



BIG FLAT NEWS



October 2023

www.bigflatelectric.com



The members of the 2023 Montana Youth Tour pose in front of the White House in Washington, D.C. | PHOTO BY RYAN HALL/MECA

WIN A FREE TRIP TO D.C.

ATTENTION high school sophomores and Juniors:

Here's your chance to win a free trip to Washington, D.C. June 14 - 21, 2024.

More than 1,500 students from across America take part in the Youth Tour experience each year, and so can you! This unique trip will give you the opportunity to watch history come alive as you explore the museums, memorials and monuments with students from your state.

Gain a personal understanding of



American history and explore your role as a citizen by meeting your representatives and senators. Bottom line, you will make friendships that will last a lifetime and be part of a group that has more than 50,000 alumni in every walk of life.

Student and/or parent or guardian must be served by Big Flat Electric Co-op. Contest rules can be found at bigflatelectric.com, your school counselor or at the Big Flat Electric office in Malta.

The topic for the 2024 Washington D.C. Youth Tour is:

If you could have dinner with one prominent Washington, D.C. figure, whether from the present or past, who would that person be and why? What would you ask them?

Orientation will be on Friday, June 14, in Great Falls.

The group will fly to D.C. on Saturday, June 15 and return June 21.

Entry Deadline: December 1, 2023

All applicants have a chance to win \$100.00 just for applying!

BIG FLAT ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE

MEET OUR BOARD OF DIRECTORS

PART 2 OF 2

PART 1 WAS IN THE
SEPTEMBER EDITION

BIG Flat Electric Cooperative's Board of Directors plays a very important role in your cooperative. I have asked each of the board members to write a short letter explaining how they became a board member, how long they

have been a board member, and what are/is their main goal(s) as a board member. Get to know your Board of Directors and understand the vital part they play in keeping Big Flat Electric running smoothly and effectively. RM

ALAN VANVOAST



What made you decide to become a board member?

I was asked by a retiring director if I would be interested in taking his place on the

board. I was willing to serve because of running a farm/ranch I rely heavily on the work that electricity does for me. I wanted to be a part of the co-op that keeps it flowing through the lines.

How long have you been a board member?

I have served on the board since 2016.

What are/is your main goal(s) serving as a board member?

My goal as a director is to be useful and engaged in the discussions that are required to maintain the health of the co-op. I want electricity to remain affordable and reliable, as it has in the past, through the efforts of all those good folks before me.

PATTY QUISNO



What made you decide to become a board member?

I decided I would like to be a board member by attending nominating committee

meetings. Everyone was so friendly, and the idea of being involved in a board such as this was really exciting. There just happened to be a vacancy for my area, so I expressed my interest.

How long have you been a board member?

I have been on the board since 1995.

What are/is your main goal(s) serving as a board director?

My main goals are to stay informed on all aspects of our power and to keep prices as low as possible. Representing the Fort Belknap Reservation, which has a high unemployment rate, means keeping rates within the budget of those I represent.

THANKS TO THE DIRECTOR NOMINATING COMMITTEE



2023 Nominating Committee members, standing left to right: Matt Simonson, Jason Erickson, Cody Oxarart, Bruce Christofferson, Wayne French, Roy Wyse, Pete Lumsden, Phillip Henderson and Lee Jacobs. | **BIG FLAT ELECTRIC PHOTO**

ON August 31, 2023, members of Big Flat Electric Cooperative met to nominate director candidates for District 3 (Loring, Saco, Whitewater Area), District 5 (Malta Area) and District 7 (Missouri River Area). Incumbent director Alan Wasson was nominated for District 3, incumbent director Roger Solberg was nominated for District 5 and incumbent director Kevin Koss was nominated for District 7.

The director elections will be held at the October 14th Annual Meeting. We thank these members for taking the time to represent their district on the Nominating Committee! RM

CONGRATULATIONS KEVIN KOSS

Big Flat Electric Director achieves Credentialed Cooperative Director certification



KEVIN Koss, Big Flat Electric Cooperative director, recently received the Credentialed Cooperative Director certificate from the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NRECA).

An ever-changing business environment has imposed new demands on electric cooperative directors, requiring increased knowledge of changes in the electric utility business, new governance skills and a solid knowledge of the cooperative principles and business model. Big Flat Electric directors have a commitment to work through NRECA to sharpen their body of knowledge for the benefit of our member-owners.

The NRECA Credentialed Cooperative Director (CCD) program requires attendance and demonstrated understanding of the basic competencies contained in five core courses: Director Duties and Liabilities; Understanding the Electric Business; Board Operations and Process; Strategic Planning; and Financial Decision Making.

Big Flat Electric congratulates Kevin on his work toward earning this certification. RM

BIG FLAT ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE 76TH ANNUAL MEETING

October 14, 2023

MALTA HIGH SCHOOL AUDITORIUM

REGISTRATION: 9 A.M. ■ MEETING: 10 A.M.

JACKPOT DRAWINGS

Grand Prize - \$300

4-H Pork and Beef Bundles

\$50 Young Member

Progressive Drawing
is now \$700

Capital credit checks totaling nearly \$160,000 will be distributed to those members in attendance. The remaining checks will be mailed in November.

COFFEE AND ROLLS WILL BE SERVED AT REGISTRATION
SACK LUNCHES WILL BE PROVIDED AFTER THE MEETING

Invalid Addresses for Capital Credit Checks

THE Big Flat Electric Cooperative Board of Directors approved a capital credit retirement for the years 2005 and 2006, totaling nearly \$160,000. Checks will be available at the Annual Meeting on October 14th at Malta High School. Checks not picked up there will be mailed at a later date. Below is a list of former members that we don't have a valid address for. If you have a current address for anyone listed, please call the office at 406-654-2040 or email kari@bigflatelectric.com. Thank you! RM

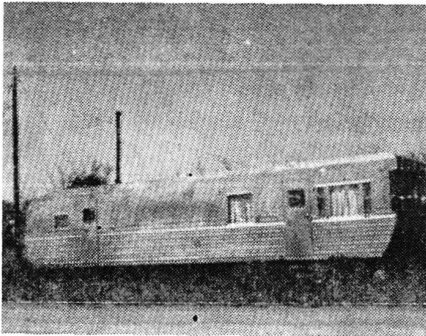
ANDREWS, ROBERT B,
JR.
GUENTHER, WES
NORTON, LARRY
BELL, GEORGE (ESTATE)
LATRAY, JEAN M
(ESTATE)
REEVIS, KAREN
BELL, TERRANCE
(ESTATE)
MANLEY, JUSTINE
STIFFARM, ROBERT

BUMP, FRED
MOUNT, BERNICE
SWAN, EARL (ESTATE)
BUTLER, LORA A
MOUNT, LOUIS
WALDEN, JIM
CARLSON, DEBORAH
NELSON, JAMES
EREAUX, JOHN
NEZ PERCE, MOSES

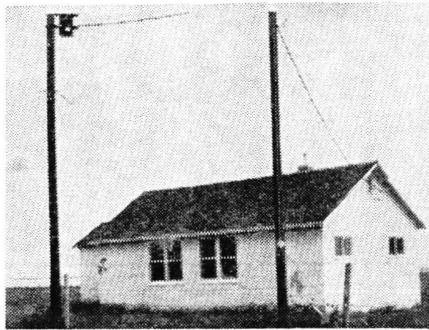
AUGUST 1964: *BFEC NEWSLETTER*

Big Flat Serves 22 Rural Schools With Electricity

PART 3 of 4: PART 1 WAS IN THE AUGUST EDITION, PART 2 WAS IN THE SEPTEMBER EDITION, MORE COMING NEXT MONTH



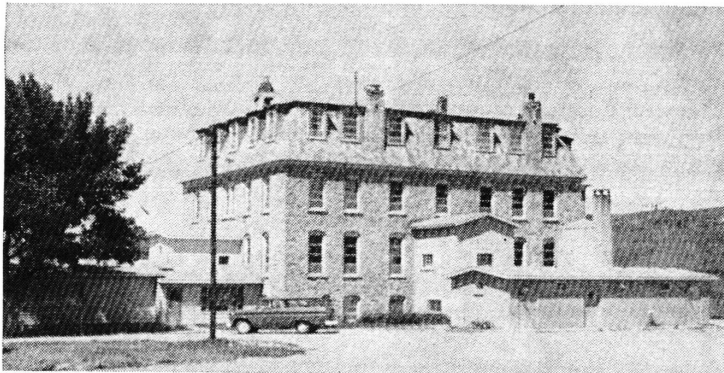
PHILLIPS School District 1-A, Phillips County. Teacher, Mrs. Sylvan Nylander; Students, 2; School Board, Ray Cummings, Lloyd Knudsen, Fred Emond; Clerk, Mrs. Joseph Peigneux.



ROBINSON School District No. 6, Phillips County. Teacher, Mrs. Ted Didier; Students, 4; School Board, Clarence Blunt, Don Robinson, Martin Sandvick; Clerk, Mrs. Henry Nesbit.



SNAKE CREEK School District No. 4, Valley County. Teacher, Lilith M. Stanfort; Students, 9; School Board, Magnus Swanson, Hattie J. Arnold, Ray W. Arnold; Clerk, Mrs. Richard Eaton.



ST. PAUL'S MISSION SCHOOL AT HAYS. Teaching Staff, 6 Sisters; Cooks, 2; Students, 130; Priests, Father Hurley, Father Custer; First Established in 1887.



SUN PRAIRIE School District No. 8-AA, Phillips County. Teacher, Sarathna Spencer; Students, 4; School Board, Bill French, Ray Shores, Ervin Crowder; Clerk, Mrs. Bill French.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

District 1	Duane Klindworth
District 2	Alan Van Voast
District 3	Alan Wasson, President
District 4	Betty Campbell, Sec. /Treas.
District 5	Roger Solberg, Vice President
District 6	Patty Quisno
District 7	Kevin Koss

General Manager: Gretchen Boardman



BIG FLAT ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE

SERVING BLAINE, PHILLIPS AND VALLEY COUNTIES

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