

ENERGY CORPORATION

POWDER RIVER

PRECorp News

AUGUST 2019

74th Annual Meeting is Saturday, August 24

Members are reminded to attend the 74th PRECorp Annual Meeting Saturday, August 24, at Buffalo High School.

The event opens at 7 a.m. in the Buffalo High School commons with a special members-only wellness blood draw. Any PRECorp member, including spouses, can walk-in and get a free standard blood panel screening between 7 a.m. and 11 a.m. Those participating are asked to fast for at least 12 hours prior to having their blood drawn. Light snacks and coffee will be available for blood draw participants.

From 7 a.m. to 3 p.m., Spiral Therapy will offer free body scans for members. This scanner performs a precise capture and analysis of 3 million data points and 300-plus body and posture measurements. It personalizes risk assessments for more than 25 health conditions; and provides prevention and wellness recommendations for your lifestyle. Lunch service by the Invasion Bar of Kaycee, begins at 11 a.m. in high school's auxiliary gym just down the hall from the commons.

Throughout the morning, members who register in person can vote on three seats to the Board of Directors, enter drawings, learn more about Operation RoundUp[®] and other member-focused programs. The first 150 members to register receive a food or beverage cooler. Attendees also receive a 2020 PRECorp Calendar and a few other freebies.

At noon, members will gather in the Buffalo High School Theater for a musical performance by local fiddle and guitar talent Maxi Wuerker (pictured above). The Buffalo teen is a rising musical talent who will be on stage for premeeting entertainment.

The Annual Meeting begins at approximately 1 p.m. with brief reports including updates from



Board President Walt Christensen, Secretary-Treasurer Gerry Geis, and CEO Mike Easley. Drawings for great prizes follow the meeting.

Members who cannot attend, but would like to vote absentee, can use the ballot from their July PRE-Corp News and enclose it in the return envelope from that edition to a PRECorp office in Sundance, Gillette, or Sheridan before 5 p.m., Friday, August 23.

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CEO Straight Talk



MIKE EASLEY, CEO

I do a lot of traveling as part of my job as PRE-Corp CEO, and occasionally I sit by someone on the plane that asks me what I do. I am sure you have probably had that similar experience. Maybe you are even the person that asks that question. I always ask the person if they are sure they want me to answer their question. After getting a funny look, I usually get the nod to go ahead.

My first question to them is to ask if they know what a cooperative is. You would be surprised that many people don't know that a cooperative is a business that is owned by its customers and is run by a Board of Directors, who are themselves customers of the cooperative. I explain the idea of being a member-owner - or "consumer-owner" as members are sometimes called. I get a kick out of the reactions from people that don't already know about electric cooperatives.

They usually reply with excitement about how cool an idea that is, and how it must be this radical and new business model. Then I tell them I work for an electric cooperative, and many of them look really confused. I explain the difference between an investor-owned utility and the electric cooperative utility by emphasizing that in the cooperative, the customers own the business and make decisions, like setting the rates for electricity. Many folks are shocked when I tell them that our cooperative has been around for more than 70 years.

People that have experienced being a customer of an investor-owned utility are intrigued by the idea of power for the people and by the people. It does sound pretty amazing!

Many of the folks who know what a cooperative is already understand that being service focused is much different than being profit focused. They get that electric cooperatives focus on service quality, reliability, and price. They understand the strength of the democratic principles on which cooperatives are based. They know that every member in the

If you have never attended an annual meeting, now is a good time to start.

cooperative is equal, and our governance is based around one member, one vote.

I always ask folks who know what cooperatives are if they have ever attended an annual meeting. It surprises me to learn that many cooperative owners don't understand how important the annual meeting is to the cooperative. Many of them have never experienced the awesome feeling that goes with understanding that they are actual owners and an important part of the cooperative.

This month I hope you spend some extra time looking over this issue of the PRECorp News. It is annual meeting time for PRECorp. If you have never attended an annual meeting, now is a good time to start. Our business model works because of the commitment of our owners (that's you) to show up and engage in the process and exercise your responsibility as a coop owner.

PRECorp is facing some huge challenges these days with all the pressures we are experiencing in the energy industry. It is a time of great challenge, which also means it's a time of great opportunity. I look forward to the opportunity to give you a brief report on what is going on at PRECorp and how we are responding to current challenges and seeking opportunity.

Please put the 74th PRECorp Annual meeting on your calendar and join me in Buffalo, Wyoming, Saturday, August 24, for an interesting and enjoyable day of cooperative ownership.

Mike



Commitment to Community River Energy **PRECorp Foundation 2018**

Annual Report



From its founding in 1945 through today, Powder River Energy Corporation has teamed up with businesses, schools, and charities throughout the area to strengthen and enhance our communities.

We work hard to achieve a better quality of life for the people of northeast Wyoming. With this spirit in mind, the Powder River Energy Foundation was created in 2007 to act as the philanthropic arm of Powder River Energy Corporation. The specific mission of

the Foundation is to focus on the charitable needs in our service territory and more specifically, the member/owners we serve.

Financial grants.

The Foundation, continuing to execute upon that original vision, generated a record \$229,000 in value for our PRECorp communities in 2018, with special focus on helping feed our communities, Veterans, emergency services, at-risk children and families, and other critical community needs.

Total impact to since 2007 \$930,669

The Foundation is structured to manage scholarships on behalf of other individuals or organizations. For instance, the Foundation administers the Swanda Ag Scholarship, the PRECorp Member Scholarship, the PRECorp Apprentice Lineman Scholarship, the Geis Family Scholarship, and the Farmer's Cooperative Scholarship. In total, students in 2018 received more than \$54,000 in financial aid for post-secondary education.

Feeding communities.

The Foundation retains the animals that PRECorp purchases from annual 4-H livestock auctions, paying for the processing and distributing the meat to local

food pantries. Some of the meat is also made available for non-profit fundraising dinners or in support of other community events.

What makes the Foundation different?

One hundred percent of donations to the Foundation go to local nonprofit organizations, making for a direct-line giving process. The Foundation works with donors to make philanthropy easy by managing and administering funds for organizations with charitable objectives.

See "Foundation" on next page.

Powder River Energy Foundation Mission:

The Mission of the Powder River Energy Foundation (PRECorp Foundation) is to demonstrate our commitment to people and non-profit or charitable organizations in northeast Wyoming by lending a helping hand that will improve their quality of life or serve their community.

Total donations in 2018 \$229,639

Number of organizations and causes supported in 2018 54

PRECorp Foundation 2018 Annual Report



Giving stats 2018

Giving by Category

Civic & Community Betterment:		
	\$36,050	
Cultural & Arts:	\$2,100	
Education:	\$20,000	
Health & Human Services:	\$93,992	
Meat Donations:	\$23,097	
Scholarships:	\$54,400	
Total donations in 2018		
\$229,639		

Giving by County

All:	\$62,200
Campbell:	\$36,650
Campbell, Crook, Weston:	\$500
Crook:	\$38,935
Johnson:	\$13,438
Johnson, Sheridan:	\$2,500
Sheridan:	\$8,620
Weston:	\$11,659
Scholarships:	\$54,400
Meat to Operation RoundUp [®] / Lineman Scholarship Banquet: \$737	

Foundation...

continued from previous page.

The Foundation meets long-term community challenges and seeks out opportunities to meet the needs of its communities through research and feedback from community members. The PRECorp Foundation connects PRECorp members who care, with causes in their communities. Giving together delivers the greatest impact. The Foundation leverages matching dollars at every opportunity to do the most good for those who benefit from the funds.

More than 10% of PRECorp members voluntarily contribute to fund the Foundation's efforts through their participation in Operation RoundUp[®] program. This simpleyet-powerful program collects additional cents on the member's monthly power bill, to bring it up to the nearest whole dollar. For example, when a bill of \$99.55 is rounded up to \$100.00, the additional 45 cents goes directly to the Foundation and the many causes it supports.

Direct donations.

Many individuals and companies send personal donations to the Foundation for various purposes. Also, for the past several years, many of our members chose to donate their cooperative capital credits.

Fundraisers.

The Foundation has strengthened its fundraising events with the golf scramble at The Golf Club at Devils Tower, the Apprentice Lineman Scholarship Banquet, and the Durham Ranch Buffalo Stampede. Each event raises about \$25,000.



PRECorp Foundation 2018 Annual Report

Board of Directors

The Foundation is governed by an independent, voluntary board of directors who represent each county in the PRECorp service area.

The Foundation Board directs the operation of the Foundation and frames the Foundation's active role in helping charities.

These board members are just like you - active members of the community. They volunteer their time and many hours to support the Foundation. John Flocchini, Campbell County, is the Foundation Board Chairman. Other members are Zeta Anderson, At-Large, Crook County; Susan Berry, Johnson County; Phil Jordan, At-Large, Campbell County; Billie Little, Sheridan County; Kathleen Tavegie, Weston County; and Mary Yemington, Crook County.

The Board of Directors follow a long-

range strategic plan and initiatives to fulfill its mission and vision.

Because of its alignment, Powder River Energy Corporation staff help donors and the Board attain philanthropic goals with:

• A thorough knowledge of community opportunities, resources, and issues;

• Administrative expertise and a central request point for nonprofit

organizations which ensure timely and accurate request processing;

• A focus on local nonprofit organizations and encouragement of cooperative dialogue and approaches to key issues.

Contact Foundation Executive Director Jeff Bumgarner at 307-283-4905 or email jeffb@precorp.coop for more information on becoming a Foundation director.





Vice Chair Susan Berry



Secretary Zeta Anderson



Phil Jordan



Billie Little



Kathleen Tavegie



Mary Yemington

PRECorp Foundation 2018 Annual Report



2018 Grants:

- Town of Clearmont
- The Hub on Smith
- Wyoming Wildlife Foundation Turkey Shoot
- Campbell County Eat. Read. Grow.
- Campbell County Council of Community Services
- Cam-Plex Arts in Education
- Wright Community Assistance Food Pantry
- Learning Tree Christian School
- Wright Community Assistance Wright Days
- Silver Sage Senior Center
- Wyoming Sportsman's Group Hulett Youth Field Day/Youth River Clean-up
- Vore Buffalo Jump Foundation
- WY Agriculture in the Classroom
- Wyoming Food Bank of the Rockies
- Clearmont Historical Group
- Habitat for Humanity of the Eastern Big Horns
- Weston County Sheriff's Search and Rescue
- Powder River Symphony
- Moorcroft FCCLA
- Campbell County Healthcare Foundation

- Hulett Emergency Management Services
- Hulett Volunteer Fire Department
- Climb Wyoming
- C.O.R.E. Freshman Impact Newcastle and Buffalo high schools
- Ride a Horse, Feed a Cowboy
- Campbell County Council of Community Services
- Bikers Against Child Abuse (B.A.C.A.)
- B.R.E.A.D. Food Pantry, Newcastle
- Crook County Council of County Services
- Bread of Life Food Pantry, Buffalo
- Silver Sage Senior Center
- Razor City Runners
- Crook County Library Foundation Book Bike Program.
- Y.E.S. House Foundation
- Volunteers of America (VOA) Northern Rockies
- ABATE of Northeast Wyoming
- Bread of Life Food Pantry, Buffalo
- Hulett Assembly of God
- First Presbyterian Church, Moorcroft

- Upton Food Bank
- Crook County Food Pantry
- B.R.E.A.D. Food Pantry, Newcastle
- Crook County Medical Services District
- Salvation Army
- Blessings in a Backpack, Hulett
- Feed the Flock Food Pantry
- Corner Market FBO Holiday Baskets
- · First Presbyterian Church Moorcroft
- Sundance Community Christmas Baskets
- All Souls Episcopal Church
- Bread of Life Food Pantry, Buffalo
- Walmart FBO Shop with a Cop
- Newcastle Ministerial Association Christmas Appeal
- · Home Loving Care of Weston County
- Sheridan County YMCA
- Johnson County Family YMCA
- Raising Readers in Wyoming
- CHAPS Equine Assisted Therapy

Learn more at www.precorpfoundation.org

The Foundation website provides more information about giving and Foundation impacts in the community and also provides an online sign up area for Operation RoundUp[®]. It includes applications for Foundation funding, a downloadable Foundation brochure, scholarship applications, staff and board listings, and press releases. Visit the site at <u>www.precorpfoundation.org</u> regularly to keep up to date on Foundation news.

	ROUNDUP FOR NORTHEAST WYOMING.
	Enroll all my accounts in Operation RoundUp [®]
Either call, go to our website, a or fill out this form and remit	Enroll one of my accounts in Operation RoundUp [®]
$\stackrel{\smile}{\rightarrow}$ with your bill to sign up for	Enroll these specific accounts in Operation RoundUp [®] :
this great local program	Account #'s
Each month, we will round up your electric bill to the next whole dollar	Name:
The extra cents will be contributed to the Operation RoundUp [®] fund	Phone Number: Signature:
The fund was created to help members connect with worthy causes in our communities	OPERATION Date:
	RoundUp

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Cranston awarded Swanda Scholarship

Tia Cranston, 2019 Moorcroft High School graduate, has been awarded the \$2,500 Swanda Scholarship by the Powder River Energy Foundation.

Cranston will attend Sheridan College in the fall to study rangeland management, animal science, and ag business. "I want to be able to give back to my community and also the lands I grew up on," Cranston said.

"I grew up on a ranch which has taught me to always give back to the land and the animals. Another reason why I want to go into these fields is to help protect the land and animals for the future generations." Cranston plans to further her studies at the University of Montana and focus on forestry, or game and fish management.

The Swanda Scholarship was founded by Crook County ranchers Antone and Julie Swanda for the benefit of a Crook County high school senior planning to enroll in agriculture or animal science.

Cranston is active in 4-H, FFA, National Honor Society, and Student Council at Moorcroft High School. She is the daughter of Ivan and Jennifer Cranston of Moorcroft.



Tia Cranston, Moorcroft HS

Are you on the list for unclaimed capital credits?

At <u>www.precorp.coop/capital-credits</u> is a list of members or former members who are owed patronage capital (capital credits) for the fiscal year 2015 and for whom PRECorp does not have a current or deliverable mailing address.

PRECorp's bylaws require that after two years of the allocation of capital credits for a specific year, and for which the capital credits remain unclaimed, that the names of those members, or former members, be published in the local paper and 60 additional days be granted to claim these credits prior to them being forfeited and transferred to unclaimed status.

The list was published in the June 30 and July 7 editions of the Gillette News Record. Members or former members who would like to see if they are on this list should view it on-line and, if necessary, contact PRECorp at 1-800-442-3630 BEFORE Friday, September 13.

Upon positive identification, unclaimed capital credit money will be issued to the member or former member in the form of a check. Please allow two weeks for processing.

After September 13, the remaining unclaimed capital credits will be considered abandoned and become permanent equity of the cooperative.

Funds in this account are used to the benefit of PRE-Corp's remaining membership as a whole.

At the present time, some of the unclaimed capital credits are being used to finance the PRECorp scholarship program for student/dependents whose parents or guardians are members of the cooperative.

Another use of unclaimed capital credits is community involvement projects in which financial donations are made to community and civic organizations or projects.

In this way, even though the capital credits are not being returned to the members who earned them, the money is still being returned to communities that PRECorp serves.

CONGRATULATIONS

To the 2019 Powder River Energy scholarship winners.

The Powder River Energy Board of Directors congratulates our member students and families for a job well done and wishes future success.

The PRECorp Scholarship program awards \$1,500 each to college students of members in Campbell, Crook, Johnson, Sheridan, and Weston counties, with dollars from unclaimed Capital Credits. The Powder River Energy Foundation Board of Directors reviews the applications and awards the scholarships.



Grace Anderson **Devils Tower**



Derick Buhr Clearmont



Joshua Burke Wyo. Virtual Academy



Austin Butler Hulett



Emmitt Finn **Buffalo HS**



Emma Jay Hulett HS



Klel Johnson Sundance HS



Jessica Ryan Aladdin



Clayton Louderback Upton HS

Wright HS



Kavcee HS



Kylee Myers Campbell Co. HS



Buffalo HS



Kendra Wendling Moorcroft HS



Thunder Basin HS





Recipients not pictured: Chaney Peterson, Sheridan; Nathan Petzold, Sheridan

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Powder River Energy Corporation is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

Chesney Malson



Taziree Smith Arvada-Clearmont



Makenzie Wagoner Newcastle HS