Sac Osage Electric Cooperative

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August 2023 Missouri Attends Youth Tour in Washington D.C

News

Jefferson City, MO – One hundred and three high school students participated in Missouri's 60th annual Missouri Electric Youth Tour to Washington, D.C., June 12-18. The local delegate was Trevor Johnson, from Stockton, Missouri. He was sponsored by Sac Osage Electric Cooperative.

The Missouri Electric Cooperative Youth Tour headed back to Washington DC this year. The seven-day tour provided an actionfilled week for high school students, offering them opportunities to learn firsthand what it is like to be involved in politics, leadership positions, community service and today's pressing issues.

"The Youth Tour is the highlight of the summer for many students and we're proud to send our best and brightest to our nation's capital to participate," said Chris Massman, vice president of Member Services for the Association of Missouri Electric Cooperatives. Massman also said, "Each of these delegates met someone or see something that inspires them, and in some cases will create a path to their future career."

Highlights of the trip include the Missouri delegates visiting with representatives from their congressional districts, touring monuments, the Smithsonian Institution's museums, Arlington National Cemetery and the International Spy Museum. The group also took a sightseeing and dance cruise on the Potomac River one evening with the delegations from five other states.



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Other events of the week included participation in the Electric Youth Day, during which a special program coordinated by the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association brought together over 1,000 Youth Tour delegates from across the United States. The delegates enjoyed featured speeches by government leaders and motivational speakers, such as Mike Schlappi, an inspiring four-time Paralympic medalist and two-time world wheelchair basketball champion.

Since 1964, the nation's cooperative electric utilities have sponsored more than 56,000 high school juniors and seniors for visits to their U.S. congressional delegations, energy and grassroots government education sessions and sightseeing in Washington. For more information about the Missouri Electric Cooperative Youth Tour program, please go to www.moyouthtour.com. 

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Sac Osage Electric Youth Tour Delegate Trevor Johnson Talks About His Experience In Washinton D.C.

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Hi, I am Trevor Johnson, from Stockton High School, and I was honored to be chosen as the Sac Osage Electric Cooperative's delegate for the 2023 Youth Tour to Washington D.C.

The trip began on Monday, June 12, when 103 delegates from around the state gathered in Columbia to organize and meet each other. Tuesday morning, the 80 girls, 23 boys, and 12 sponsors began our journey. As soon as we got to D.C, we started our packed week of memorials, Smithsonians museums, tours, and fantastic food, including a dinner cruise and dance on the Potomac River. We even caught a Washington Nationals baseball game along the way!

Some of the highlights of the tour for me were meeting our district's representative, Mark Alford, in the Capitol building, followed by a tour from his congressional staff. Arlington National Cemetery was sobering in the sheer size and number of tombstones. While watching the changing of the guard and wreath laying ceremony, three osprey aircraft flew over for one of the 23 military funerals taking place that day. Another day, we even met with a former Youth Tour delegate who now serves on the Presidential detail for the Secret Service. I was actually surprised by how much I enjoyed the Smithsonian National Portrait Gallery. It contained portraits not only by famous artists, but of famous people, including athletes, entertainers, and politicians.

On the last day, all Youth Tour delegates from every state met for a Youth Day event, where several former Youth tour delegates shared their stories. It also featured a lineman's story of bringing electricity to a Guatemalan village for the first time and motivational speaker and four-time paralympic medalist, Mike Schlappi. He spoke on the struggles of moving on from difficulties in your life and as he put it, "When you can't stand up, stand out." The night ended with a combined dinner and dance with all states (which wasn't a competition but Missouri definitely won!).

By the end of the week, it was hard to say goodbye to the other 102 delegates and sponsors. Many memories and friendships were made along the way. I would like to thank everyone at Sac Osage for supporting the Youth Tour program and selecting me to represent our cooperative. It truly was a trip of a lifetime.

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Fiber to the Home Project Continues



On June 21st, Fiber Huts were delivered to the Iconium and Mt. Zion Substations to continue the growth of the Fiber to the Home Project. These are the final fiber huts needed to serve our members.

Approximately 1571 miles of fiber has been attached to our power poles since the start of this project. Over 2700 members of Sac Osage Electric Cooperative now have fast and reliable internet provided by Conexon Connect.

You can check availability for your area by going to connectsignup.com

Service is expected to be in these areas by Fall of 2023.



Bylaw Amendment I

OFFICIAL BALLOT

AND

FACT SHEET

Be Sure To Vote Next Month

With the Sac Osage Electric Cooperative Annual Meeting approaching fast, we want to let you know in advance that next month's newsletter will contain two ballots for Bylaw changes.

Every member is eligible to vote by completing the ballots and returning them to Sac Osage Electric Cooperative **by mail** or in person.

Ballots must be received in the mail before or on the day of the annual meeting.

This year's annual meeting will be allow drive-thru registration with thebusiness meeting beginning at 6:30PM



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We Are Looking For Former Members With Unclaimed Capital Credits

Sac Osage Electric Cooperative, Inc. (the "Cooperative") is trying to locate members who are the owners or joint owners of unclaimed capital credit refunds who were mailed checks by the Cooperative for previous years. Those mailed refund checks were returned to the Cooperative by the U.S. Postal Service as being undeliverable. The list of those members' names and the amounts of the unclaimed capital credit refunds may be found on our website (www.sacosage.com). If your name appears on the list or if you are the legal representative of a named deceased member, the Cooperative requests that you notify us so that these unclaimed capital credit refunds can be paid to the rightful owner.

To submit a claim, please visit our website to either submit your form online or obtain a printable UNCLAIMED CAPITAL CREDIT REFUND INFORMATION form. You may also obtain this form at our headquarters located at 4815 E Highway 54, El Dorado Springs, or by requesting it on our voicemail box at 1-800-876-2701. If these unclaimed capital credit refunds are not claimed by the September deadline, by or on behalf of the member, then those funds will be reallocated to the accounts of the current members in accordance with the cooperative's bylaws.

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