



A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

16755 Finley Butte Road
P.O. Box 127
La Pine, OR 97739

www.midstateelectric.coop
info@midstateelectric.coop
541-536-2126 • 800-722-7219

Departments

Member Service..... Option 3
Engineering..... Option 4
Marketing..... Option 5
Operations..... Option 6

**After-Hours Outage and
Emergencies: 541-536-2165
or 800-752-5935**

OFFICE HOURS

Monday through Thursday
7 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.
Closed Fridays and holidays

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President

Alan Parks, Fort Rock

Vice President

Gordon DeArmond, Crescent

Secretary/Treasurer

Vic Russell, Fall River

Diana Cox, Christmas Valley

Bud Kendall, La Pine

Robert Reed, La Pine

Leland Smith, Sunriver

Ron Sommerfeldt, Gilchrist

Ken Wilson, Chemult

Board meets the fourth Monday
of each month at the co-op office.

STAFF

General Manager

Dave Schneider

Operations/Engineering Manager

Steve Hess

Marketing Manager

Teresa Lackey

CFO/Accounting Manager

Jami Bartunek

Information Services Manager

J.D. Powers

Attorney

Raymond Kindley

OR-23

Manager's Message

Dear Member:

Every June, hundreds of electric cooperatives across the country send high school students to our nation's capital for a week to sightsee and learn about the cooperative business model. This year, more than 1,800 students attended the Washington, D.C., Youth Tour, which got its inspiration from Lyndon B. Johnson when he addressed the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association's annual meeting in Chicago in 1957.

The future president declared, "If one thing goes out of this meeting, it will be sending teens living in rural cooperative service areas to the national capital where they can actually see what the flag stands for and represents."

The week is interspersed with visits to D.C. monuments and historical sites, including Capitol Hill. Activities with other Youth Tour delegates from across the country enable students to meet a broad spectrum of cooperative kids.

Youth Tour is so much more than a sightseeing trip. Student delegates engage in leadership training, returning home with a deeper understanding and skill set of what it takes to be a leader. They have a chance to meet with their elected officials and discuss the issues that are important in their state and hometown communities. The goal is to challenge and inspire teens to make an impact when they get back home.

The selection process for Youth Tour participants is up to each electric cooperative. MEC holds a contest for service-area sophomores and juniors each year to see who will represent us. Interested students submit an essay or video and complete an application. Judges evaluate

each essay/video, and students are chosen for personal interviews. The judges look not only for the applicant's knowledge of rural electrification and the cooperative, but they want to learn about each student: their interests and ambitions, and why they should represent MEC.

This year, MEC awarded the trip to Melia Cuevas. Upon her return, Melia said, "The Washington, D.C., Youth Tour is truly a once-in-a-lifetime experience. Not only did I learn about this great nation's history, I also got to meet new people from all over the country, making lasting friendships and giving me new perspectives. I encourage other students to step out of their comfort zones with this incredible trip. Thank you to everyone who makes this possible."

In November, we will begin the recruiting process to select a student to attend Youth Tour 2020. For more information, call 541-536-2126 option 5.

Protect our Tax Status

There is legislation in the U.S. Congress—the RURAL Act (H.R. 2147 and S. 1032)—that will correct an unintended consequence that could jeopardize the tax-exempt status of your electric co-op. Because of his role on the Senate's tax committee, Sen. Ron Wyden is well positioned to help pass this legislation. Look for more information on page 8.

Please visit our grassroots web page, www.ORECA-Action.org, and take action today to ask Sen. Wyden to support the RURAL Act and Oregon cooperatives.

See pages 8 and 25 for additional information on MEC's programs and services.

General Manager Dave Schneider