GM'S REPORT

EVENT OFFERS EXCLUSIVE OPPORTUNITY

On Sept. 17, approximately 115 Firelands Electric members and employees gathered for the cooperative's 2021 ACRE Co-op Owners for Political Action breakfast and legislative update.

Local and state government officials representing portions of Firelands Electric's four-county service territory participated in the event, which was held at the cooperative's facility in New London. Attendees were brought up to date on legislative issues currently affecting electric cooperatives and their local communities. Topics included federal assistance for rural electric utility infrastructure projects, access to broadband internet, and improved electric reliability.

Ohio Representative Marilyn John opened the presentations with a discussion on growing employment staffing issues, the importance of workforce development, and improving education. Ohio Representative Darrell Kick spoke on Ohio's redistricting process for congressional and state legislative boundaries, which are redrawn every 10 years following the completion of the United States census. Ohio Representative Dick Stein addressed the crowd regarding energy concerns and renewable projects affecting the Buckeye State, and Ohio Senator Nathan Manning concluded the program by focusing on federally funded projects that benefit rural Americans.

Firelands Electric hosted the ACRE Co-op Owners breakfast in order to develop and foster relationships with legislators, while also providing a face-to-face forum for co-op members to meet and communicate with their elected officials. This exclusive event also recognized and thanked our members who invest in ACRE Co-op Owners for Political Action. As the consumer arm of the Action Committee for



Dan McNaull GENERAL MANAGER

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Above: Guest speakers at Firelands Electric Cooperative's ACRE Co-op Owners breakfast included (I-r) Ohio Senator Nathan Manning and Ohio Representatives Dick Stein, Darrell Kick, and Marilyn John.

FIRELANDS ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE LOCAL PAGES

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Rural Electrification (ACRE), which is the political action committee for the nation's electric cooperatives, ACRE Co-op Owners strives to increase legislators' awareness of what electric cooperatives are and how they benefit their communities. The group supports government officials who, regardless of their political party, advocate for the needs of co-ops and their members.

Firelands was pleased to offer this opportunity for our ACRE Co-op Owners members to interact with their elected officials. Just as we like getting first hand information and insight from our legislators, they like hearing directly from the residents of their districts. As a member-owned cooperative, Firelands looks forward to these type of grassroots events, which provide a forum for local voices to be heard at the state level and beyond.

Additional photos from Firelands Electric's recognition breakfast may be viewed on the cooperative's Flickr page at www.flickr.com/ photos/firelandsec/albums.

For just \$25 a year, Firelands Electric members can participate in ACRE Co-op Owners and support legislators who advocate for rural Americans. To learn more, visit www.firelandsec.com/acre-politicalaction-committee. Co-op members can also submit the form below to enroll. Mail completed forms to: Attn: ACRE Co-op Owners, Firelands Electric Cooperative, PO Box 32, New London, OH 44851.



Above, Firelands' General Manager Dan McNaull addresses members during the cooperative's recent ACRE Co-op Owners Recognition Breakfast.

I want to help keep the voice of rural electric cooperatives heard in the political process by participating in ACRE Co-op Owners for Political Action.

Monthly Bill Addition

- REGULAR: \$2.08 PER MONTH (\$25/YEAR)
- CENTURY CLUB: \$8.33 PER MONTH (\$100/YEAR)
- PRESIDENT'S CLUB: \$41.66 PER MONTH (\$500/YEAR)*
- OTHER \$

One-Time Contribution

- REGULAR: \$25
- CENTURY CLUB: \$100
- PRESIDENT'S CLUB: \$500*
- OTHER \$

I affirm that my contribution has been made with non-corporate funds (Please make checks out to Firelands Electric Cooperative):

NAME:			ADDRESS:	
CITY:	STATE:	ZIP:	COOPERATIVE:	
EMAIL:			SIGNATURE:	
*Federal Election L	aw requires the following	information for cont	tributions exceeding \$200:	
EMPLOYER:		OCCUPATION:		

Contributions to the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NRECA) Action Committee for Rural Electrification® (ACRE®) are not tax deductible. Contributions to ACRE are voluntary and will be used for political purposes. You have the right to refuse to contribute without reprisal. Any contribution guidelines presented are merely suggestions. You are free to contribute more or less than the suggested amounts, or not at all. NRECA will not favor or disadvantage anyone by reason of the amount contributed or a decision not to contribute.

YOUTH PROGRAMS

PHOTO CONTEST WINNERS

Firelands Electric Cooperative is pleased to announce the winners of our recent back-to-school photo contest.

During the months of August and September, Firelands invited members of the cooperative with school-aged children to submit their most creative back-to-school photos. Entries were then judged on their creativity for a chance to win one of two prize packages. chosen as the runners-up. The family received a prize package worth \$30, which included a Snap Circuits kit, coupons for ice cream, and Firelands Electric gifts.

A big thank you to all of the families who entered! To view additional contest photos, visit our online gallery at www. flickr.com/photos/firelandsec/albums.

The entry submitted by the Detterman family of New London was selected by our judges as the most creative photo. Kaitlyn, Kade, Makayla, and parents Kurt and Maria received a grand-prize package valued at \$100. The package included several electricityand energy-themed games, activities, and books, along with coupons for fast food and ice cream and an assortment of Firelands Electric swag.

Kenley and Noah Miles of Loudonville, along with parents Mitchell and Morgan, were



GRAND PRIZE THE DETTERMAN FAMILY NEW LONDON



RUNNERS-UP THE MILES FAMILY LOUDONVILLE

2021 VIRTUAL JUNIOR FAIR



TYNLEY COOK RICHLAND COUNTY



ZAYNE LESLIE HURON COUNTY

This summer, Firelands Electric Cooperative held its second Virtual Junior Fair. Parents with 4-H and FFA students participating in the Ashland, Huron, Lorain, and Richland county fairs we asked to send us photos of their child with their projects. The cooperative received nearly two dozen photos, which were posted on our Facebook page each day throughout their respective fair week. "This simple program is a fun way to help area youth show off their hard work and accomplishments in 4-H and FFA," says Communications and Member Relations Specialist Tracy Gibb. "We hope that the response to this virtual event will continue to grow in future fair seasons."

To view additional photos from the Firelands Electric's Virtual Junior Fair, visit our online gallery at www.flickr. com/photos/firelandsec/albums.

CAPITAL CREDITS

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NOTICE OF UNCLAIMED FUNDS

Official notice is given that the following current or former patrons have cash retirements of capital credits or other payments from Firelands Electric Cooperative that have gone unclaimed for more than four years. According to Article VIII, Section 3, of the Code of Regulations, unless claim is made within 60 days of the second publication of this list, such funds will become an irrevocable gift and assignment by such patron to the cooperative. Inquiries should be directed to Firelands Electric Cooperative, P.O. Box 32, New London, Ohio 44851, or by phone at 1-800-533-8658.

This is the second of two notices.

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CO-OP NEWS

2021 CHRISTMAS LIGHTING CONTEST

Firelands Electric Cooperative invites members to submit a photo of their indoor or outdoor Christmas lighting display for a chance to win a \$50 bill credit.

Members are encouraged to email a digital photo of their display to members@firelandsec.com (maximum of 10 MB) from Nov. 22 through Dec. 26. Be sure to put "Christmas Lighting Contest" in the subject line and include your name, address, and phone number. Photos may also be mailed to: Christmas Lighting Contest, Firelands Electric Co-op, P.O. Box 32, New London, OH 44851.

Submitted photos will be posted in an album on Firelands Electric's Facebook page, where the public can vote for their favorite. One winner will be chosen every Monday morning (Dec. 6, Dec. 13, Dec. 20, and Dec. 27). The photo receiving the most likes at the end of each new contest period will be declared the winner and will receive a \$50 credit on their next Firelands Electric Cooperative bill.

Limit of one entry/photo and one prize per member address. Visit www.firelandsec.com/contests for complete rules. The Firelands Electric office will be closed

Nov. 25 and 26

so that our employees may enjoy the holiday with their families. As always, emergency service is available 24/7 by calling 1-800-533-8658.



NOTICE:

Beginning on the November bills, slight changes will be made to WPA calculations to compensate for previously deferred balances. For additional information, please refer to our website at www.firelandsec.com/meters-and-billing.

2021 USO OHIO STEP UP FOR SOLDIERS

Since 2007, Firelands Electric Cooperative has supported U.S. military personnel during the holiday season — and we are proud to continue this tradition in 2021.

Firelands Electric is once again joining forces with local radio stations WLKR-FM and K96-FM to support USO Ohio's Step Up for Soldiers annual drive.

Beginning Veterans Day, Nov. 11, and running through Friday, Dec. 10, members of Firelands Electric and the community can bring care package items to the co-op office, located at 103 Industrial Drive in New London. Items may be dropped off in the collection boxes located right inside the front entryway during regular business hours, Monday through Friday, 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Care packages are currently tailored toward service members who have been activated in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. USO Ohio requests snacks and hygiene essentials for this year's packages. Suggested donation items include razors, cotton swabs, tissues, deodorant, toothpaste, eye drops, ear plugs,



playing cards, chewing gum, hard candy, beef jerky, trail mix, and snack packs.

Additional information and a list of recommended donation items is available on our website at www.firelandsec.com/uso-northern-ohio as well as on our Facebook page.

If you would prefer to make a tax-deductible monetary donation, the USO accepts these year-round. Please visit https://ohio.uso.org for details.

COOPERATIVE UPDATE

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BOARD MEETING highlights

Firelands Electric Cooperative's board of trustees met Aug. 24 and covered the following items:

- Board President Dan Schloemer reported that the cooperative received 46 membership applications for approval by the board.
- General Manager Dan McNaull reviewed reports for safety and training meetings held July 12 and 14, in addition to several job site observations conducted Aug. 11-12 and Aug. 17-18.
- McNaull reviewed the monthly tree trimming and outage reports.
- Director of Finance and Accounting Tabi Shepherd reviewed the July financials and reported on recent accounting and billing department activities.
- McNaull reviewed the OEC Statistical Report for Ohio's cooperatives, highlighting Firelands' rankings within the report.
- Trustee Kevin Reidy reviewed a recent OREC meeting that he attended.

- McNaull reviewed the OEC Summer Conference and several of the presentations.
- Director of Operations Don Englet reviewed recent activities and projects in the operations department.
- McNaull reviewed the arrangements for the ACRE Co-op Owners Recognition Breakfast scheduled for Friday, Sept. 17.
- Director of Communications and Technology Andrea Gravenhorst reviewed a report on recent activities involving the member services and IT department. She also discussed the involvement of Ohio's cooperatives at the upcoming Farm Science Review.

Firelands Electric Co-op is democratically controlled and governed by local people committed to policies that result in a safe and reliable electric system, fair rates, financial responsibility, and superior member service.

The cooperative's next board meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, Nov. 23. If you would like to attend the next scheduled meeting, please contact the Firelands Electric office at 1-800-533-8658.

FIRELANDS ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC.

OUTAGE HOTLINE 1-800-533-8658

OFFICE

103 Industrial Drive P.O. Box 32 New London, OH 44851 419-929-1571

OFFICE HOURS Mon.–Fri. 7:30 a.m.–4 p.m. www.firelandsec.com



BOARD OF TRUSTEES Dan Schloemer President, District 1

Bruce Leimbach Vice President, District 4

Carl Ayers Secretary/Treasurer, District 5

W.E. Anderson District 8

Tom Lucha District 3

Gene Lamoreaux District 2

John Martin District 9

Kevin Reidy District 6

Rob Turk District 7 **GENERAL MANAGER** Dan McNaull

HAVE A STORY SUGGESTION? Email your ideas to: members@firelandsec.com

