

SOUTHEAST COLORADO POWER ASSOCIATION

OCTOBER 2022



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Our primary mission is to provide high-quality, reliable electric service at a reasonable cost to our members, improve their quality of life through new technologies and services, be a visible and active member of the community and serve our members with respect, courtesy and responsiveness.

SOUTHEAST COLORADO
POWER ASSOCIATION IS
AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY
PROVIDER AND EMPLOYER



CELEBRATING MEMBERSHIP

October is National Co-op Month

BY KEVIN BRANDON CEO
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KEVIN BRANDON

Fall is a busy time. October is a particularly eventful month with school, community and sports activities in full swing. It's also when all cooperatives celebrate National Co-op Month.

When I say Southeast Colorado Power Association (SECPA) celebrates Co-op Month, it really means we are celebrating you, our members. After all, our co-op wouldn't exist without you.

Our core business purpose is to serve as your electricity provider. But the larger mission of the co-op is to help make our corner of the world a better place. "Concern for community" is one of seven guiding principles that all co-ops share.

Just how our wires run through our service territory, our concern for community flows through all of our decisions, because being a co-op means being a responsible partner and good neighbor.

SECPA works to help our community thrive through initiatives led by our employees and local board, which is comprised of neighbors who live right here in our community. Because we're local, we

understand our community's unique needs and strive to help meet them.

We're proud to support local youth with programs such as the Washington D.C. Youth Tour, camp and scholarships for high school seniors. We also donate to numerous school organizations and events. We participate in local county fairs, rodeos and junior livestock sales throughout our service areas and at the Colorado State Fair. We donate to numerous other community organizations, including 4-H clubs, fire departments, local charities, hospice and senior citizen groups.

The word "cooperative" is close to "cooperation," which is defined as people working together toward a common goal mutually benefiting one another and the larger community. That's the essence of the cooperative spirit. Our employees and member-elected board members are invested in the community in which they live and serve.

Above all, as a co-op, we put our members' priorities first. As your trusted



Focused on YOU.

Electric cooperatives were created to serve their members. Because we're a co-op, we're able to adapt to our community's unique needs. That's the power of co-op membership.

**OCTOBER IS NATIONAL
CO-OP MONTH**

energy partner, we know that saving energy and money is important to you. That's why we have numerous programs in place to help, including rebates for energy-efficient products such as major appliances, air conditioning and even LED bulbs.

We want to empower you to manage energy use at home. If you haven't already, I encourage you take a moment and download our app, SmartHub. Through the app, you can conveniently monitor and manage your energy use. And, of course, we're here to help, so give us a call if you have questions about your energy bills.

SECPA is continuously examining ways to operate more efficiently while continuing to provide the highest level of friendly, reliable service you expect and deserve. After all, we're your local co-op, and we were built by the members we serve.



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La Junta, CO 81050
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Save the Date!

You're Invited to SECPA's Annual Meeting

THURSDAY, APRIL 27, 2023

Eads Community Building in Eads, CO 81036

REGISTRATION 5 P.M. • DINNER 6 P.M. • MEETING 6:45 P.M.

BOARD DIRECTOR ELECTIONS

SECPA Board positions up for election in 2023 are:

- District 4 – Western Baca County & Eastern Las Animas County (incumbent is Randy Phillips)
- District 5 – Otero County (incumbent is Kevin Karney)
- District 7 – Crowley County (incumbent is Clint Anderson)

Cash prize drawings throughout the meeting!

SECPA: Proud Sponsor of the Colorado State Fair Junior Livestock Sale

The end of summer is always a big time for 4-H and FFA members across the state as they gather in Pueblo for the Colorado State Fair. This year was special, as the fair celebrated 150 years. One of the best parts of the fair is the Junior Livestock Sale, where youth are rewarded for their hard work throughout the year.

Colorado's electric cooperatives — including Southeast Colorado Power Association — are proud to sponsor the sale. This year, the event was a huge success, raising over \$491,000. Congratulations to the following 4-H and FFA kids who live in SECPA's service territory.



▲ Abby Provost, Otero County — 2nd Place Steer



▲ Cassidy Jagers, Bent County — 1st Place Heifer



▲ Rorre Willbanks, Bent County — Champion Lightweight Crossbred



▲ Allison Rushton, Prowers County — 1st Place Heavyweight Crossbred



▲ Corbin Jagers, Bent County — 3rd Place Heavyweight Market Goat



▲ Briley Seufer, Prowers County — 1st Place Heavyweight Crossbred



▲ Heston Seufer, Prowers County — 5th Overall Market Hog

Colorado State Fair
JUNIOR LIVESTOCK SALE
2022
Presented by
COLORADO'S ELECTRIC COOPERATIVES
Congratulations, all!



**YOU COULD BE
 A WINNER THIS
 MONTH**

If you find your name in this issue as follows (WIN* your name, your account number), please contact Southeast Colorado Power Association at 719-384-2551 or 800-332-8634 to receive a credit on your next power bill.

Last month's winner was Debra McKee.

MAKE SAFETY A HALLOWEEN TRADITION



Halloween is a time for candy, costumes and, in some cases, outdoor lighting or inflatable decorations. While preparing for and enjoying the holiday, follow these safety precautions:

OUTDOOR LIGHTING

- Inspect each electrical decoration. Check cords for cracking, fraying or bare wires, as they may cause a serious shock or start a fire. Also, inspect for damaged plugs.
- Replace any damaged decorations.
- Make sure any lights, animated displays or other electrical outdoor products are safety-tested by a reputable laboratory such as Underwriters Laboratory and approved for outdoor use.
- Do not overload extension cords or allow them to run through water on the ground.
- Plug outdoor electric lights and decorations into ground fault circuit interrupter protected outlets.
- When decorating outside, always make sure to look up and check that you and any equipment, such as ladders, are at least 10 feet away from overhead power lines. Always carry a ladder or other long object or tool in a horizontal position.

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration, the Consumer Product Safety Division and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention offer these tips:

COSTUME SAFETY

- Wear costumes that are labeled “flame resistant.”
- Wear bright, reflective costumes or add strips of reflective tape for added visibility.
- Do not wear decorative (colored) contact lenses unless an eye care professional provides you with a proper fitting and instructions on how to use them.
- Wear makeup and hats rather than costume masks that can obscure or obstruct your vision.
- Test the makeup you plan to use in advance for a possible allergy by putting a small amount on your arm.






FOOD SAFETY

- Do not let your little ones (or anyone) eat candy or other treats until they have been inspected at home.
- Check all labels for potential food allergens.
- If you have very young trick-or-treaters, remove any choking hazards such as gum, peanuts, hard candies or small toys from the goody pile.
- Inspect commercially wrapped treats for signs of tampering, such as tiny pinholes, tears in wrappers or anything unusual.
- Limit your risk of questionable candy by ringing doorbells only at homes you know. WIN* Micky Clements acct 20060800001

Get more electrical safety tips at SafeElectricity.org.



When dressing your little ones (or yourself), keep these safety tips in mind:

-  Always wear costumes that are labeled flame resistant.
-  Wear bright, reflective costumes or add strips of reflective tape to improve visibility.
-  Do not wear decorative (colored) contact lenses unless you have seen an eye care professional.
-  Wear makeup and hats rather than costume masks that can obscure or obstruct your vision.
-  Test the makeup you plan to use in advance for a possible allergy.

In addition, inspect any plug-in decorations for signs of wear and tear (fraying or bare wires or broken plugs) and replace them if damaged.