



ANNUAL MEETING "MOMENTS IN TIME" SCHOLARSHIP

What moments in your life have made an impression on who you are today and your goals for the future? Through collage, submit an original creation with a photo of yourself within the collage.

You may drop off your application and collage at LYREC's office or email it to scholarships@lyrec.coop.

The application and collage deadline is May 24 at 5 p.m.

The \$1,000 winners will be announced at the June 1 annual meeting. For eligibility requirements or to download an application, go to www.lyrec.coop.



Nominating Committee names candidates

A Nominating Committee consisting of Joy Buxbaum, Trey Bloesser and Matt Ler met at Lower Yellowstone Rural Electric Cooperative's (LYREC) office March 2. The purpose of the meeting was to nominate candidates for the election of directors in District 3 and 4.

The committee nominated Tim Franzen for District 3 and Dennis Schmierer for District 4.

District 3

Tim Franzen was born in Sidney, Mont., and raised on a ranch south of Sidney. After graduating from Sidney High School, his rodeo scholarships provided him the opportunity to attend Dawson Community College and Dickinson State University, where he graduated with a bachelor's degree in business administration. Franzen remained in Dickinson for five years to manage an oilfield service company. In 2013, he moved home to operate the family ranch. He and his wife, Rochelle, have two children, Allie and Otto.

Tim is currently serving as LYREC's interim director for District 3.

"Although my time on the board has been brief, it has been an enjoyable learning experience. We have an outstanding community and membership at Lower Yellowstone, and it has been an honor to represent them. I will continue to expand my knowledge of the industry and look forward to representing the membership in the future," he said.



Tim Franzen



Dennis Schmierer

District 4

Dennis Schmierer was born and raised in Savage, Mont., where he graduated from high school and went on to the National College of Business in Rapid City, S.D. Dennis and his wife, Karen, have four children and seven grandchildren. He and his brother raise beets and cattle near Savage.

Dennis was elected to LYREC's board in 2001 and is currently the board secretary. He joined LYREC's Safety Committee shortly after being elected and is still active on the committee.

"Serving on LYREC's board has had many challenges. However, it is very rewarding. One of the most rewarding aspects of being a board member is continuously finding ways to improve the members' power quality by upgrading LYREC's service, so that LYREC can continue to thrive in the future," he said. ■

Speldrich wins \$1,000 scholarship

Trudi Speldrich is the 2022 recipient of the Basin Electric Power Cooperative \$1,000 scholarship. She is the daughter of Trevor and Suzie Speldrich, Sidney, Mont. Trudi is planning to attend Montana State University-Bozeman to major in chemical engineering.

Lower Yellowstone Rural Electric Cooperative (LYREC) thanks everyone who took time to apply for the scholarship. Follow LYREC on social media to see more scholarship opportunities. ■



Prioritize safety year-round

Lower Yellowstone Rural Electric Cooperative (LYREC) recognizes Electrical Safety Month every May, but we also know the importance of practicing safety year-round. From our co-op crews to you, the consumer-members we serve, we recognize everyone has a part to play in prioritizing safety.

According to the Electrical Safety Foundation International, thousands of people in the United States are critically injured or electrocuted as a result of electrical fires and accidents in their own homes. Many of these accidents are preventable. Electricity is a necessity, and it powers our daily lives. But we know firsthand how dangerous electricity can be, because we work with it 365 days a year.

Safety is more than a catchphrase. LYREC strives to keep co-op employees and all members of our community safe. That's why you'll see LYREC hosting safety demonstrations at community events and in schools throughout the year to demonstrate the dangers of electricity. We discuss emergency scenarios, such as what to do in a car accident involving a utility pole and downed power lines. We caution students on the dangers of pad-mounted transformers and overloading circuits with too many electronic devices.

Electricity is an integral part of modern life. Given the

prevalence of electrical devices, tools and appliances, LYREC passes along a few practical electrical safety tips.

- **Frayed wires pose a serious safety hazard.** Power cords can become damaged or frayed from age, heavy use or excessive current flow through the wiring. If cords become frayed or cut, replace them, as they could cause a shock when handled.

- **Avoid overloading circuits.** Circuits can only cope with a limited amount of electricity. Overload happens when you draw more electricity than a circuit can safely handle by having too many devices running on one circuit.

- **Label circuit breakers to understand the circuits in your home.** Contact a qualified electrician if your home is more than 40 years old and you need to install multiple large appliances that consume large amounts of electricity.

- **Use extension cords properly.** Never plug an extension cord into another extension cord. If you "daisy chain" them together, it could lead to overheating, creating a potential fire hazard. Don't exceed the wattage of the cord. Doing so also creates a risk of overloading the cord and creating a fire hazard. ■

**PLUG
INTO
SAFETY**



ELECTRICAL SAFETY MONTH

Make electrical safety a priority
this month, and every month.



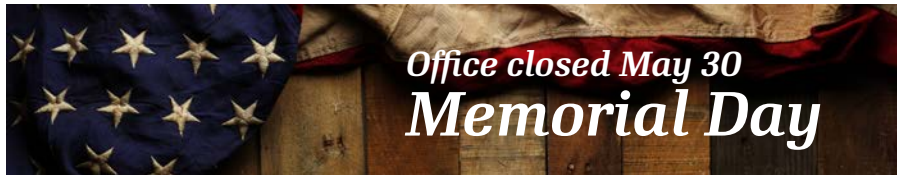
Lower Yellowstone Rural Electric Cooperative (LYREC) is able to offer its members a discount by being a Touchstone Energy® member. Simply call 1-800-MEDORA-1 and give the discount code of "Touch 2022" for a 15% discount on any of the following during any night of the season:

THINGS TO DO:

- Medora Musical
- Pitchfork steak fondue
- Bully Pulpit Golf Course

LODGING AT ANY OF THE FOLLOWING:

- Elkhorn Quarters
- Badlands Motel
- Rough Riders Hotel



Operating report

Year to date:	February 2021	February 2022
Total miles energized	2,127	2,127
Total number of meters	6,222	6,222
Kilowatt-hours sold	48,721,398	54,268,057
Revenue	\$4,879,269	\$5,434,499
Total expenses	\$5,029,278	\$5,714,364
Operating margins	(\$149,175)	(\$278,700)

3200 W. Holly - Sidney, MT 59270

Phone: 406-488-1602

Fax: 406-488-6524

Website: www.lyrec.com

TRUSTEES

- Allen Thiessen President
- Greg Rauschendorfer Vice President
- Dennis Schmierer Secretary/Treasurer
- Colin Gartner Trustee
- Tim Franzen Trustee
- Dennis Nelson Trustee
- Jim Vitt Trustee

EMPLOYEES

- Jason Brothen General Manager
- Brenda Bond Chief Financial Officer
- Jami Propp Member Service Manager
- Kyle Kavanagh IT Coordinator
- Margo Zadow Billing Coordinator
- Pam Wilcoxon Plant Accountant
- Tiffani Hentges Customer Service Representative
- Melissa Buckley Customer Service Representative
- Chris Hillesland Chief Operations Officer
- Rich Gorde Journeyman Lineman
- Eric McPherson System Controller
- Kevin Goff Operations Assistant
- Kelly Keyser Operations Manager
- Aaron Eide Journeyman Lineman
- Bryan Franck Journeyman Lineman
- Jesse Obergfell Journeyman Lineman
- Blade Jankovsky Journeyman Lineman
- Tanner Roth Journeyman Lineman
- Ryder Peterson Journeyman Lineman
- Cole Jankovsky Journeyman Lineman
- Lee Delp Apprentice Lineman
- Preston Long Apprentice Lineman
- Trey Schepens Apprentice Lineman
- Jory Bell Apprentice Lineman
- Brandon Mueller Master Electrician
- Mike Eberling Mechanic
- Dan Gieser EMS
- Lee Alvstad Mechanic/EMS
- Richard Tremblay EMS
- Bo Kindopp GIS/Easement Technician
- Corey Candee Chief Information Officer
- Jeremy Reese Information Technology Technician
- Edwin Gatzke Line Locator/Groundsman
- Justin King Warehouse Supervisor

Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative