

# EMPIRE ELECTRIC ASSOCIATION

*Echoes of the Empire*

JULY 2019



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## EMPOWERING FUTURE LEADERS

BY BOBBE JONES MEMBER SERVICES



BOBBE JONES

Opening big doors for our small-town kids is part of Empire Electric Association's commitment to the community. Educational opportunities that might not otherwise be available are financed with unclaimed capital credits. EEA believes that empowering future leaders through education is money well-spent.

Two of these programs, the Youth Tour and Youth Leadership Camp, provide transformational experiences that show students the power of democracy and the importance of leadership. Both are offered at no cost to students or their families.

For a week in June, EEA sponsors a student representative on the Youth Tour to Washington, D.C., for a close-up look at history, government and leadership.

The Youth Tour idea originated with President Lyndon B. Johnson who advocated for rural electrification and youth development. In 1957, when he was still a U.S. senator, Johnson suggested "sending youngsters to the nation's capital where they can actually see what the flag stands for and represents." This notion evolved into a

nationwide effort to send youth on an organized, fun and educational trip in the 1960s.

Now, almost 60 years later, electric cooperatives from across the country send over 1,900 youth to the nation's capital every summer.

Colorado cooperative-sponsored students gather in Denver prior to heading to D.C. They learn about government, electric co-ops and electrical safety while visiting the state capitol, United Power (a Brighton-based electric cooperative) and Tri-State Generation and Transmission Association.

While in D.C., students visit the capital's memorials and museums, Mount Vernon, Arlington National Cemetery and the National Cathedral. Many other historical sites are visited before the students gather with delegates from other states for leadership training and to learn more about co-ops. They also meet with members of Colorado's congressional delegation and

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Jessica Begay



Cassie Gatlin



Magdalena Halls



Brooklyn Holt



Maya Powell



Kasey Wallace



Denise Moore, chaperone



Clint Rapier, chaperone

## Photo Contest Winner for July



**Blazin' Trail**  
by Kenzie Branson

### EMPOWERING FUTURE LEADERS

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their staff for question-and-answer sessions.

Without a doubt, the Youth Tour has grown into an invaluable program that offers young Americans an experience that will stay with them for the rest of their lives.

Another such experience takes place in July, at Glen Eden, north of Steamboat Springs. Over 90 high school students from Colorado, Kansas, Oklahoma and Wyoming gather for the Youth Leadership Camp. Five local juniors are sponsored by EEA. During camp week, students form their own co-op and learn about the co-op business model. They watch safety demonstrations, tour a coal mine and power plant and improve their leadership skills.

Two EEA employees volunteered to chaperone during youth trips this year. Clint Rapier attended the Youth Tour when he was a high school student and found the perfect opportunity to pay his experience forward by spending another week on the tour in a leadership role. Denise Moore attended Leadership Camp many years ago and volunteered to revisit this month.

The students who attend youth trips or benefit from educational scholarships and events are our future leaders. EEA's educational programs help participants develop a deeper understanding and skill set of what it means to be a leader and, as a result, they put these skills to use right here in our community. Perhaps you know of an exceptional student who would be a great candidate for one of these programs. If you do, please share this article with them.

Educational organizations and events, scholarships and youth trip applications are reviewed each year by EEA's board of directors or designated committees and application deadlines, requirements and qualifications are available at [www.eea.coop](http://www.eea.coop).

### MY CO-OP ADVANTAGE

**Home energy upgrade loans** are available through NCB Home Energy Financing. Visit [www.ncb.coop/homeenergy](http://www.ncb.coop/homeenergy) or call Brittney Baldwin at 866-499-3517.

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# 2019 SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

**EEA awarded 32 scholarships in 2019.** Students were selected by a scholarship committee based on a point system that includes extracurricular activities, scholastic standing, need and completed application criteria. Adults were selected on a point system that includes an essay, community activities, need and completed application criteria. Students and adults attending a college or university are awarded a \$1,000 scholarship and those attending a trade school are awarded a \$500 scholarship.

## Basin Electric Power Cooperative Scholarship



Awarded to the student with the highest GPA.

Emily Cole,  
Mancos High School

## Dolores High School



Codi Archuleta



Tawnee Benavidez



Tatum Majors



Cameron Schafer

## Dove Creek High School



Madilyn Hankins

## Montezuma-Cortez High School



Matthew Broughton



Kailey Case



Marguerite Copeland



Brianna Dennison



Kale Hall



Summer Harris



Gage Petrose



Nanabah Sam



Amanda Sturman



Aryelle Wright

## YOUR CO-OP NEWS

### Monticello High School



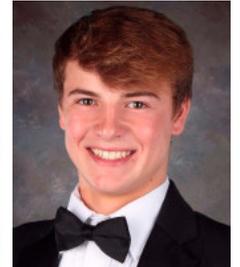
Britton Brewer



Shelly Lewis



Elise Thayn



Wyatt Fullmer



Aspen English,  
Tri-State Scholarship

### Mancos High School



James Ayers



Taeylor Samora



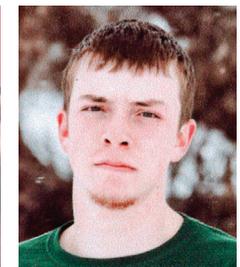
Vassar Stephens



Scottie Sword



Morgan Rose



Phillip Huffman, Tri-State  
Scholarship

**2019 SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS**

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**Adult Scholarships**



Jacqueline Chittick



Elizabeth Edwards



Sarah Enriquez



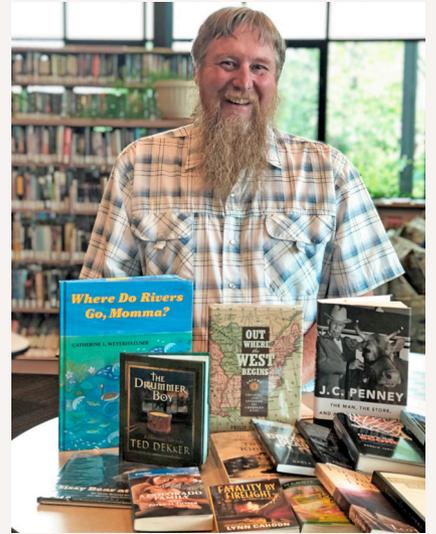
Madison St. Hilaire



Shania Snow

**My Co-op Advantage**

**Congratulations!** Empire Electric won books in a *Colorado County Life* magazine lottery and donated them to the Mancos Public Library. Pictured here is Director Lee Halberg as he accepts a variety of donated books valued at over \$278. Most of the books are recent publications that will be of interest to library patrons. The books are a mix of fiction and nonfiction and include books by Colorado authors.



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**Co-op Calendar**

**July 1, 2019**

Photo contest ends for the 2020 calendar

**July 4, 2019**

Independence Day, office closed

**July 12, 2019**

Empire's board meeting begins at 8:30 a.m. at its headquarters in Cortez. The agenda is posted 10 days in advance of the meeting at [eea.coop](http://eea.coop). Members are reminded that public comment is heard at the beginning of the meeting.

**July 13–18, 2019**

Youth Leadership Camp in Steamboat Springs, CO