

# FALL RIVER FLASHES

March 2023

Committed to safely and economically provide reliable energy and other services which bring value to its membership.



## SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS DUE THIS MONTH

Graduating high school students of owner-members of Fall River Electric are invited to apply for a \$2,400 scholarship to be used to continue their education at the college or technical training facility of their choice. Students must have parents OR guardians who are active members (customers) of Fall River Electric.

Scholarship applications are now being accepted through March 24, 2023, and are available at Fall River's website, [www.fallriverelectric.com](http://www.fallriverelectric.com). Click on the tab titled "My Community," and then "Scholarships" in the drop down menu. Scholarships are funded by unclaimed Patronage Capital.

## LINEMAN APPRECIATION DAY COMING SOON

We appreciate the dedicated service of our linemen as they battle all kinds of weather conditions at all times of the day and night—and on weekends and holidays—to keep the power flowing to your home or business. Monday, April 10, 2023, is the day set aside by the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NRECA) to salute linemen everywhere. Thanks to our linemen for all they do!



**Mark your calendar for Fall River Electric's ENERGY EXPO:  
Saturday, June 17, at North Fremont High School in Ashton  
FREE BREAKFAST – PRIZES – KIDS ACTIVITIES  
BRING THE FAMILY, 8AM – 10AM**

## Become a Fall River Board Candidate



If you or someone you know resides in any of the three districts where board of director candidates are being sought this year, there is still time to have your name appear on the ballot. Nomination by petition is as easy as obtaining fifteen signatures of Cooperative members from within the district the potential candidate is seeking to represent. The three board seats up for election this year include District 2, West Victor, presently represented by Jay Hanson, who has reached his term limits and is not eligible for re-election; District 3, East Victor, where Georg Behrens currently serves; and District 8, northern Island Park, currently represented by Jeff Keay.

The names and signatures on the nomination by petition must arrive at the Ashton, Idaho, office of Fall River Electric by Friday, April 21, 2023, in order to be placed on the official election ballot. Interested members should also include a quality photo and a statement as to why they should be elected to the board. Remember, to be a qualified candidate, you must live in the district of which you are seeking election. Qualifications and expectations for board members can be found in our bylaws located on our website, [www.fallriverelectric.com](http://www.fallriverelectric.com). Click the "My Cooperative" tab and then the dropdown menu, "Bylaws."

**Remember, the deadline for candidate petitions is April 21, 2023.**

## Patronage Capital Report Arrives In April



In April, every owner-member of Fall River Electric will receive a summary of the Patronage Capital they have earned in 2022, as well as any previous earnings since becoming a customer. Patronage Capital is your share of the revenue collected in excess of the costs to operate Fall River Electric. We refer to that excess as "margins" and it is based on the amount of electricity you use annually. Fall River uses margins as a resource to rebuild aging infrastructure and maintain system reliability. Each December, your elected board determines how much Patronage Capital can be paid back to its members. For more info on Patronage Capital, visit the "My Cooperative" link on our website at [www.fallriverelectric.com](http://www.fallriverelectric.com) or call a friendly Member Services representative, Monday through Friday, during normal business hours at 800.632.5726.



*Where Service Matters*

800-632-5726  
208-652-7431

**ASHTON**

1150 North 3400 East  
Ashton, ID 83420

**DRIGGS**

1605 N Highway 33  
Driggs, ID 83422

**WEST YELLOWSTONE**

436 Madison Ave  
West Yellowstone, MT 59758

**All Our Offices Are Open**

Monday - Friday  
8:00am - 4:30pm

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**



**Husk Crowther**  
District 1  
Rexburg/Rigby  
Vice President

**Jay Hanson**  
District 2  
West Victor



**Georg Behrens**  
District 3  
East Victor  
President

**Anna Lindstedt**  
District 4  
East Driggs



**Brent Robson**  
District 5  
West Driggs/Tetonia

**Dede Draper**  
District 6  
Ashton



**Jodi Stiehl**  
District 7  
South Island Park  
Secretary/Treasurer

**Jeff Keay**  
District 8  
North Island Park



**Doug Schmier**  
District 9, West Yellowstone

**Bryan Case**  
Fall River Electric  
CEO/General Manager



Fall River's *FLASHES* newsletter is printed on recycled paper and is certified by the Forest Stewardship Council. Products certified by FSC directly support responsible forest management.

Want your Fall River *FLASHES* faster? Click [www.fallriverelectric.com](http://www.fallriverelectric.com) and then select the tab "My Cooperative" followed by the drop-down menu "Fall River Electric Newsletter."

Keep up to date, including on power outage information, by "liking" Fall River Electric on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/fallriverrec](http://www.facebook.com/fallriverrec).

[www.fallriverelectric.com](http://www.fallriverelectric.com)

## NEW FALL RIVER ELECTRIC WEBSITE COMING IN APRIL



## Take Safety Home: Leave Yourself An Out



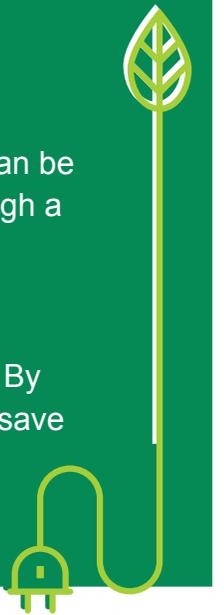
What does it mean to "leave yourself an out"? It is defined as the ability to escape danger if a negative situation occurs. Driving a vehicle defensively is a great example. Being a defensive driver allows you to avoid preventable collisions, so you always have an "out" by being able to react to conditions around you. Without an "out," you are often at the mercy of those around you. Practice defensive driving and ensure you always have an "out" in all situations.

## Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month

If you're looking to add smart technology to your home, consider smart plugs. Smart plugs are inexpensive and can be used to control lighting and other electronic devices through a smart phone app.

With smart plugs, you can conveniently manage lighting, home office equipment, video game consoles, and more. By powering off unused devices when you're away, you can save energy (and money!).

Source: [energystar.gov](http://energystar.gov)



## Washburn Selected As New Member Services Manager

Clint Washburn was selected from a field of nearly twenty candidates to fill the position of Member Services Manager at Fall River Electric. Washburn has been an employee of the Cooperative for the past five years serving in the role of Human Resource Manager.

Washburn previously was the senior human resources business partner at Eastern Idaho Regional Medical Center in Idaho Falls. He is a native of Oakley, Idaho, and has an MBA from Western Governors University and a bachelor's degree in business administration from Idaho State University. Washburn and his wife, Stacy, a registered nurse, have four children ranging in ages from eleven to sixteen. Washburn is also currently serving as president of the Ashton Rotary Club.



## Director Stiehl Earns Board Leadership Certificate



Pictured is FRE Board President Georg Behrens making the presentation.

Congratulations to Fall River Electric board member Jodi Stiehl on receiving her Board Leadership Certificate (BLC) from NRECA.

The Board Leadership Certificate, awarded by the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association, is the second part of the director education program and consists of a series of courses focusing in greater depth on specific industry and governance issues. It demonstrates Stiehl's ongoing commitment to advancing her knowledge and performing her fiduciary duties to the best of her ability.

