



# GCEA

POWERING POSSIBILITIES

OCTOBER 2023



### 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** gcea.coop  
**email** gcea@gcea.coop

### We want to be social with you!

Like us on Facebook and follow us on Instagram to find out about GCEA events, energy efficiency tips, safety tips and so much more.



facebook.com/  
GunnisonCountyElectricAssociation



@gcea\_news

### EMPLOYEE ANNIVERSARIES

**Holly Palmer**, Member Relations and Billing Supervisor – 25 years

**Sarah Taramaraz**, Billing Assistant – 5 years



## MEMBER APPRECIATION MONTH

Visit a GCEA office this month for a complimentary member appreciation gift of a GCEA coffee mug.

GCEA employees keep our members in mind when powering possibilities and opportunities. We are here to make sure the power is on, and our members are happy with their electric service.

In the past, keeping members happy meant delivering power to the rural areas of Hinsdale and Gunnison counties. In 2023, it means so much more. Our involvement now goes far beyond the power line and we are innovating ways to provide safe, reliable, responsible energy to you, our members. You are first on our priority list.

For the next several years, our strategic plan prioritizes our members. We pledge to focus on enhancing the GCEA member experience. Our goal is that all GCEA members receive an unparalleled service experience when interacting with GCEA. The GCEA member experience touches all aspects of our business, including the safety and reliability of the electricity we provide to homes and businesses; our rates, billing, and other business processes; member tools and how we respond to members' questions and concerns; member and community

engagement programs; and our response to emergencies. The GCEA member experience means quality and value in everything we do.

October is National Cooperative Month, and we are celebrating the benefits that co-ops bring to their members and communities.

During October, we honor you as a GCEA member and want to celebrate with you during Member Appreciation Month. Visit either our Crested Butte or Gunnison office to receive your complimentary gift: a GCEA coffee mug. Or join us for **Coffee with Your Co-op** at one of the office locations during the month of October.

For details, like Gunnison County Electric Association on Facebook or follow GCEA News on Instagram for more details. Thank you for being a member of GCEA!

### COFFEE WITH YOUR CO-OP – GUNNISON OFFICE

Friday, October 6 | 9–11 a.m.

### COFFEE WITH YOUR CO-OP – CRESTED BUTTE OFFICE

Monday, October 16 | 9–11 a.m.

## GCEA Hosts Statewide Meeting

Gunnison County Electric Association hosted the annual accountants meeting on the campus of Western Colorado University in August. Twenty-seven attendees from 12 Colorado electric co-ops were at the conference. Presentations were given by CFC, Power System Engineering, and GCEA employees John Stoeber and Shane McGuinness. Tuesday afternoon John Stoeber gave a presentation on the current Taylor River Hydro Project that GCEA and the Uncompaghre Valley Water Users are partnering to complete in the next year.



Electric co-op accountants from across Colorado visit the Taylor River Hydro project during the group's conference in August.

Beginning Monday, November 3,  
GCEA offices will be open  
Monday – Friday, 8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

# GCEA IN THE COMMUNITY

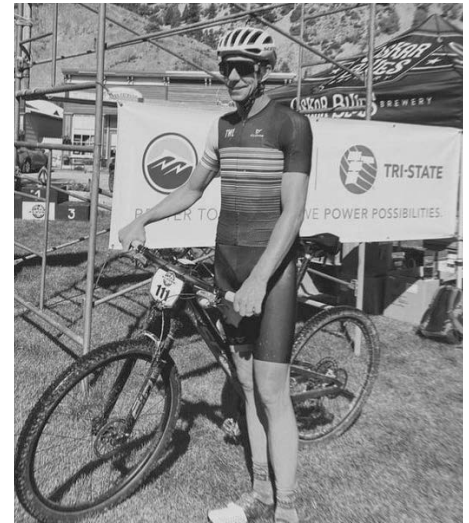
Throughout 2023, GCEA and Tri-State G&T sponsored several events across the co-op's service territory. We have been busy visiting our communities to chat with members about what is important to them, teach electrical safety at schools, and host or sponsor fun community events. We love connecting with GCEA members young and old and getting to know you. Please write to us at [gcea@gcea.coop](mailto:gcea@gcea.coop) and let us know if there are community events you'd like for us to attend; we will do our best to be there.

## SPONSORSHIPS AND EVENTS

- Crested Butte Arts Festival
- Lake City San Juan Solstice Race
- Lake City Alpine 50 Bike Race
- Cattlemen's Days Royalty & Rodeo
- Coffee with Your Co-op
- School Safety
- Watt Up Summer Events
- Annual Meeting
- Cars & Coffee
- Gunnison Car Show
- Brats & Kilowatts



**CRESTED BUTTE ARTS FESTIVAL**  
GCEA & Tri-State sponsor the Crested Butte Arts festival. Alantha Garrison talks with members about energy efficiency and rebates. *Photos by Logann Long.*



**LAKE CITY ALPINE 50 BIKE RACE**  
GCEA and Tri-State sponsor the popular Alpine 50 bike race in Lake City.



**LAKE CITY SAN JUAN SOLSTICE RACE**  
GCEA & Tri-State sponsor the popular San Juan Solstice in Lake City. *Photo by Michael Underwood.*



**BRATS & KILOWATTS**  
GCEA holds a fun end of summer event — Brats & Kilowatts — in Lake City. GCEA representatives serve bratwurst and connect with members about solar, EVs, and reliability. *Photos by Logann Long.*



**CATTELMEN'S DAYS ROYALTY & RODEO**  
GCEA sponsors the Cattlemen's Days royalty, rodeo, and 4-H livestock sale. *Photo by Logann Long.*



**COFFEE WITH YOUR CO-OP**

GCEA representatives visit communities and talk about all things electric with members. *Photos by Logann Long and Alliy Sahagun.*



**GUNNISON CAR SHOW**

GCEA representatives enjoy talking with members about EVs at the Gunnison Car Show. *Photos by Logann Long.*



**WATT UP SUMMER EVENTS**

Members try out outdoor electric power tools and the electric bike at the GCEA Watt Up Summer events. *Photos by Logann Long.*



**ANNUAL MEETING**

The GCEA Annual Meeting is always a great time to connect. Join us for the 85th annual meeting next June. *Photos by Logann Long.*



**CARS & COFFEE**

Members enjoy test driving GCEA's Tesla Model 3 and Tri-State's Ford F-150 Lightning at the Cars and Coffee Events. *Photos by Logann Long and Alliy Sahagun.*



**SCHOOL SAFETY**

GCEA linemen teach students at community schools about electrical safety. *Photos by Alliy Sahagun.*



**STUDENT OPPORTUNITIES**  
YOU ARE THE FUTURE!

# POWERING STUDENTS FUTURES

GCEA has offered student opportunities for decades! As your local electric cooperative, we are here to help enrich the lives of all our members.

\*must be a GCEA member to apply

**DON'T MISS OUT!**



## WASHINGTON D.C. YOUTH TOUR

The Washington D.C. Youth Tour introduces students to the nation's capital with tours of museums and historic monuments, meetings with Colorado congressional delegations, and fun-filled activities.

- FREE
- High school Juniors and Seniors
- June 2024
- Denver and Washington D.C.
- Must be 16 at the time of the tour



APPLICATION AVAILABLE IN OCTOBER AT [GCEA.COOP](http://GCEA.COOP)



## COOPERATIVE YOUTH LEADERSHIP CAMP

A week-long adventure at Cooperative Youth Leadership Camp near Steamboat Springs, Colorado. The primary objective of the camp is to provide educational experiences and to develop leadership skills that will assist young adults in meeting future challenges.

- FREE
- High school Juniors and Seniors
- July 2024
- Glen Eden Resort, CO
- Must be 16 at the time of the camp



APPLICATION AVAILABLE IN OCTOBER AT [GCEA.COOP](http://GCEA.COOP)



## SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM


GCEA awards scholarships to graduating high school seniors, returning college students, and nontraditional students. Scholarships will be awarded to students who meet all the requirements and plan to attend an accredited college, university, trade school, online school, or community college.

- Eligibility dependent upon receiving electrical service from GCEA.



APPLICATION AVAILABLE IN DECEMBER AT [GCEA.COOP](http://GCEA.COOP)

 970-641-3520

 [gcea.coop](http://gcea.coop)



**GCEA**

Scan the QR code for more information

