



Season's greetings

from
**Mor-Gran-Sou
Electric
Cooperative!**

Also in this issue:

- Nominating Committee seeks candidates
- Apply for Youth Tour!
- Scholarships offered
- Share your safety poster!
- Board meeting minutes
- And more

Sitting Bull College is adding a program to train veterinary technicians – to treat all types of animals. Inside, read more about the new program.



Farrrier presentations and discussions were provided, along with hands-on training, during a recent equine clinic sponsored by Sitting Bull College.

Sitting Bull College expands degree offerings

Horse whisperers – or dog whisperers – wanted. Or simply anyone with a passion to help animals. A new program being launched at Sitting Bull College (SBC) in Fort Yates will offer an opportunity for students to channel their aptitude with animals into a career. The college is adding a program to train veterinary technicians.

SBC has an approved curriculum and is now seeking a full-time vet tech director and veterinarian instructor as teaching staff before launching the program.

“Once those are staffed, we can start,” said Joe Dunn, director of the Agriculture Division at SBC. The goal is to start the program in the fall semester of 2022.

“There’s a great demand in the veterinary services industry for veterinarians and vet techs,” Dunn said. “When we were originally designing the program, we thought

we would move in the direction where our students who complete the program could move into a veterinary science program to get their doctor of veterinary medicine.”

Students can also move directly into a job as a vet tech after completing the program.

“I think it’s a really good program, because there’s such a demand for veterinarians all over the nation,” Dunn said. “There’s a lot of interest from the local community, because we’re in farm-and-ranch country and people are hands-on and like animals.”

The program will offer an associate degree as a veterinarian technician in approximately two years.

“There’s been interest in a veterinary program here for some time. A couple of years ago, we did a survey of high school seniors here on Standing Rock and the surrounding



Sitting Bull College Agriculture Division personnel Delaney Lester, Kennedy Pleets, Jaimie Archambault, Gwen Village Center and Joe Dunn assisted the RVETS team led by Dr. Tarek Isham rendering services at the SBC arena.

area and we came up with about an 85% positivity rate for demand for that program,” Dunn said.

Classes range from intro to vet technology, to anatomy, physiology and microbiology to diagnostic imaging to care for small, large and exotic animals, for a total of 91 credits.

Curriculum was approved last spring and is designed to apply for accreditation from the American Veterinary Medical Association, Dunn said.

The college plans to start construction this spring of a facility for the Agriculture Division to support the program. The new ag center will be a 40x90 facility with two classroom spaces, office spaces and a shop. It will house ag personnel and provide classroom and lab space for the vet tech program.

This fall, SBC collaborated with the Rural Veterinary Experience Teaching and Service (RVETS), which is a nonprofit headquartered out of Dixon, Calif., to provide a five-day equine clinic at the SBC arena by Prairie Knights Casino Sept. 28-Oct. 2.

Dr. Tarek Isham, DVM; Dr. Jaimie White, DVM; and Dr. Betsy Lordan, DVM, CJF; delivered equine veterinary services and a three-day farrier clinic. SBC students assisted

with castrations, dental floats, hoof trims and other medical procedures. Lordan provided farrier presentations and discussion, along with hands-on training. Participants learned basic hoof trimming and horseshoeing techniques during the farrier clinic.

RVETS provides services to underserved rural communities in the United States and abroad, and has brought equine services to the community annually. One of the vets also helped develop the curriculum for the vet tech program.

“We have been providing veterinary care workshops throughout the year to try to maintain interest in the program,” Dunn said.

RVETS is open to anyone with an interest. “Anyone that has any interest can come and learn,” he said. This fall, about 50 horses were brought to the event.

“The workshop itself is a community service,” he said, and will help promote the vet tech program until the classes begin.

For information regarding the vet tech program, contact Dunn at 701-854-8068 or email joe.dunn@sittingbull.edu. ■



Mor-Gran-Sou's annual meeting scheduled for July 15, 2022

Are you looking for a way to serve the people of central southwestern North Dakota? Look no further, as Mor-Gran-Sou Electric Cooperative can help you fulfill that desire. Why not serve as a board director for the cooperative? The initial commitment is a three-year term, with provisions in the bylaws limiting a director to serving six consecutive three-year terms, after which time the director is not eligible for another six consecutive three-year terms until one year has elapsed.

At the annual meeting, the following three board positions will be elected:

- The Grant County position presently held by Vern Frederick;
- The Mandan area position presently held by Pam Geiger; and
- The Morton County position presently held by Jay Larson.

Under the bylaws and due to the use of a mail-in ballot, no nominations are accepted from the floor at the annual meeting. Instead, the bylaws require the board of directors to appoint a Nominating Committee of five to nine members who geographically represent the cooperative. These members will provide a list of qualified and willing candidates to the board for approval and inclusion on the ballot at the board of directors' meeting scheduled for March 23, 2022. This date has been set so there is adequate time for each candidate's biographical information to be included with the notice of meeting sent to the members in June, along with the mail-in ballot for those who are unable to attend the annual meeting in-person.

The Nominating Committee has been appointed by the board and will meet for the first time, set for Jan. 11, 2022. The members of the Nominating Committee

include Jennifer Bonogofsky, St. Anthony; Jackie Buckley, Mandan; Rosie Erhardt, Mandan; Curtis Feland, Almont; Glenda Gross, Selfridge; Garek Murphy, Fort Yates; Jim Neubauer, Mandan; Donald D. Roth, New Leipzig; and Yvonne Seidler, New Leipzig.

For a person to be nominated, the member vying for a board seat must submit the completed declaration of candidacy form to Mor-Gran-Sou by 4 p.m. CT (3 p.m. MT) on Thursday, March 10, 2022. The completed form must be mailed to Mor-Gran-Sou Electric Cooperative, Attn: Julie Armijo, P.O. Box 297, Flasher, ND, 58535-0297.

If you or someone you know is interested in being nominated, please contact one of the Nominating Committee members or Julie at Mor-Gran-Sou by calling 800-750-8212, 701-663-0297 or 701-597-3301. You can also email Julie at jarmijo@morgransou.com.

The Nominating Committee members or Jackie can provide you or the potential candidate with the declaration of candidacy form. It is also located on Mor-Gran-Sou's website; to download the form electronically, visit www.morgransou.com and click "Home/Your Power" in "Membership/Forms" and "Applications/Declaration of Candidacy Form." Candidate qualifications can be found at www.morgransou.com and click "Your Cooperative/Articles" and "Bylaws/Board of Directors/402 Director Qualification" or on the declaration of candidacy form.

If you have questions about the process, give Julie a call. All qualified and willing candidates who have completed and forwarded the written declaration of candidacy form to the Mor-Gran-Sou office by the March 10, 2022, deadline will be included in the list the Nominating Committee will provide to the board. ■

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 scheduled for July 15, 2022. 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 15, 2022, and/or they can be presented in-person at one of the following in-person meetings of the Nominating Committee:

- Jan. 11, 2022, in the Mor-Gran-Sou office boardroom in Flasher at 7 p.m. CT or virtually
- March 15, 2022, in the Mor-Gran-Sou office boardroom in Flasher at 7 p.m. CT or virtually

If you wish to submit a bylaw amendment or resolution in writing, please forward it to Mor-Gran-Sou Electric Cooperative, Attn: Nominating Committee, P.O. Box 297, Flasher, ND, 58535-0297, before March 15, 2022. Thank you. ■

JUNE 19 TO 24, 2022



WASHINGTON, D.C.

AN ALL-EXPENSE-PAID TRIP TO WASHINGTON, D.C.

- To enter the essay-writing contest, you must be a sophomore or junior in high school.
- You and your parents or guardian must be served by Mor-Gran-Sou Electric Cooperative.
- If you have any questions, please contact Julie Armijo, Mor-Gran-Sou Electric, at 701-597-3301 during regular business hours.
- The deadline is Dec. 10, 2021. You can email entries to Julie Armijo at jarmijo@morgransou.com or mail a hard copy to: Youth Tour Essay Contest, P.O. Box 297, Flasher, ND 58535-0297.

TOP 3 REASONS TO ENTER THE ESSAY- WRITING CONTEST

1. All-expense-paid trip to Washington, D.C., compliments of Mor-Gran-Sou Electric Cooperative
2. A whole week to visit unforgettable historic monuments, museums and the U.S. Capitol
3. A learning experience you'll never forget

ESSAY QUESTION:

If you were asked to help promote your cooperative's annual membership meeting, what ideas do you have for increasing attendance among young member-owners and students? Please provide specific examples for unique communications strategies, scheduling and special activities for member-owners and their families.



CHECK OUT THE ESSAY CONTEST GUIDELINES AT
<https://ndyouthtour.com/>



Cooperative offers student scholarships

Mor-Gran-Sou Electric Cooperative takes pride in assisting with the development of rural leadership through our scholarship program. We feel it's important to help finance our local students' educational journeys by offering scholarships to qualifying seniors. We continue to offer more scholarship opportunities to our graduating seniors. The applicants must be dependents of Mor-Gran-Sou members. All scholarships will be awarded during the 2021-22 school year.

The co-op will award nine \$500 scholarships to qualified applicants whose parent(s) or guardian(s) are members of the co-op. School representatives from Elgin-New Leipzig Public School, Flasher Public School, Glen Ullin Public School, Hebron Public School, Mandan Public School, New Salem-Altmont Public School, Selfridge Public School, Standing Rock Community School and Solen Public School will select one graduating senior to receive the funds.

Interested in applying? Students should contact their school counselor for deadline information. The schools will then forward each recipient's name to Mor-Gran-Sou.

The co-op will also award one \$500 scholarship to a graduating senior from a school outside of our service area. Please contact our office if interested.

Basin Electric Power Cooperative scholarship:

Mor-Gran-Sou Electric continues to award a \$1,000 scholarship sponsored by Basin Electric Power Cooperative.

We award this scholarship to a student already enrolled or planning to enroll in a full-time graduate or undergraduate program. The student must attend an accredited, two-year or four-year college, university or vocational/technical school. Recipients will be chosen on a combination of SAT/ACT scores and overall grade point average; activities, achievements and honors; work experience; a personal statement of career goals; an essay question centered on local cooperatives and how they serve the area; and an appraisal from a high school or college counselor or adviser, instructor or a work supervisor who knows the student well. All post-secondary students who have parents who are members of Mor-Gran-Sou Electric are eligible to apply. Applications are available at area schools, co-op headquarters in Flasher or online at www.morgransou.com.

3C Construction scholarship: Mor-Gran-Sou Electric is awarding one \$500 scholarship sponsored by 3C Construction.

Eligible applicants are high school seniors who are enrolled or planning to enroll in a certified vocational or technical school pursuing a career as a



lineworker. The scholarship will be awarded during the 2021-22 school year. Applications are available at area schools, co-op headquarters in Flasher or online at www.morgransou.com.

West Dakota Utility Services scholarship:

Mor-Gran-Sou is also awarding one \$500 scholarship sponsored by West Dakota Utility Services.

Eligible applicants are high school seniors who are enrolled or planning to enroll in a certified vocational or technical school pursuing a career as a mechanic. Applications are available at area schools, co-op headquarters in Flasher or online at www.morgransou.com.

Luck-of-the-draw scholarships: Mor-Gran-Sou will award two \$500 luck-of-the-draw scholarships to be drawn at our annual meeting on July 15, 2022. All high school seniors who are dependents of Mor-Gran-Sou members and have not previously been chosen for a Mor-Gran-Sou scholarship are eligible for this scholarship. Students must attend our annual meeting and be accompanied with at least one parent or guardian, and will be required to RSVP before the meeting. ■

When to apply

Applications are due no later than 4:30 p.m. CT (3:30 p.m., MT) on Friday, Feb. 18, 2022.

Please deliver or mail all necessary information to Mor-Gran-Sou Electric Cooperative at P.O. Box 297, Flasher, ND 58535-0297.

If you have questions or would like further information, please call Julie or Jackie at 701-597-3301, 701-663-0297 or 800-750-8212.




Mor-Gran-Sou announces annual poster contest

KIDS, WE NEED YOUR HELP!

Grab your art supplies and draw a poster that shows how Mor-Gran-Sou has served members for 75 years. This poster should display a clear, creative picture to help celebrate the cooperative's 75th anniversary in 2022. This poster should display a clear, creative picture of this year's theme: "Show how Mor-Gran-Sou has served members for 75 years." All posters should display the Touchstone Energy® Cooperative logo on their entries. No matter what you draw, have fun! We can't wait to hear from you. Cash prizes will be awarded in each division.

DIVISIONS

- Preschool to kindergarten
- First grade to third grade
- Fourth grade to sixth grade

DEADLINE:

Posters must be received at the Flasher office no later than 4:30 p.m. CT (3:30 p.m., MT) on Monday, Feb. 28, 2022.

RULES:

- Posters must be on white, 8.5x11-inch paper.
 - Posters must depict the theme, "Show how Mor-Gran-Sou has served members for 75 years," and display the Touchstone Energy Cooperative logo.
- Be creative!**
- Print the child's name, grade, address, age and parents' names on the back of the posters.
 - Only dependents of current Mor-Gran-Sou members are eligible for this contest.

PRIZES:

Each division will be awarded three prizes (nine prizes total): three first-place prizes of \$15; three second-place prizes of \$10; and three third-place prizes of \$5.

WINNERS:

Winning posters will be featured in the Mor-Gran-Sou local pages of the *North Dakota Living* magazine.

MOR-GRAN-SOU ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE

board meeting highlights



Meeting date: Oct. 27, 2021

- Approved Sept. 29 board meeting minutes
- Approved work order inventories and a special equipment capitalization
- Approved capital credit retirement applications to estates
- Reviewed the monthly directors' financial report
- Reviewed the Mor-Gran-Sou (MGS) Electric Cooperative financial report for September
- Reviewed senior staff and general counsel reports
- Reviewed co-general managers/CEOs update and report on meetings attended
- Reviewed Basin Electric Power Cooperative and its subsidiaries board meeting minutes
- Approved MGS 2022 load forecast prepared by Basin Electric
- Approved maximum price amendment contract for new Mandan Service Center office remodel
- Approved transmission and substation maintenance work plan
- Approved sale of triple-wide modular building
- Approved 2022 budget amount for maximum retirements to estates and those age 80 and over, per policy
- Approved management's recommendation for a 2021 general membership retirement
- Accepted IRS Form 990
- Approved 2022 capital budget
- Approved due date to accept 2022 declaration of candidacy forms
- Approved final Nominating Committee meeting date to approve qualified candidates and proposed bylaw amendments or resolutions
- Heard report from IT on assignment of easement for fiber cable
- Heard instructions from IT on the email move to Microsoft 365 software
- Reviewed 2022 preliminary budget
- Reviewed bill credit information
- Reviewed information on revenue deferral
- Elected a voting delegate and alternate for an upcoming meeting
- Heard directors' recap on meetings attended
- Reviewed WDUS/3C Construction update

Upcoming regular board meeting date:

Dec. 15 - 10:30 a.m. CT/9:30 a.m. MT -
J&L Building, Bismarck

Members are welcome to attend board meetings. Due to COVID-19, plans may change. Please call the office at 800-750-8212 or 597-3301 to confirm the meeting status if you wish to attend. To place an item on the agenda, please contact Board Chair Casey Wells or Co-General Manager/CEO Donald Franklund at 701-597-3301 at least one week in advance. Members may obtain a copy of approved board minutes by completing and returning the "Request for Information or Data" form. You can find this form at www.morgransou.com, or contact the Flasher office to request a copy.

HOLIDAY CLOSINGS

Our entire organization wishes our member-owners a very merry Christmas, and a safe and happy New Year!

In observance of the holidays in December and January, Mor-Gran-Sou will be closed:

- Thursday, Dec. 23, and Friday, Dec. 24, for Christmas
- Friday, Dec. 31 for New Year's Day

Members: Line crews will be available in case of an electrical emergency outage.

The holidays are just around the corner

Gift certificates are available at Mor-Gran-Sou.
Light up someone's holiday season!

How long is your Christmas list? If a certain someone on your list is a member of Mor-Gran-Sou Electric Cooperative and you need a bright idea on what to buy for Christmas ... why not wrap up a gift certificate he or she can use toward an electric bill?

Call Mor-Gran-Sou
at 701-597-3301, 701-663-0297
or 800-750-8212
and ask for Julie or Jackie.

We can help you "lighten" up the holidays.



MOR-GRAN-SOU ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE INC.

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Flasher, ND 58535-0297
Phone: 701-597-3301 Flasher
701-663-0297 Mandan

Toll-free: 800-750-8212 Fax: 701-597-3915

Email us: info@morgransou.com
UNDERGROUND LINE LOCATES
800-795-0555 OR 811

OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

Chair Casey Wells
Vice Chair Chad Harrison
Secretary-Treasurer Pam Geiger
Directors Vernard Frederick,
Rodney Froelich, Jay Larson,
Bob J. Leingang, Kathy Tokach, Steve Tomac

MANAGEMENT

Co-GM/CEO Donald A. Franklund
Co-GM/CEO Travis Kupper

www.morgransou.com

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