

Sun River Electric Cooperative

Ripples

Office Hours: 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Mon.-Fri.
Phone Numbers: 406-467-2527 or 1-800-452-7516

Website: www.sunriverelectric.coop

After Hours & Weekend Dispatch:

406-467-2526 or 1-800-452-7516

If calling from a local number or cell phone –
please use: 467-2526 or 467-2527

Be sure to check your breakers before reporting outages.

AUGUST 2018

My Washington Youth Tour

By Berit Bedord

Washington, D.C., isn't so much a solid, constant place as it is an ever-changing array of pieces of sounds, sights, smells, people, ideas, fashions and history. It's a puzzle that would take a lifetime for a person to solve, and I certainly didn't have time to do more than scratch the surface in the week that I spent there. However, some pieces stood out to me more than others did.

While waiting in the Minneapolis airport with the North Dakota crew, several of us girls sat down to play the card game "Presidents and Losers." Half of us had never heard of it, and we spent the vast majority of the game laughing about who had played their hand of cards wrong and was now paying for it.

Touring the Marine Corps museum, I felt panicked, thinking, "I don't have

enough time to get through all of it!" I rapidly learned that I would not have enough time, no matter where I went, and that sometimes you have to learn to pick and choose at a slightly more rapid pace than you do in Montana.

Stepping into the Smithsonian Museum, I felt giddy because I am a nerd, and I had been DYING to go to the Smithsonian. I stood a mere matter of feet from the dresses worn by Dolly Madison, Edith Roosevelt and Mary Todd Lincoln. I was swept into a room to see bigger sapphires and rubies than I had ever imagined. I stood uneasily in front of a case that held the body of a woman who spent her whole life in ancient Egypt, and she never knew that one day, I would stand there and wonder what the glyphs on her coffin meant. That was just two of the many museums on the Smithsonian campus; it would have taken weeks to appreciate everything.

Old Town Alexandria was somewhere that I could go back to again and again, and I would still find another little shop tucked away down a cobbled street. As we strolled along, the breeze drifted in off the Potomac (ick) and lights flickered on as stores wound down for the day. There was an old-fashioned, courtly charm in Old Town that D.C. lacked. Life felt a little slower, and a little less hectic.

At Mount Vernon, there was a woman dressed in period costume on the hottest day of the trip. I mean the whole kit and kaboodle: petticoats, underskirts, overskirts, hoop, hat, etc. Yet she smiled and waved to the drummer who was hanging out with a



group of tourists across the green.

While spending the evening at the National Harbor, I had a lobster roll. Before I left home, someone had told me that, if I got the chance, to try a lobster roll. Wow! Sitting outside, with a blueberry soda next to me (something else that I tried for the first time), I couldn't even talk through the first couple of bites. If you ever visit the East Coast, I highly recommend that you try one.

I saw fireflies for the first time in my life as we toured the National Mall. As D.C. went dark for the night, three of us headed quietly for the World War II memorial, and tiny glimmers of light flashed around us. It was both somber and serene, reminding me that even in the darkest of times, a light will be there for those who need it most.

We sat down for lunch at Ben's Chili Bowl and the amount of life that the restaurant held was amazing. Every laugh, every smile, every plate of famous chili held the heartbeat of D.C. You couldn't help but feel it. It had been there through the good times and the bad, and come out better. People

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Youth Tour Continued from page 4

such as Barack Obama and Jimmy Fallon had eaten there, and I wondered if any of them had sat at our table.

Washington, D.C., is a beautiful, chaotic whirlwind, and I am so happy I was able to be a part of the 2018 Electric Cooperative Youth Tour. Thank you so much to those who supported me and made this trip possible. It truly was a once-in-a-lifetime experience.

Berit, a senior at Fairfield High School, is the daughter of Brian and Lisa Bedord. Berit's school activities include: FFA, Science Bowl, Mu Alpha Theta, National Honor Society and Science Olympiad. Outside of school, Berit is involved in 4-H, is a second-degree black belt in Tae-Kwon-Do and competes in and instructs small-bore rifle and pistol shooting.

Swap Column

FOR SALE: Keystone Outback, Sydney Edition, 29', AC, 1 slide-out, awning, sleeps 8, lots of storage. Ron Besich.

WANTED: Delivered semi-load of firewood to Conrad. Roberta Rohrer, 450-1054.

FOR SALE: Bike. Bob Ward, 467-3678.

FOR SALE: 1957 Ford Fairlane 500, 4 door, 312 engine, 5,409 miles, \$11,000. Bob & Betty Nelson, 467-3332.

FOR SALE: 37" vanity top with Kohler sink & faucet, includes back-splash & side-splash, \$50; 1 casement window, double pane, 4'x5', includes double cell honeycomb blind, \$125; misc. seam forest-green metal roofing parts from Bridger Steel, photos available on request. Tim Nett, 466-5488.

FOR SALE: 2 lots (50x140),

2-car garage (30x24) with wood stove, 1 shed, fenced backyard, dug out for footings for a house, town water, sewer & electricity available, great school & small-town living, 265 Harris Ave., Highwood, MT. Bonnie Russell, (406)733-2115 or (928)247-3362 or highwood101@yahoo.com.

FOR SALE: Dorm fridge, clean & runs great, \$45; large plastic animal kennel, \$20; small plastic animal kennel \$10. Nancy Jones, 467-3389.

WANTED: Virtually indestructible middle age horse for young beginner kids. Reasonably priced. Leslie Goss, 562-3615.

If you would like to place an advertisement in the *Ripples Swap* column, please contact Sun River Electric Cooperative at 1-800-452-7516 or 467-2527, or email Kathy at kscott@sunriverelectric.coop by the first of the month.

Pay as you go with **prePAY** electricity from SREC.

It is easy! Call SREC to get started.



monitor. pay. alert. reload.

REBATES

Remember that SREC has appliance and water-heater rebates. Go to www.sunriverelectric.coop for details.



\$avings!

New option for electric heat

Sun River Electric Cooperative will be offering a new cost-saving rate to our first 20 members to sign up that use electric heat as the primary heating source. The heat source can be an electric furnace, electric base-board, electric boiler, or ground/air-source heat systems.

The new rate will be 3 cents per kilowatts per hour less than the residential kWh rate. Depending on your heating type, the savings during the heating season (Oct. – Apr.) could range from 5 percent to 20 percent! Basin Electric Power Cooperative is the electric supplier behind this offering.

This offer to the first 20 members to sign-up is the second phase of the project. The alpha stage was completed this past heating season with four accounts. The initial exploration shows signs that this may be a good program to offer to additional members. The beta (second) phase is set to roll out this upcoming heating season. Positive results of the beta phase could lead to open enrollment for all electric heat member accounts.

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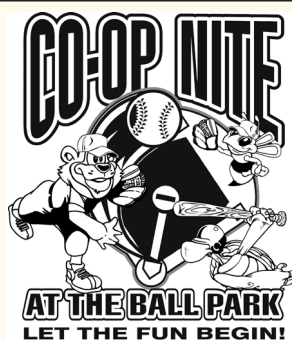


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SREC encourages anyone who is heating with electric to consider this option. To be able to claim this rate option, the member will need to have the heat source metered separately from the other electric home usage. To help with that, SREC will provide the new meter base and meter. You or an electrician will need to install the meter base and perform whatever wiring is required for the installation. A wiring diagram is available from the cooperative. There WILL NOT be a second base meter charge for the second meter. Applications are available on the SREC website or by calling the office.

Test applications have been in place during the past heating season, and the results can be shared by calling Brad at 467-2526 and ask for the heat rate test results. 333431



For your free tickets call Sun River Electric at 467-2526 or 1-800-452-7516.

Come join us for
CO-OP NIGHT at the VOYAGERS

August 10, 2018 at 7 p.m.

Centene Stadium, Great Falls

- 300 free kids T-shirts
- Goodie bags for the first 100 families through the door
- Prizes and on-field games between innings



Reminder: Bills not paid by the 10th of the month will be charged a \$10 late fee.

Don't Forget!
Sun River Valley Fun Days
August 11 in Simms

- Pancake Breakfast at 8 a.m.
- Parade at 11 a.m.
- Entertainment in the park at 3 p.m.

Hidden numbers

If you find your account number hidden in this issue, it is worth a \$50 credit on your next statement. There is one number hidden in every issue. Give us a call if you are the lucky consumer.

**406-467-2527 or
1-800-452-7516**

Affordable. Innovative. Member Focused.

It's hard to predict the future, but one thing seems certain — **new government regulations will increase the cost of electricity.**

We want to work with you to keep your electric bills **AFFORDABLE**. We're controlling costs through **INNOVATION**, and no matter what the future holds we'll continue to put you, our members, **FIRST**.



**Sun River Electric
Cooperative**

Find out how we're *Looking Out for You* at
www.sunriverelectric.coop

**Looking Out
for You**