

WE'RE HERE

BY RYAN ELARTON GENERAL MANAGER



RYAN ELARTON

The COVID-19 pandemic irrevocably changed the face of business. But here at San Isabel Electric, we still want to put faces with names, and we prefer doing business the old-fashioned way.

The pandemic accelerated the adoption of virtual ways of doing business in small rural communities and densely populated urban areas. Companies abandoned their physical offices like sinking ships, sending workers to home offices and conducting most, if not all, business online. Sure, doing business online is convenient and can be more cost effective, but it comes with the intangible loss of personal relationships, trust, friendships and community involvement.

The title of this article is “We’re Here” because SIEA is here. Our offices are here, our equipment is here, our employees are here and, most importantly, you are here. We’re here doing business in-person, just like every other locally-owned and operated business throughout our service territory.

We’re also online. Even before the pandemic, all of SIEA’s services were available online. During the pandemic, we had to show our members how to access the same services virtually instead of in person. Just like everyone else, we had to find new ways to get supplies, pay our bills, go to work, connect with you and so much more. Some of the newly-adopted behaviors have now become permanent, but our multiple ways of conducting business with our members provides flexibility for you to choose how you want to engage with us.

So what does the future of doing business with SIEA look like?

We’re not abandoning ship. We’re not closing offices. In fact, we’re investing in our local offices and bringing more in-person services and community events.

For the first time in a long time, there will be prizes, free gifts, bingo, donuts and a community meal at the San Isabel Electric Annual Meeting coming on September 17. And for the first time ever there will be both a virtual and in-person option to attend the annual meeting. Soon, we’ll also be serving hot dogs and snacks at member appreciation events in different locations throughout our service area.

We can’t see the look on your face or hear the tone in your voice in an email or through an online transaction, but we need to. When you weigh in on co-op and community issues, we’re not just passively listening; you have our full attention. You help keep us in the know and you help us get it right to better serve you, our members. Thank you for placing your trust in us — we can’t wait to see your shining faces soon.

RUN FOR THE SIEA BOARD

There are three seats on the SIEA Board of Directors up for election in 2022. A candidate can be nominated for a director position in two ways.

1. The candidate can be selected by the nominating committee. Members of the nominating committee are appointed by the SIEA Board of Directors. The nominating committee met at 9:30 a.m. on June 22 at the SIEA headquarters in Pueblo West. The following members were nominated:

3-YEAR TERM

Candidate: Dennis A. Maroney
District 2: Rye, Colorado City,
& Vicinity

Candidate: None

District 8: Pueblo West Proper
2-YEAR REMAINING TERM

Candidate: Don Tokar

District 7: Aguilar, Trinidad West,
& Vicinity

2. A candidate can also complete a petition with at least 15 member signatures and file it online, no later than 5 p.m., Tuesday, July 19.

Every consumer who buys electricity from SIEA is a member and owner of the cooperative. At the annual meeting, members just like you are elected to serve on the board of directors to make decisions about rates, renewables and other ways the cooperative operates. More information about running for the SIEA Board is available at SIEA.com/BoardElections.



Save the Date!

SIEA'S ANNUAL MEETING

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 17

John Mall High School, Walsenburg



Scholarships 2022

San Isabel Electric awarded a record \$39,000 to community youth for the 2022–2023 academic year.

The San Isabel Electric Board of Directors rated the applicants based on their resume, cover letter, letters of recommendation, response to a 300-word essay, as well as the format, grammar and punctuation of their overall application. The top-scoring students were invited to interview to compete for a chance to win a \$5,000 Powered-Up Scholarship.

Scholarship funding comes from unclaimed capital credits, which is money the electric co-op tried to return to member-owners but went unclaimed. The current list of unclaimed capital credits is published at siea.com/capitalcredits and is available in the April edition of *Colorado Country Life* magazine.

San Isabel Electric has awarded scholarships since 1990.



THE FOLLOWING 24 STUDENTS RECEIVED \$1,000 SCHOLARSHIPS FROM SAN ISABEL ELECTRIC:

SAN ISABEL ELECTRIC SCHOLARSHIP

Aguilar

Grace Micek

Branson

Brody Doherty
Isaac Provost

Hoehne

Nevaeh Martinez
Isabel Martin

John Mall High School

Tanna Dotter
Marissa Martinez

La Veta High School

Samuel Montalbano

Primero

Makayla Nash
Jonathan Rivera

Pueblo West High School

Emily Cordova

Swallows Charter Academy

Nathan Martin

Rye High School

Gracie Pfalmer

FIRST TO ATTEND SCHOLARSHIPS

Aguilar

Samantha Ingrassia

John Mall High School

Jessica Espinoza

Pueblo West High School

Gilbert Lopez

Rye High School

Jocelyn Kirkland

Swallows Charter Academy

Emily Berry

CONTINUING EDUCATION SCHOLARSHIPS

Shayla Simpson
Nicholas Navarette

AT-LARGE SCHOLARSHIPS

Pueblo County High School

Lena Gomez

Homeschooled – Pueblo West

William Peaslee

Trinidad High School

Rylie Pachelli

VOCATIONAL SCHOLARSHIP

John Mall High School

Layla Martinez

POWERED-UP SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

Mariah Vigil of John Mall High School and Madison Tatinski of Pueblo West High School were selected to each receive a \$5,000 Powered-Up scholarship. Both their schools received a \$500 donation from the San Isabel Electric Board of Directors.

Micah DiMatteo of Rye High School and Travis Persons of Pueblo West High School were awarded \$2,000 runner-up Powered-Up scholarships.

Vigil, Tatinski, DiMatteo and Persons interviewed with the board to compete for the Powered-Up Scholarship. Typically, the board only awards one \$5,000 Powered-Up Scholarship. However, the students that interviewed had such exceptional achievements and high moral character, the board decided to award extra scholarships.

“The students that interviewed had such exceptional achievements and high moral character; the board decided to award extra scholarships.”

—Ray Garcia, San Isabel Electric Board of Directors President



Mariah Vigil

POWERED-UP SCHOLARSHIP WINNER

Mariah graduated from John Mall High School and will continue her education at Colorado State University – Pueblo studying business management.



Madison Tatinski

POWERED-UP SCHOLARSHIP WINNER

Madison graduated from Pueblo West High School and will continue her education at Colorado School of Mines.



Travis Persons

POWERED-UP RUNNER-UP SCHOLARSHIP WINNER

Travis graduated from Pueblo West High School and will continue his education at Grand Canyon University or Colorado Mesa University studying business administration management.



Micah DiMatteo

POWERED-UP RUNNER-UP SCHOLARSHIP WINNER

Micah graduated from Rye High School and will continue his education at Colorado State University where he will study sports management.

YOUTH TOUR & LEADERSHIP CAMP

San Isabel Electric sponsored three students for the 2022 Washington D.C. Youth Tour in June and four students for Youth Leadership Camp in Steamboat Springs later this month.

Youth Tour attendees learned about electricity during a tour of Tri-State Generation and Transmission's operations center, and a visit to an electric co-op taught them about job opportunities in the

electric industry and electric safety.

They met with lawmakers in Colorado, including Rep. Bird and Gov. Polis. Once in Washington, D.C., students met with both Sens. Bennet and Hickenlooper, and Reps. Boebert, Crow and Buck. They visited many memorials recognizing great figures in history and cruised down the Potomac River.

The students going to leadership camp in Steamboat Springs later this month will hear

from several speakers who are experts on what it means to be a great leader. Campers will also learn about the electric co-op model, the importance of protecting avian wildlife and have fun riding the gondola to the top of Mount Werner. Water fights will abound when they float the Colorado River.

San Isabel Electric is excited to offer these opportunities to student leaders from across the service territory.

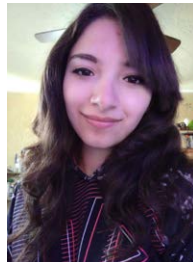
YOUTH TOUR ATTENDEES LEADERSHIP CAMP ATTENDEES



▲ Kaylie Lundahl



▲ Edwin Diemer



▲ Monika Hernandez



▲ Amelia Burbidge



▲ Mark Gomez



▲ McKenzie Riddle



▲ Taryn Plattner

LOWER UTILITY BILLS NO MATTER WHAT THE FORECAST SAYS.

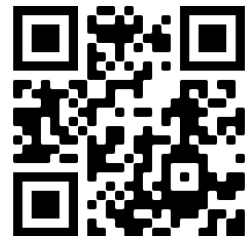


12 MONTHS

No interest! Make the home upgrades you need now. **San Isabel Electric must be your electric utility.**

**0%
INTEREST**

Make the energy-saving improvements you need now, without paying any interest.



siea.com/zerofor12