

# ROUGH RIDER NEWS

ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE

OCTOBER 2016

## North Dakota's electric cooperatives sponsor high caliber of students on the Electric Cooperative Youth Tour



**McKenzie Walters**, daughter of Roughrider Electric Cooperative members Russell and Michelle, was the 2016 representative for Roughrider.

Fifteen North Dakota high school students returned June 17 from the 52nd annual Electric Cooperative Youth Tour trip in Washington, D.C. They joined more than 1,600 students from around the nation for an intense seven days of touring museums and memorials, visiting with their state's congressional delegation, and learning history, character building and the cooperative business model. While on the tour, they develop leadership skills and a national network of peers. The students are sponsored by their family's electric distribution cooperative.

To earn a seat on the all-expense-paid Youth Tour, North Dakota students entered an essay-writing contest and answered the following question: "Pick one of the four Touchstone Energy® Cooperative core values — innovation, integrity, accountability or commitment to community — and describe how you see this in action at your family's electric cooperative."

The judging of the essays, and promotion and coordination of the Youth Tour trip, was handled by the North Dakota Association of Rural Electric Cooperatives (NDAREC). NDAREC serves as the liaison between the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NRECA) and the state's distribution cooperatives. NRECA is the national service organization representing the nation's more than

PHOTO BY NDAREC/JOHN KARY

900 consumer-owned, not-for-profit electric cooperatives.

The Electric Cooperative Youth Tour has been giving high school students the opportunity to tour Washington, D.C. for more than 50 years. During that time, nearly 50,000 students have participated in this program. For more information, visit [www.ndyouthtour.com](http://www.ndyouthtour.com) or [www.youthtour.coop](http://www.youthtour.coop), or call the member services representative at Roughrider Electric Cooperative.

This year, students from North Dakota and Montana were chaperoned by Katie Ryan-Anderson, the manager of member communications for Dakota Valley Electric Cooperative (Edgeley and Milnor) and Northern Plains Electric Cooperative (Carrington and Cando), and Steve Hildebrand, the member services representative for Roughrider Electric Cooperative (Hazen and Dickinson). Joining four chaperones from Montana, Ryan-Anderson and Hildebrand helped guide 41 young leaders safely around our nation's Capital.

Following the once-in-a-lifetime trip for many students, Ryan-Anderson reflected on the experience and noted how she watched the students grow as young adults.

"Some thrive in situations like that – new people, new places – and made friends easily. They then welcomed the quieter, shyer students, which was inspiring to see," she said. "Leadership comes in all forms – shy, outgoing, loud, quiet, in words and by example. Whether shy or outgoing, these students who represented their family's electric cooperative are making a positive difference in their communities."

During the Changing of the Guard at Arlington National Cemetery, the students listened to Taps, lifted the hands to their heads in salute, and counted the 21 steps and 21 seconds along with veterans and others who watched the ceremony. A group of veterans present that day represented the Kansas City Honor Flight. After the crowd dispersed, one veteran who had served in World War II and Korean War, sat alone in a wheel chair. In a soft voice, student Owen Nelson, a Youth Tour representative from Lower Yellowstone Rural Electric Cooperative in Montana, asked if he could assist the veteran in getting down the hill. The offer was accepted. As Nelson gently pushed the man's chair down the hill, the two could be heard laughing and exchanging stories. While Nelson's act of kindness was noteworthy that day, his sincere desire to serve is indicative of all the students who participate in the Electric Cooperative Youth Tour.

"This is the caliber of young people Steve and I worked with on the tour," Ryan-Anderson concluded. "If this is our future, we need not fear."



Hildebrand said it was a life-changing event for the chaperones, as well as the students. "It was a trip-of-a-lifetime for me and these kids. Every one of them showed examples of leadership that is already inside of them. Many times I had a lump in my throat because of some act of kindness, respect, empathy or patriotism shown by these student leaders."

Since 1964, America's electric cooperatives have sent students to our nation's capital to give future leaders in co-op communities a front-row seat to American government.

Education is a fundamental principle of electric cooperatives. Boards of directors and managers say they believe it is imperative to help students understand the democratic process and gain the skills necessary to become tomorrow's leaders. By sponsoring the Electric Cooperative Youth Tour, North Dakota's electric cooperatives are helping high school students experience government firsthand by visiting Washington, D.C., meeting their representatives and senators, and building a better understanding of our country and their role as engaged citizens.

McKenzie Walters, daughter of Roughrider Electric Cooperative members Russell and Michelle, was the 2016 representative for Roughrider.

"My experience with the Youth Tour was amazing, I learned so much on this trip. Exploring Washington, D.C. was amazing," she said. "I highly recommend other youth to write an essay this year, for a chance to take a trip-of-a-lifetime that they will never forget."

She concluded by thanking Roughrider Electric for the "incredible experience." ■

JUNE 10 to 16, 2017

North Dakota Electric Cooperative

# YOUTH TOUR

HIGH SCHOOL  
SOPHOMORES & JUNIORS

WRITE A WINNING ESSAY AND WIN A TRIP OF A LIFETIME!

An all-expense-paid trip to WASHINGTON, D.C.

- To enter the essay-writing contest, you must be a sophomore or junior in high school in the fall of 2017.
- You and your parents or guardian must be served by Roughrider Electric Cooperative.
- If you have a question, contact Brad Quenette, Roughrider Electric, at the address listed below, or call 701-748-2293 during regular business hours.
- The deadline is Jan. 31, 2017. Email entries to [bquenette@roughriderelectric.com](mailto:bquenette@roughriderelectric.com) or mail to: Youth Tour Essay Contest, Roughrider Electric Cooperative, 800 Highway Dr., Hazen, ND 58545-4737.



## ESSAY QUESTION:

*Democracy is the foundation of our American way of life and of cooperative enterprise. The fundamentals of democracy include voter participation, political party affiliation, and public debate of issues. Describe what you think makes our current democracy strong, and provide suggestions for ways our democracy can be made stronger and more effective.*

## TOP 3 REASONS TO ENTER THE ESSAY-WRITING CONTEST

1. All-expense-paid trip to Washington, D.C., compliments of Roughrider Electric Cooperative.
2. A whole week to visit unforgettable historic monuments, museums and the U.S. Capitol.
3. A learning experience you'll never forget.

CHECK OUT THE ESSAY-CONTEST GUIDELINES AT

[www.ndyouthtour.com](http://www.ndyouthtour.com) and [www.youthtour.coop](http://www.youthtour.coop)

*Report from*

# THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

## AUG. 30, 2016

**When, where and who:** The Board of Directors met in Hazen on Aug. 30.

**Agenda:** The Board reviewed, added to and approved the meeting agenda.

**Member Satisfaction Survey report:** Mr. Kyle Niess of Odney Advertising presented the Board with the results of the Member Satisfaction Survey recently completed by Odney on behalf of Roughrider.

**Minutes of the Previous meeting:** The Board reviewed and approved the minutes of the July 29, 2016, meeting.

**Co-General Managers' report:** Chris Baumgartner and Don Franklund presented the managers' report.

**Safety Coordinator report:** The Board was referred to Mr. Stastny's written report.

**Chief Financial Officer report:** Mr. Kupper provided the Board with a summary of his written report.

**Operations and Construction report:** Mr. Bentz referred the Board to his written report.

**Member Services/Key Accounts report:** Mr. Hibl referred the Board to his written report.

**Upcoming meetings:** The next Board meeting was set for 9 a.m. MT on Sept. 30, 2016, at Roughrider's office in Dickinson, North Dakota.

**Other business:** There being no other business, upon motion made, seconded and unanimously carried, the meeting adjourned. ■

## Roughrider Electric Cooperative offers members CONSERVATION AND ENERGY EFFICIENCIES INCENTIVES

**R**oughrider Electric Cooperative is continuing the conservation and energy-efficiency program through 2016. The incentives help you, the member, become more energy efficient.

The program for 2016 will include ground-source heat pumps and air-source heat pumps.

Members must buy and install qualifying systems between Jan. 1, 2016 and Dec. 31, 2016. The program for the heat pumps is for new installation or for replacement of a conventional heating system.

Roughrider Electric Cooperative personnel will check the

installation, and get the appropriate documentation and receipts. Once completed and approved, Roughrider Electric Cooperative will send a check directly to the member to help cover the purchase cost.

A maximum dollar amount has been set aside for the incentive program. The program will close when we meet this amount. Roughrider Electric reserves the right to cancel the program without further notice. One rebate allowed per member.

For more information, please contact Brad Quenette, director of member services, at 800-748-5533 or email [bquenette@roughriderelectric.com](mailto:bquenette@roughriderelectric.com).

**Ground-Source Heat Pumps:**  
Required minimum efficiency

**\$150 per ton with a maximum rebate of \$600**  
CLOSED LOOP: EER >= 14.1 COP >= 3.3  
OPEN LOOP: EER >= 16.2 COP >= 3.6

**Air-Source Heat Pumps:**  
Required minimum efficiency

**\$100 per ton with a maximum rebate of \$400**  
HSPF >= 8.2 EER >= 12 SEER >= 14.5

# SECURE PAY

DO YOU PREFER TO MAKE YOUR UTILITY PAYMENTS OVER THE PHONE?

OUR AUTOMATED SYSTEM,

**Secure Pay**, ENSURES A SAFE, RELIABLE METHOD. ALL PHONE PAYMENTS WILL USE THIS **Secure Pay** PHONE SYSTEM.

TO PAY USING OUR AUTOMATED PHONE SYSTEM, CALL US TOLL-FREE AT **1-844-241-0260**.



Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

ROUGH RIDER ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE ADDED THIS FEATURE TO BE COMPLIANT WITH THE PAYMENT CARD INDUSTRY (PCI) DATA SECURITY STANDARD. THESE WORLDWIDE REQUIREMENTS ARE DESIGNED TO HELP COMPANIES THAT PROCESS SUCH PAYMENTS PREVENT CREDIT CARD FRAUD THROUGH INCREASED DATA CONTROLS. MOVING TO THIS SYSTEM ENSURES OUR CONTINUED ABILITY TO ACCEPT DEBIT AND CREDIT CARD PAYMENTS.



Cooperatives  
**BUILD**

**A BETTER WORLD**



**CO-OP MONTH | OCTOBER 2016**

**STOP IN FOR COOKIES  
OCT. 10-14**

*Pay your bill, learn about our latest billing options, or simply enjoy a treat from your local Touchstone Energy® Cooperative.*

COOPERATIVES ARE:

VOLUNTARY • DEMOCRATIC • EQUITABLE • INDEPENDENT • INFORMATIVE • COLLABORATIVE • COMMUNITY

# DON'T LET HALLOWEEN BE SCARY!

It's time to decorate your yard and home as ghosts and goblins plan their invasion of the neighborhood looking for treats.

As you light Halloween night with elaborate decorations, Roughrider Electric Cooperative recommends some important safety tips:

- Always unplug lights before going to bed or leaving your home.

- Use only lights that have been safety tested and approved by Underwriters Laboratory (UL). Look for the UL label on the box and on each string.

- Make sure extension cords are in good condition. Use only cords rated to carry the electrical load you will connect to them.

- Before plugging in the lights, check each string for broken sockets, frayed cords or faulty plugs. Replace damaged strings.

- Keep electric cords out of high-traffic areas.

- Don't staple or nail through light strings or electrical cords.

- Cords should be plugged into outlets equipped with ground-fault circuit interrupters (GFCIs). Use a portable GFCI if your outdoor outlets don't have them. GFCIs protect you from electric shocks.

- Outdoors, use only lights and cords rated for outdoor use.

- Do not attach cords or lights to metal objects.

- Do not run electrical cords across sidewalks or other walkway areas that could trip or endanger trick-or-treaters. Indoors, avoid stretching cords across a room where people or pets can trip over them or become entangled.

- Use flashlights or battery-operated candles when decorating the home, including to light walkways, jack-o'-lanterns and outdoor displays.

A safe celebration is the best celebration, and following basic electrical safety guidelines will help you avoid real scares and keep your memories "boo-tiful" and fun.

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WE'RE COMMITTED  
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Helping you keep informed. To Roughrider  
Electric Cooperative, that's trust.  
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[www.roughriderelectric.com](http://www.roughriderelectric.com)

**HAZEN OFFICE**

**701-748-2293 or 800-748-5533**  
**800 Highway Dr., Hazen, ND 58545**  
**7:30 a.m. – 4 p.m. CST Monday-Friday**

Payments may be deposited in the deposit box by  
Roughrider Electric's main office entrance or in the  
drop boxes located at Krause's Super Valu in Hazen or  
Bronson's Super Valu in Beulah.

**DICKINSON OFFICE**

**701-483-5111 or 800-627-8470**  
**P.O. Box 1038, 2156 4th Ave. E.**  
**Dickinson, ND 58602**  
**8 a.m. – 5 p.m. MST Monday-Friday**

Payments may be deposited in the deposit box west of  
Roughrider Electric's main office entrance or in the drop  
boxes located at Dickinson City Hall, or the north and  
south locations of Family Fare supermarkets.

**OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS**

- Roger Kudrna, President; Dickinson .....483-8377
- Darell Herman, Vice President; Beulah .....873-4371
- Troy Sailer, Secretary; Golden Valley .....948-2427
- Bruce Darcy, Treasurer; Golden Valley .....983-4222
- William Retterath; Center .....794-8729
- Arnold Kainz; Dickinson .....483-8207
- Dan Price; Hensler .....794-3779
- Greg Steckler; Dunn Center .....548-8122
- Callen Schoch; New England .....579-4395

**MANAGEMENT**

- Don Franklund .....Co-General Manager/CEO
- Chris Baumgartner .....Co-General Manager/CEO



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