holidays are a time of year that many of us eagerly anticipate. The season is marked by special foods, seasonal decorations and lots of festivities. In many communities, we look forward to the annual celebration of lighting the town, a parade, and other festive activities.

lighting the town, a parade, and other festive activities. We cherish carrying on old family traditions and enjoy creating new ones. For me personally, I look forward to more time spent with family and friends.

However, given the hustle and bustle of the season, the holidays can also offer an opportunity to slow down and reflect. For all of us at Mid-Yellowstone Electric Cooperative (MYEC), we are grateful for you, the members of the cooperative.

You see, one of our founding principles as a cooperative is "Concern for Community." While our main focus is providing safe, reliable and affordable energy, we want to give back. We want to help our community thrive.

In looking back, I'm grateful that we have been able to positively impact our community through programs such as Youth Tour, and numerous other events we participate in across our service territory to educate and inform members on safety and electrical related topics.

We are grateful for the opportunity to partner with local groups and offer help with community events, rodeos, and other events where we can give back to the communities we serve.

MYEC continues to work closely with the schools to offer scholarship opportunities for the youth in our service territory. This year due to the restrictions from COVID-19 we used the power of social media to promote scholarship opportunities. We were pleased to see the creativity which the youth displayed through the unique scholarship process.

Our electric cooperative world is distinctive when it comes to what bonds us together. Cooperatives are connected by common core principles. Cooperation among Cooperatives is the glue to our cooperative family. The cooperative model gives and receives, just as we do personally around the holiday season, only this is yearround with the coops.

MYEC continues to work with our neighboring cooperatives on all sides to form ties that benefit all members of the electric coop family. This ranges from operational to technical services that help control costs and yet offer the highest form of service possible.

The shared service agreement that Mid-Yellowstone Electric Cooperative and Lower Yellowstone Rural Electric Cooperative entered 4 years ago has been beneficial to both coops. The two coops have formed a relationship where sharing of employees has grown to many areas. On a daily basis the two coops work together for problem solving and strategy that allows us as a group to serve the members. We also have a great working relationship in the field and are able to back each other up in a time of need. This has played out with storms where we combine people, material, and equipment to restore power quickly. There are so many ways we can

This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

Concern for Community continued

Merry

Chrístmas

A STOCKING

For your new year,

stop by and pick up

a handy pocket calendar. Use it for

labor records, weath-

er records, or just a

log of your upcoming events.

mileage records, feeding records,

YOU...

STUFFER FOR

keep expanding this relationship and prove that cooperation among cooperatives is a solid principle that keeps us strong.

Looking ahead to 2021, we know the world around us is changing and we are changing with it. However, our members will always have a piece of mind when it comes to their electrical needs and our commitment to community.

As we prepare for next year, we look forward to the opportunity to serve you and the greater community. On behalf of the MYEC family, we hope your holidays are indeed merry and bright!



High school seniors and college undergrads may apply for a \$500 scholarship available through the Montana Electric Cooperatives' Association.

Applications are due January 25, 2021

High school seniors and college undergrads may apply for a \$1000 scholarship that will be awarded by Basin Electric Power Cooperative to a dependent of a MYEC member.

Applications are due February 8, 2021

Go to our website at *myec.coop* under Services/Scholarship to download these applications and see additional scholarship opportunities given by Mid-Yellowstone Electric Cooperative

Trustee Election Process Begins in December

The trustee's role

in a cooperative is:

ship's interest in the cooperative.

operative.

plans and budgets.

tives, plans and programs.

To act as a trustee for the member-

To establish policies and procedures

for the effective operation of the co-

To review and approve annual work

To receive periodic reports for con-

formity with the cooperative's objec-

Many of us don't think about the process of electing our Board of Trustees until we arrive at the annual meeting. But **the procedure actually begins at the December**

board meeting when the trustees appoint members to serve on a nominating committee. These people then meet to prepare a list of nominees to fill the expired terms. The number of expired terms varies with two trustees completing their terms one year, two trustees the next, and then three trustees the following year.

<u>May members who are not on</u> the nominating committee submit nominations for the trustee positions? Yes, a procedure is provided for such action.

provided for such action. The entire procedure for elec-

tion of trustees is detailed in the bylaws of the Cooperative. Article IV, Section 3, states: "It shall be the duty of the board of trustees to appoint, not less than 30 days nor more than 120 days before the date of a meeting of the members at which trustees are to be elected, a committee on nominations consisting of not less than five nor more than eleven members who shall be elected from different geographic sections of the project area so as to insure equitable representation. No member of the board of trustees may serve on such committee. The committee shall prepare and post at the principal office of the Cooperative at least 20 days before the meeting a list of nominations for trustees; any 15 or more members acting together may make other nominations by petition not

less than 15 days prior to the meeting and the Secretary shall cause such nominations to be posted at the same place where the list of nominations made by the committee is posted. The Secretary shall be responsible for the mailing with the notice of the *meeting or separately, but at least* ten days before the date of the meeting, a statement of the number of trustees to be elected and the names and addresses of the candidates, specifying separately the nominations made by the committee on nominations and also the nominations made by petition,

if any. Nothing contained herein shall, however, prevent additional nominations from the floor at the meeting of the members. Notwithstanding anything contained in this section, failure to comply with any of the provisions of this section shall not affect in any manner whatsoever the validity of any election of trustees."

With these provisions for nomination by petition or nomination from the floor, the members of Mid-Yellowstone can feel that they really do have a voice in the election of trustees. Plan to attend the MYEC Annual Meeting in March and vote your preference.

DECEMBER 2020