



# Sac Osage Electric Cooperative

January 2024

# News

P.O. Box 111, 4815 E HWY 54  
El Dorado Springs, MO 64744  
Telephone: 417-876-2721  
Website: [www.sacosage.com](http://www.sacosage.com)



## RETIREMENT LEADS TO NEW OPPORTUNITIES

Over the last couple of years, Sac Osage Electric Cooperative have lost several valuable employees to their much-deserved retirement. This year is not any different.

Kelli McPeak and Gina Whitlock have announced their retirement and the final countdown has begun.

With over 60 years of experience combined, the knowledge and work ethic these two have will truly be missed. We want to wish them the best and a happy retirement.

As retirements were announced, it brought a couple new faces to Sac Osage Electric.

We want to officially welcome Sharla Wilkerson and Morgan Hackleman as a part of our co-op family.

Sharla comes to us from Barton County Electric Cooperative, where she was previously employed as the Member Service Manager. She is currently employed with us as our Financial and Administrative Manager.

Morgan comes to us from US Bank, where she was previously employed in the Mortgage Division for over six years. She is currently employed with us as a Consumer Services Cashier. Morgan says she is excited to be working back in her hometown and enjoys assisting our members.

Not only did we receive new faces, but employment opportunities became available for current employees. The following employees have accepted new positions within the co-op:

Amanda McLaurin - Senior Consumer

Service Specialist

Christie Hull - Consumer Services Assistant

Kelly Nissley – Work Order Clerk

Kim Jones – Accounting Clerk

We are very pleased with the recent changes and will be able continue to provide the same great service that is expected by our members.

**Happy Retirement!**



Sharla Wilkerson  
Financial & Administrative Manager



Morgan Hackleman  
Consumer Services Cashier



Kelli McPeak



Gina Whitlock



## SAC OSAGE YOUTH AND CYCLE TOUR 2024

### WHAT IS YOUTH TOUR?

Each year, Sac Osage Electric sponsors an application process to select area High School Juniors to represent the cooperative on the National Rural Electric Youth Tour -- an exciting, all expenses paid trip to Washington D.C. in June!

The Sac Osage Electric delegate will travel with more than 100 students from across Missouri for a week of sightseeing, learning, and fun June 14-20, 2024.

The night before leaving for D.C., Missouri delegates and their parents attend an evening banquet in Jefferson City.

### NATIONAL YLC PROGRAM

Each year, while in Washington DC, Missouri selects one of its Youth Tour delegates as the Youth Leadership Council (YLC) representative who then travels around the state and nation meeting new people, speaking at conferences, and representing our State for a whole school year.

We encourage you to take advantage of this opportunity!

### WHAT IS CYCLE?

Sac Osage Electric's Youth Tour 2nd place winner will attend the all expenses paid, four-day Cooperative Youth Conference & Leadership Experience (CYCLE) in Jefferson City July 16-19th 2024.

At this conference, you will learn leadership skills, Missouri Government, & the Cooperative form of business in a FUN, FAST, & FRIENDLY atmosphere!

### COMPETITION REQUIREMENTS

Each contestant is required to submit an application to Sac Osage Electric

Cooperative. Applications can be found at [sacosage.com/youth-tour](http://sacosage.com/youth-tour).

All finalist will participate in an interview process at the cooperative in El Dorado Springs after being selected.

**DEADLINE: March 08, 2024**

**FIRST PLACE WINNER:** Receives Trip to WASHINGTON D. C. June 14-20, 2024.

**SECOND PLACE WINNER:** Receives Trip to Jefferson City, MO July 16-19, 2024.

### COMPETITION FINALIST

(3) students receive a \$50.00 gift card

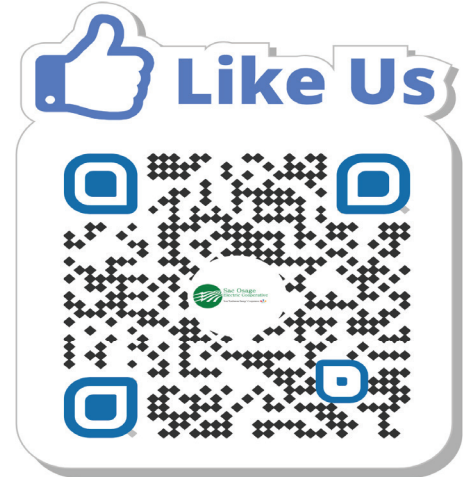
### TEACHER INCENTIVES

Each teacher that has a student picked as a finalist from their class will receive a \$50.00 gift card.

### PLEASE MAIL OR DELIVER TO:

Sac Osage Electric Cooperative  
4815 E Hwy 54  
El Dorado Springs, MO 64744

Any questions??? Feel free to call Chance Cyr at 417-876-2721 ext. 5213.



Trevor Johnson - Stockton H.S.  
2023 Youth Tour Winner



Jude Wyant - El Dorado Springs H.S.  
2023 CYCLE Winner







# FIBER TO THE HOME PROJECT UPDATE

As we end 2023, it's a time for reflection on the past year and a look ahead to all the potential that 2024 holds. We are extremely excited by our community's growth and transformation throughout the year, driven by our cooperative's unwavering commitment to delivering reliable and affordable high-speed internet in collaboration with Conexon Connect.

By now, you know the numerous ways fiber technology can revolutionize our daily lives, offering opportunities for real-time connection for personal and professional benefits, including online learning, efficient remote work, convenient telemedicine, and staying in contact with loved ones.

I'm pleased to share with you that throughout 2023, Sac Osage Electric, in collaboration with Conexon Connect, has made great progress in bringing fiber broadband service to our unserved and underserved communities and will continue that progress throughout our territory. In the fall, we saw our 3,400th member connected to the Connect, powered by Sac Osage Electric, network!

In addition to this big milestone, this community-transforming project date has had a mountain of accomplishments:

- We will have built over 2,000 miles of fiber line by the end of the year.
- We expect to connect approximately 3,900 members before the publication of this issue.
- We connect about 50 members per week.
- Service is now available to homes and businesses throughout our territory encompassing portions of Henry, St. Clair, Vernon, Barton, Cedar, Dade, Benton, Hickory, and Polk counties.

• We will complete construction in Dadeville in 1Q 2024.

• Our cooperative's fiber build is set to be complete by end of 2024, meaning every Sac Osage Electric member will have access to world-class internet service right here in their own service territory this year.

As we reflect on these accomplishments, we are excited about the journey ahead and the continued growth of our cooperative. Our members are an integral part of this journey, and our dedication to offering high-speed internet services through Connect, powered by Sac Osage Electric, is solely driven by the aim to meet your needs. We are working diligently to ensure that all our members have access to faster, more reliable, and more affordable fiber technology as quickly as possible.

Fiber-fast internet packages start as low as \$49.95 a month for speeds of up to 100 Mbps. Multi-Gigabit speed is also available for our power users for \$79.95 per month for 1 Gig or \$99.95 for 2 Gig service. HD-quality voice service is also available starting at \$29.95 per month, and Conexon Connect has partnered with DIRECTV to offer more options to "cut the cord" on cable with streaming service packages to fit any budget.

If you have not already, we encourage you to check your availability and sign up at [www.ConnectSignup.com](http://www.ConnectSignup.com). You can also call the Conexon Connect Customer Care team at 1-844-542-6663 Monday through Sunday from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. CST or email Customer Care anytime at [info@conexonconnect.com](mailto:info@conexonconnect.com).

Sac Osage Electric and Conexon are committed to providing members with access to world-class high-speed internet service. We wish you and your families okall the best in 2024. Know that we truly appreciate your patience as we continue our broadband

journey and look forward to connecting more customers in 2024.

Thank you for your support and trust in Sac Osage Electric. Feel free to reach out at any time with questions or concerns.

Sincerely,  
Aaron Ash  
General Manager  
Sac Osage Electric Cooperative



# SLOW INTERNET IS SO 2023!

Leave buffering screens and a lagging connection behind  
when you switch to Conexon Connect!

Choose one of our three speed tiers:

**Ultimate**  
**2 Gig\***  
\$99.95/mo.

**Premier**  
**1 Gig**  
\$79.95/mo.

**Basic**  
**100 Mbps**  
\$49.95/mo.

\*Connect Ultimate offers download speeds of up to 2 gigabits per second; upload speeds are typically between 1 and 2 gigabits per second. 2 gigabit speeds can be obtained by directly connecting via ethernet cable to the ONT. The device conducting the speed test must be capable of sending and receiving data at a minimum of 2 gigabits of throughput.

## DON'T MISS OUT!

Check availability at  
ConexonConnect.com,  
call 1-844-542-6663,  
or scan our QR code.

