GM'S REPORT

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CO-OP HOSTS LEGISLATIVE EVENT

More than 110 Firelands Electric members, employees, and trustees gathered on Sept. 12 for the cooperative's 2022 ACRE Co-op Owners for Political Action breakfast and legislative event.

Several 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 provided updates on legislative issues currently affecting electric cooperatives and their local communities. Topics included supply chain delays, increasing material costs, reliability of the electric grid, and workforce challenges. Co-op members were also encouraged to participate in a Q&A segment.

Ohio Representative Marilyn John opened the presentations with a discussion on Ohio's current workforce, including staffing shortages, development, and education. Ohio Representative Darrell Kick spoke on the recent redistricting of the state's house districts. He also reviewed the newly passed House Bill 30, which requires Amish buggies and other animal-drawn vehicles to install yellow flashing lights to improve safety.

Ohio Representative Dick Stein addressed the crowd regarding baseline power generation and the effect of electric vehicles on the grid, and Ohio Representative D.J. Swearingen, who will be serving portions of Huron County starting in 2023, spoke on the agricultural industry and school funding. Kyle Brooks, field representative to Ohio Congressman Bob Gibbs, reviewed college loan forgiveness, energy independence, and inflation.





Dan McNaull General manager



Speakers at Firelands Electric Cooperative's recent ACRE Co-op Owners breakfast included (I-r) Ohio Representatives Dick Stein, Darrell Kick, Marilyn John, and D.J. Swearingen.

Firelands Electric hosted the ACRE Co-op Owners breakfast 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 Firelands members who invest in ACRE

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FIRELANDS ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE LOCAL PAGES

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Co-op Owners for Political Action. As the consumer arm of the Action Committee for Rural Electrification (ACRE) political action committee, 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 advocate for the needs of co-ops and their members, regardless of their political party.

Firelands was pleased to offer this opportunity to our ACRE Co-op Owners members. As a memberowned cooperative, we are pleased to support these grassroots events, which provide a forum for local voices to be heard at the state level and beyond.

Additional photos from Firelands Electric's event 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-political-action-committee. Co-op members can also sign up to participate by sending the completed form below to: ACRE Co-op Owners, Firelands Electric Cooperative, P.O. Box 32, New London, OH 44851.



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 Electior	n Law requires the following inf	ormation for con	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.

COOPERATIVE CONTESTS

accountability

2022 CHRISTMAS LIGHTING CONTEST

integrity community commitment

Check out the changes — including bigger prizes totaling \$150!

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.

From Nov. 21 through Dec. 16, members may email a high-quality digital photo of their lighting display to members@firelandsec.com (maximum of 10 MB) or submit one through the online link at www.firelandsec.com/contests.

Be sure to include "Christmas Lighting Contest" in the subject line and provide 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 every Friday throughout the contest.

This year, a total of three winners will be announced on Dec. 21, with each one receiving a \$50 bill credit. A winner will be selected in each of three categories:

- 1. Biggest Display
- 2. Best Theme
- 3. People's Choice (Awarded to the photo receiving the most likes/ votes on Facebook over the course of the entire contest.)

There is a limit of one entry/photo and one prize per member address. Prizes will be applied as a credit on the winning members' next bills. Visit www.firelandsec.com/contests for complete rules and the link to submit your entry. Questions about the contest may be directed to the member services department by emailing members@firelandsec.com or calling 1-800-533-8658.



TJ MCBRIDE ASHLAND COUNTY

2022 VIRTUAL JUNIOR FAIR

This summer, Firelands Electric held its third annual Virtual Junior Fair event. 4-H and FFA students exhibiting livestock at the Ashland, Huron, Lorain, or Richland county fairs who live in a home served by the cooperative were invited to enter. Each participant was asked to submit a photo of themselves with their livestock project. Entries were posted on our Facebook page and Flickr photo gallery at the conclusion of each fair.

In addition to being featured on the co-op's social media sites, one lucky livestock exhibitor from each fair was randomly selected to win a \$25 Amazon gift card. Pictured at right is the gift card winner from the Ashland County Fair, TJ McBride. To view additional photos from Firelands Electric's 2022 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, by phone at 1-800-533-8658, or by email at accounting@firelandsec.com.

This is the second of two notices.

360 COMM CO

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CO-OP NEWS

15th annual **STEP UP FOR SOLDIERS DRIVE**



Being far from home can be challenging for members of the U.S. armed forces - especially near the holidays. To make this separation easier, USO Centers and their numerous volunteers from around the globe work tirelessly to keep our servicemen and women connected with their loved ones and provide care packages to ensure that the holiday season is bright for each and every one of them.

For 15 years, Firelands Electric Cooperative has supported U.S. military personnel during the holiday season by serving as a collection location for donated care package items. We are proud to join forces once again with local radio stations WLKR-FM and K96-FM to support USO Ohio's 2022 Step Up for Soldiers annual drive.

Beginning Veterans Day, Nov. 11, and running through Friday, Dec. 16, members of Firelands Electric and the surrounding communities can deliver donated care

package items to the co-op's 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.

"Firelands Electric is honored to have partnered with WLKR and K96 since this program first began in 2007," says Director of Communications and IT Andrea Gravenhorst. "The co-op has a deep respect for the brave men and women serving our country and for the work that USO Ohio does to support them."

The USO of Ohio serves military families throughout Ohio and northern Kentucky. From collecting and distributing donations for care packages to helping those preparing for deployment and connecting families for mutual support, the USO touches the lives of tens of thousands of active duty, guard, and reserve members every day.

To learn other ways that you can help or to make a taxdeductible monetary donation, visit https://ohio.uso.org.

Suggested donation items for this year's USO drive include razors, cotton swabs, tissues, deodorant, toothpaste, sunscreen, ear plugs, playing cards, chewing gum, hard candy, beef jerky, trail mix, and snack packs. Additional information and a complete list of recommended donation items is available on our website at www.firelandsec.com/uso-ohio, as well as on our Facebook page.





Nov. 24 and 25

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.

COOPERATIVE UPDATE

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BOARD MEETING highlights

Firelands Electric Cooperative's board of trustees met Aug. 23 and covered the following items:

- Board President Dan Schloemer reported that the cooperative received 19 membership applications for approval by the board.
- General Manager Dan McNaull reviewed the most recent CFC Key Ratio Trend Analysis (KRTA) report, which provides an in-depth look at the financial and operational performance of electric distribution cooperatives across the country.
- Director of Operations Don Englet reported on recent activities and projects in the operations department, including a recent lightning strike at the Ashland substation that resulted in damage and current efforts to replace aging pole-top switches.
- McNaull reviewed training and certificate opportunities available to the board, the upcoming NRECA regional meeting, and the recent OEC Summer Conference.
- The board reviewed current and historical fuel prices and their effect on the cooperative's operational expenses.

- In Director of Finance and Accounting Tabi Shepherd's absence, McNaull reviewed the July financials and reported on recent accounting and billing department activities.
- McNaull provided a recap of the Akron RubberDucks key accounts event held on Aug. 10.
- The board reviewed a report for a safety and training meeting held Aug. 3.
- McNaull reviewed the monthly tree-trimming and outage reports, pointing out that lightning and trees were the primary cause of outages over the past month.
- Schloemer reported on a meeting at Ohio's Electric Cooperatives that he recently attended.
- Director of Communications and Technology Andrea Gravenhorst reviewed recent activities involving the member services and IT department.

The cooperative's next board meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, Nov. 22. 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 1-800-533-8658

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



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

