



CURRENT NEWS



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**Mor-Gran-Sou
Electric Cooperative**

Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative

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Chair.....Leland "Judge" Barth

Vice Chair.....Casey Wells

Secretary-Treasurer..... Lance Froelich

Directors:

Mark Doll, Vern Frederick,
Robert Gaebe, Chad Harrison,
Jay Larson, Bob J. Leingang

Co-General Managers/CEOs:

Donald A. Franklund
Travis Kupper

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Mor-Gran-Sou Electric Cooperative is dedicated to providing affordable, reliable energy and services that support and unite our member-owners.

We also aspire to meet the Touchstone Energy® Cooperative core values of integrity, innovation, accountability and commitment to community.

Mor-Gran-Sou Electric Cooperative, Inc., is an equal opportunity provider, employer and lender.

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Respect seals Fleck's decision to become a lineman

When you were a kid, what did you want to be when you "grew up?" How many times did that answer change until you settled on a career? When Brett Fleck was in the fourth grade, he said he wanted to be a lineman. His answer never changed.

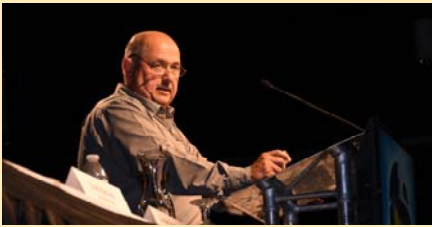
A Flasher-area native who works as a lineman out of the Mandan Service Center, Fleck was honored in January at the annual Apprenticeship Training and Safety Conference for reaching journeyman status.

He remembers Mor-Gran-Sou employees coming to his elementary school and presenting the "Story Behind the Switch," a presentation that describes how electricity is generated and distributed, and how to stay safe around electricity in a potentially dangerous situation. Over the years he also saw linemen climb poles, and had the opportunity to try on their rubber gloves and sleeves at various cooperative events.

"That really interested me," he says.

When two snow and ice storms hit the Mor-Gran-Sou service area in 2010, collectively damaging more than 13,000 poles, Fleck remembers his family was out of power for a week after the April storm. Living south of Flasher, he saw linemen working long hours to rebuild the system. He knew many of those linemen, and respected their hard work and dedication in getting area families back online. It solidified his decision to get a job in the utility industry.

In the March local pages of the *North Dakota Living* magazine, learn about some of his experiences in school and in the field — and why he's thankful to be "back home," working for Mor-Gran-Sou's member-owners.



Franklund earns Cooperative Leadership Award

The North Dakota Association of Rural Electric Cooperatives (NDAREC) bestowed this year's Cooperative Leadership Award to Don Franklund, one of Mor-Gran-Sou's two co-general managers and chief executive officers, on Jan. 15 during its annual meeting. Franklund brings nearly 25 years of leadership and experience to Mor-Gran-Sou and the rest of the Innovative Energy Alliance Cooperative (IEAC) family. He earned the award for handling industry challenges with a firm hand and quick resolve — and innovative mind.

Franklund was instrumental in the formation of the alliance. Established in 2008, IEAC is a professional management and services company that provides support for four electric cooperatives in North Dakota including Mor-Gran-Sou, KEM, Roughrider and Slope Electric Cooperatives, as well as the WDUS Holdings, LLC family including 3C Construction, West Dakota Utility Services and other subsidiaries. The alliance was formed with the intention of reducing costs and gaining efficiencies, while allowing the respective boards of directors to retain local control.

His support of the alliance remains strong today, as he serves beside partner Travis Kupper, Mor-Gran-Sou's other co-general manager and chief executive officer.

On behalf of Mor-Gran-Sou, we congratulate Don Franklund on earning the Cooperative Leadership Award.

Spring ahead!

On Sunday, March 10, daylight saving time begins.



Mor-Gran-Sou earns Safety Award

The North Dakota Association of Rural Electric Cooperatives (NDAREC) hosted its annual REC Apprenticeship Training and Safety Conference in January.

The conference training topics included understanding reclosures, winter survival, underground cable preparation and splicing, leadership and more.

The conference provides an opportunity to reflect on current issues in the industry and to recognize the accomplishments the students have made in training and safety throughout the year.

Mor-Gran-Sou employees who attended this year's conference included Brett Fleck, Cody Graetz, Deb Haugen, Jason Helgeson, Jason Jahner, Patty Kluge, Cody Maher, Doug Nagel and Kale Ohlhauser.

During the awards banquet, Mor-Gran-Sou was presented with a Safety Award for having zero OSHA-recordable injuries for one year, between the dates of Dec. 1, 2017, to Nov. 30, 2018.

This was the ninth year in a row Mor-Gran-Sou has received the award.

RESAP re-certification conveyed

Mor-Gran-Sou was also awarded a RESAP certificate of safety achievement during the AT&S Conference.

To achieve and maintain high safety standards for the protection of employees and the community, Mor-Gran-Sou applied for and achieved safety accreditation through the Rural Electric Safety Achievement Program. RESAP strives to promote the highest standards of safety among electric cooperatives. The program was described in detail in the November 2018 local pages of *North Dakota Living*.

Mor-Gran-Sou Electric Cooperative thanks its employees for taking a team approach to safety and its continuous improvement.

Bylaws and resolutions for the annual meeting

Under the bylaws, any bylaw amendments or resolutions must be presented to the members in writing in advance of the annual meeting. The board of directors has charged the Nominating Committee with reviewing and advising the board of any proposed bylaw amendments and resolutions. Therefore, any proposed bylaw amendments and resolutions should be submitted in writing no later than March 21, 2019, and/or they can be presented in-person at the following in-person meeting of the Nominating Committee:

- March 21 in the Mor-Gran-Sou office board room in Flasher at 7 p.m. CT

If you wish to submit a bylaw amendment or resolution in writing, please forward it to Mor-Gran-Sou Electric Cooperative, Inc., Attn: Nominating Committee, P.O. Box 297, Flasher, ND, 58535-0297, before March 21.

Also in the MARCH issue of *North Dakota Living*:

- Agri-International
- RDFC awards local grant
- Board highlights and more