

GUNNISON COUNTY ELECTRIC ASSOCIATION

Powering Possibilities

SEPTEMBER 2021



MAILING ADDRESS

P.O. Box 180
Gunnison, CO 81230-0180



STREET ADDRESS

37250 West Highway 50
Gunnison, CO 81230



ph 970-641-3520
tf 800-726-3523
fax 970-641-7333
web www.gcea.coop
email gcea@gcea.coop



facebook.com/
GunnisonCountyElectricAssociation



@GunnisonREA



▲ GCEA Chief Operations Officer Roger Grogg.



▲ Roger Grogg (second from left) and the GCEA line crew in 2001.

A CHANGE AT THE HELM

BY ALLIY SAHAGUN

MEMBER RELATIONS SUPERVISOR

After 33 years of service at Gunnison County Electric Association, Roger Grogg retired on September 1 from his position of chief operations officer.

Roger graduated from Western State College in 1985 and began his career as an apprentice lineman in 1988. He “journeyed” out in 1992 and quickly moved into the Crested Butte working foreman position in 1993. On February 1, 2006, Roger was promoted to line superintendent and also became a member of the Mesa Hotline School board of directors. Roger’s passion for helping students allowed him to award over 100 journeyman lineman certificates.

He was then promoted to his current

position of chief operations officer on May 1, 2007, and GCEA has been well-represented for the last 14 years with Roger’s leadership on the executive team. Roger’s commitment to excellent work is best represented in his favorite saying: “Have some pride.” He was fortunate to work with great staff and truly care about the work he did.

We wish Roger the best of luck in the years to come and thank him for his diligent service to GCEA staff and members.

As one door closes, another one opens as current Line Superintendent John Stoeber takes on his new role as chief operations officer as of September 2. Like Roger, John worked his way up the ranks starting as an apprentice lineman in 1994 and excelling every step of the way. He has been the line superintendent since 2016 and is GCEA’s safety director. John and the safety team led GCEA staff through the COVID-19 pandemic, and his ability to stay calm under pressure and during unforeseen circumstances is commendable. He is a strong leader and his selfless approach to getting the job done without complaint is an example to all of us. Congratulations to John. We wish him the best in his new position.



▲ John Stoeber begins his new position as chief operations officer on September 2.



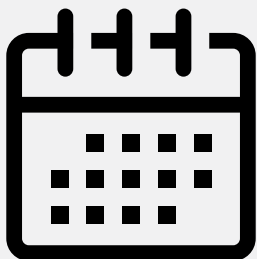
Justin Hulick Completes Journeyman Lineman Requirements

Congratulations to Gunnison County Electric Association's newest journeyman lineman, Justin Hulick. He completed four years of service and 8,500 hours of on-the-job training to complete all requirements for this important achievement. Way to go, Justin!

National Drive Electric Week

September 25-October 3

Schedule a test drive in GCEA's Tesla Model 3 or Chevy Bolt EV and enter to win dinner for two, driving in style in the Tesla. Call 970-641-3520 or email memberrelations@gcea.coop



JOIN GCEA FOR

BRATS & KILOWATTS

MEMBER EVENT

FOOD • Q&A • DEMOS

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 23, 4 -6 PM

RAINBOW PARK
300 EIGHTH ST, CRESTED BUTTE, CO 81224

FOR MORE INFORMATION,
VISIT WWW.GCEA.COOP OR CALL 970-641-3520.

EV RIDE & DRIVE EVENTS

GCEA member relations team members Alliy Sahagun and Logann Long popped up in Gunnison, Crested Butte and Lake City during the month of July to offer electric vehicle test drives in GCEA's Tesla Model 3 and Chevy Bolt. GCEA offers EV test drives to help members experience the quiet, clean, zippy feel and learn about all the cost savings and time efficiencies of driving electric.



5 FINANCIAL BENEFITS OF EV OWNERSHIP

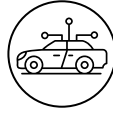
BY ALLIY SAHAGUN

MEMBER RELATIONS SUPERVISOR

When making a major purchase, most buyers look for financial incentives to help sweeten the deal. Electric vehicles definitely have an advantage when penciling out the total cost of ownership. Here are five ways that EVs can save you money.



- 1. REBATES:** GCEA offers rebates on electrical system upgrades and charging equipment to support EV charging at home.
 - **INSTALLATION:** 50% rebate up to \$250 on the cost of installing a 240-volt outlet to support a Level 2 EV charging station
 - **EQUIPMENT:** 70% rebate up to \$500 on the cost of a Level 2 charging station (requires switch to a time-of-use rate). Call 970-641-3520 to request a TOU (time-of-use) analysis on your account to see if you qualify to switch.



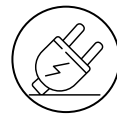
- 2. TAX CREDITS:** Depending on the vehicle you purchase, there are federal and state tax credits available to you.
 - **FEDERAL TAX CREDIT:** up to \$7,500.
 - **CO STATE TAX CREDIT:** \$2,500.
 - **EV CHARGING STATION EQUIPMENT:** 30% up to \$1,000 of the station cost.



- 3. LOWER MAINTENANCE COSTS:** With fewer moving parts susceptible to wear and tear on the vehicle, maintenance costs are less and you'll save time not visiting the auto shop.



- 4. LOWER FUEL COST:** The average cost-per-gallon equivalent for fueling an EV with electricity is \$1.10 per gallon compared to \$2.80 for gasoline. When charging on GCEA's TOU rate, that cost could drop down to 82 cents per gallon equivalent.



- 5. CHARGING DISCOUNTS:** GCEA members receive 50% off charging sessions at GCEA-owned ChargePoint public charging stations. Contact Alliy at 970-641-7356 to get connected.

ELECTRIC BIKE REBATE

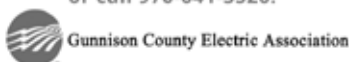
\$150 REBATE ON NEW E BIKES

*ALL REBATES MUST BE REQUESTED WITHIN 120 DAYS OF PURCHASE.

*GCEA MEMBERS ONLY



For more rebate information, visit www.gcea.coop/rebates or call 970-641-3520.



SEPTEMBER WORK ANNIVERSARIES

Ron Copenhaver Engineering Technician, 21 years

Brian Muth Engineering Technician, 15 years

Alliy Sahagun Member Relations Supervisor, 3 years

2020 Allocation

The 2020 capital credit allocation was processed on July 2. GCEA allocated \$740,303 in GCEA Patronage Capital and \$223,518 in Tri-State Generation and Transmission Patronage Capital, for a total allocation of \$963,821. Allocation information including GCEA, Tri-State and total unretired capital credits were printed on July bills. A separate notice of allocation was mailed to inactive members and Patronage Capital certificates for the 2020 GCEA Allocation went out to 7,382 members on July 19.

Silver Thread Scenic Byway

BY ALLIY SAHAGUN

MEMBER RELATIONS SUPERVISOR

Fall is the perfect time to hit the road and travel around our beautiful state. Leaf peeping, fall festivals, romantic weekend getaways and other sightseeing excursions are great ways to fill up your calendar as the weather begins to chill and the colors change.

One spot to consider on your fall road trip agenda is the Silver Thread Scenic Byway, which is one the first electrified byways in Colorado. With electric vehicle charging stations in Lake City, Creede and Silver Fork, you can easily enjoy this road trip in any electric vehicle. There is plenty to see and do along the way, as this region is rich in history and scenic beauty.



Don't have an EV to take on this electrified route? Contact us at GCEA at 970-641-3520 to sign up for our EV test drive program. Our Chevy Bolt is available to take on loan and is the perfect car for this epic road trip.

SILVER THREAD AT A GLANCE

Starting Point SOUTH FORK	Distance ----- 117 MILES	End Point BLUE MESA RESERVOIR
Best Time Of Year YEAR-ROUND	Region MOUNTAINS & MESAS MYSTIC SAN LUIS VALLEY	Driving Time ALLOW 3 HOURS

ELECTRIC BYWAY

GCEA Celebrates Another EV Charging Station

On Thursday, July 15, GCEA celebrated the installation of its 13th EV charging station, located in Crested Butte South, with a ribbon cutting event.

Neighbors and EV enthusiasts turned out in support of the Level 2 station which will give them the opportunity to charge closer to home. The next closest stations are in Crested Butte to the north and Almont to the south. Connected to a 240-volt connection, this station provides 25 miles of range per hour of charging and costs 8 cents per



▲ CB South Manager Dom Eymere and CBFPD District Manager Sean Caffrey join GCEA representatives to cut the ribbon on its 13th EV charging station, located in CB South. Photo credit: Nolan Blunck

kilowatt-hour during off-peak hours and 25 cents per kWh during peak hours, which are 5-10 p.m., Monday through Saturday. GCEA offers special thanks to the Crested Butte South POA for hosting the charging

station site, as well as the Charge Ahead Colorado grant and Tri-State Generation and Transmission rebates for funding most of this project.