

SOUTHEAST ELECTRIC Cooperative



PO BOX 369, EKALAKA, MT 59324 • PH 406-775-8762 • WWW.SEECOOP.COM

ANNUAL MEETING

2024 Meeting of the Members a success

It was hot, hot, hot! Southeast Electric held the 2024 Annual Meeting on June 14th.

131 members attended, and 260 meals were served. The Wagon Wheel Café catered the event, serving up burgers, brats, salad and baked beans.

Dean Jardee, from Great Falls originally from Ekalaka, entertained the crowd with his musical talents. Members enjoyed “Dean’s Jukebox.” Members were given a list of songs/medleys and if their number was called out, they got to pick their favorite. Dean even continued to play after the meeting was over, and entertained the crowd as they visited.

President Albert Paul explained USB

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The Southeast Electric Cooperative 2024 Annual Meeting was held on June 14. Southeast Electric President Albert Paul addresses the crowd. | PHOTO BY GARY WIENS

COMING SOON
DAYS OF '85
FAIR & RODEO
AUGUST 8, 9, 10 & 11 - EKALAKA, MT 59324

MORE INFORMATION
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What is a grassroots movement?

A grassroots movement is one that uses the people in a given district, region or community as the basis for a political or economic movement. Grassroots movements and organizations use collective action from the local level to implement change at the local, regional, national or international levels.

The Montana Grassroots Action Network currently is comprised of about 1,700 co-op member-owners from across the state, and all 25 member electric cooperatives. The network members are sent updates once each month on the state and federal public policy challenges facing our electric co-ops. From time to time, these updates may ask our grassroots folks to contact elected officials to support or oppose proposed legislation or regulations.

If you are interested in joining or have questions, contact Mark Lambrecht, director of government relations at the Montana Electric Cooperatives' Association. His phone number is (406) 761-8333. His email address is mark@mtco-ops.com. Anyone who joins before November 1st is eligible to win a \$500 cash prize.

There is also America's Electric Cooperatives PAC (formerly ACRE®) which is the federal political action committee (PAC) of America's electric co-ops. It is backed by more than 35,000 eligible employees, directors and consumer-members across the country, National Rural Electric Cooperatives Association's PAC supports political candidates who will speak for and protect the interests of electric co-ops and their consumer-members. ^{RM}



Dean Jardee entertains the crowd with his musical talents. | PHOTO BY GARY WIENS

MEETING

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funding and how we are able to assist our local community with more than \$72,000 of funding for Low Income Energy Assistance and LED lighting projects, and appliance rebates. General Manager Tye Williams introduced Southeast Electric employees and updated members on the new Transmission line going in at Mill Iron. He also stated that we will continue to be aggressive with our pole-testing program and have applied for a grant to help increase the number of poles replaced each year. Tye mentioned rate changes for 2025 due to increases in cost of purchased power, costs of supplies and competitive wages.

Speakers

Special speakers included Gary Wiens of the Montana Electric Cooperatives' Association and Jeremy Mahowald of Upper Missouri Power Cooperative. Gary shared news on the legislative front and the battles that cooperatives are fighting to ensure we have reliable energy. Gary encouraged everyone to contact their legislators, congressmen, senators, etc. He reported that he had 41 members sign up for MECA's Grassroots Action Team.

Jeremy Mahowald, general manager of Upper Missouri Power, also talked about the challenges it is facing from internal disunity, new regulations and exponential growth in the Bakken. He

stated that in this era of rising costs and extreme growth, Upper Missouri is doing its utmost to provide low-cost power and a reliable power supply. It is working with Basin Electric Power Cooperative to build transmission networks and new gas, wind and solar power generation facilities to serve the farms, ranches, oil wells, gas production and new industrial loads that are coming its way.

Gary and Jeremy encouraged all members to actively participate in their cooperative, and to keep fighting for what they have here in rural southeastern Montana.

Entertainment

Keeping the kids busy, Jalyn Klauzer and Kayla Oleson gave horse-drawn wagon rides. Dave Hayden was generous enough to loan his team and horses for the evening. Amy and Holly Walker had a crafting station set up for the kids.

Door prizes

Many door prizes were given this year thanks to our vendors: Irby Utilities, WESCO, RESCO, EVH Solutions, Network Innovations, Newell Broadcasting, Red Rock Power, Electrical Consultants, Inc. CFC and Border States. We were pleased to have Dawson Auck and David Mohr here to represent RESCO and WESCO. The BIG WINNERS of the \$500 cash prizes were Dean & Kathleen Hanson of Baker, and Allen Elmore of Ekalaka. Congratulations! We hope to see you all again next year. ^{RM}



DON'T FORGET

SMARTHUB the online bill payment system is now available. It is convenient and easy!

UNCLAIMED CAPITAL CREDITS

ABRAXAS PETROLEUM
MARVIN BROWN
JOY DUFFIELD
JACK KRUEGER

MIKE KRUEGER
DALE A., RADKE
VIRGINIA RICHARDSON



DAYS OF '85 HIGHLIGHTS

THURSDAY:
Sheep Dog Trials

FRIDAY:
Pet Parade
Science Friday
Stick Horse Rodeo
Relay Games
Fireman's BBQ
Night Show

SATURDAY:
4-H /FFA Market Sale
Indian Taco Supper
Rodeo
Gospel Sing

SUNDAY:
Pancake Breakfast
Rodeo Arena Church Service
Parade
Rodeo
Car & Tractor Show

SEE THE DAYS OF '85 FAIR PROGRAM FOR DETAILS ON TIMES AND LOCATIONS

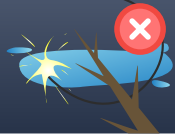
ALWAYS ASSUME ALL DOWNED LINES ARE **LIVE**

Downed power lines can be **deadly**. Always assume a downed power line is **live** and avoid approaching them or anything near them.

Use Precaution



Downed power lines can energize the ground up to **35 feet away**. Even more in wet conditions.



Never drive over downed power lines or anything in contact with them.



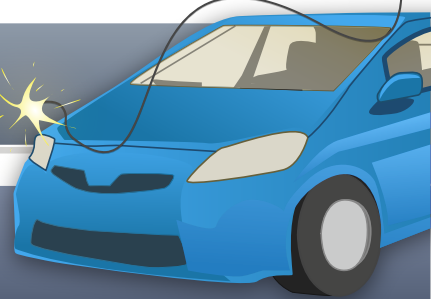
If you see a downed power line, **call 911**.



Never try to move a downed power line.

If a vehicle contacts a **power line** or **utility pole**...

STAY AWAY AND CALL 911



Consider **all lines** to be live and dangerous.



Stay in place or inside your vehicle unless you see **fire** or **smoke**.



Warn others to stay at least **35 feet away**.



Tell others not to approach vehicle, downed lines or anything that may be in contact with downed lines.



Call **911**.

In the Event of Fire or Smoke

Do not touch the ground and vehicle at the **same time**.



Jump from the vehicle with your **feet together**.



Shuffle away, avoid lifting your feet.

