

# Co-op CORNER

YOUR MONTHLY REPORT FROM SOCORRO ELECTRIC



February 2023

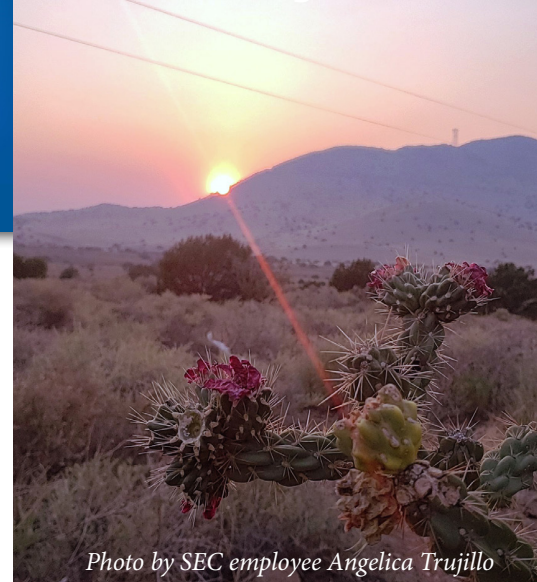


Photo by SEC employee Angelica Trujillo

## SEC Foundation Accepting Scholarship Applications!!! DEADLINE APRIL 3, 2023

*\$8,000 Scholarships to be Awarded for 2023-24 School Year*

For many years, the funds provided by the SEC Electric Foundation have been indispensable in assisting high school graduates from our service area pursue their dreams of higher education. We are pleased to announce that this benefit, available only to SEC Members, is still going strong!

The scholarship program provides awards for \$1,000 per semester which are renewable up to 8 semesters, for a total potential award of \$8,000! To renew the scholarship for each subsequent semester, the recipients will need to maintain a 2.50 cumulative GPA (on a 4.00 scale) and be enrolled as a full-time student each semester.

The scholarship funds are not an operating expense of Socorro Electric, as the funds come from unclaimed patronage capital refunds from prior years. Many times, our Members leave our service area before receiving these refunds and we are unable to locate them. We attempt to reach these members for 3 years, after which time any unclaimed funds are deposited into the SEC Foundation.

Scan for application->



Further details about the scholarship program and an application form can be found on our website by scanning the QR code on the left. Scholarship applications can also be obtained from your local high school counselor or at the SEC offices at 215 East Manzanares in Socorro.

## Socorro Crowns 2023 County Spelling Bee Winners!

We're honored to support the annual Socorro County Spelling Bee held on January 25th! This year's winners battled to the very end and went 29 rounds when Abigail Cadol, a 7th grader from Cottonwood Valley, finally came away with the win with the word "porcelain." Aliyah Baca (5th)

from San Antonio Elementary & Sharidyn Cosentino (8th) from Magdalena Middle School came in 2nd & 3rd respectively.

*L to R: Laurie Ocampo, Sharidyn Cosentino, Djeynaba Maiga, Aliyah Baca, Jenny Castro, Abigail Cadol, Reyna Gomez*



Office Phone:	575.835.0560 1.800.351.7575
Option 1:	Payment, Account Balance, Report an Outage
Option 2:	Speak with Service Rep. about an Outage
Option 3:	Payment Arrangements
Option 4:	New Construction
Option 5:	Search Phone Directory
Option 6:	Office Hours/Directions
Option 7:	Spanish Instructions
Option 8:	Member Services

After Hours	1.800.351.7575
Outage Phone:	1.855.881.8159

Office Hours:	Mon. - Fri. 8am - 4:30pm
Member Service:	Marilyn Madrid, MSR Supervisor - Ext 1504 mmadrid@socorroelectric.com

Accounting:	Jimmy Capps, CFO - Ext 1503 jcapps@socorroelectric.com
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Marketing & Public Affairs:	Ellena Tapia, Director of Comms. & Public Affairs - Ext 2502 etapia@socorroelectric.com
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WWW.SOCORROELECTRIC.COM

## Spotlight on TEAM SEC - Meet our Staff, Your Neighbor

Ellena Tapia joined the SEC team in July 2022, as the Director of Marketing Communications & Public Affairs. Ellena manages the SEC Foundation, scholarships, Youth Tour, coloring contest, spelling bee awards, all events and public relations, and supports members with Energy Audits. Additionally, she handles all marketing communications like the Co-op Corner and the Enchantment magazine. You may find her conducting an Electrical Safety class, recruitment/educational activities, or at any event in our member area representing Socorro Electric.

Ellena has an extensive professional background in marketing, graphic design, advertisement, event planning/management, fundraising, and a myriad of other areas. She has a Bachelor's in Business - marketing/graphic design, a Bachelor's in World Dance and a Masters in Education from the University of New Mexico. She brings excitement and enthusiasm to the co-op with a new fresh outlook on communicating with members and is always willing to support in any area needed.

She was raised in Veguita, New Mexico where she and her husband moved back to raise their two children and they still reside today. She is an avid sports mom and enjoys supporting teams with her fundraising skills, event planning, and overall team marketing needs. Ellena loves spending time with family, dancing, and NM sunsets.



**Ellena C. Tapia**  
*Director of Marketing Communications  
& Public Affairs*

## SEC Foundation continues support for Magdalena's Kids' Science Café!

The Kids' Science Café is a STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) educational outreach non-profit organization situated in Magdalena, New Mexico. The programs are geared for after school/out of school time frames and their instructional models are based on Discovery, Investigation, and Experiential Instructional methodologies. They currently offer Primary/Secondary programs and run three summer weeklong activities in aviation, space and geoscience. Staff include former teachers and this program brings Magdalena area students opportunities that many rural kids don't have an opportunity to receive.

We're proud to support the Kid's Science Café and founder Jim Sauer as he is a tireless advocate in finding amazing new opportunities for these students! This year the SEC Foundation was able to donate \$1,750 to the organization, where the students are now starting to learn about renewable energy! To learn more about these programs please visit <https://kidssciencecafe.org/>.



L to R: Jim Sauer, Founder of the Kids' Science Café, SEC Director of Communications & Public Affairs Ellena Tapia, and students Wyatt Williams, Cecil Harding, Marcella Harding, Cohen Billa, Reed Billa, and Josie Williams



**DURING WINTER MONTHS, SET YOUR THERMOSTAT TO 68 DEGREES WHEN YOU ARE HOME.**

**REMINDER:**  
**ELECTRICITY BILLS RAISE RAPIDLY WHEN USING ELECTRIC SPACE HEATERS. TRY TO LIMIT YOUR USE OR FIND ALTERNATIVE HEATING SOURCES.**

Photo Source: Mark Gilliland, Pioneer Utility Resources

## January 25, 2023 Board Report - the Board ....

- received departmental reports from Staff and recommendations from Board Committees.
- received a report on supply chain issues from Techline, our material supplier.
- discussed the upcoming Annual Meeting scheduled April 1<sup>st</sup> and Trustee Elections.

Meetings are normally on the 4th Wednesday @ 2 p.m. of each month. Please visit the website for specific meeting dates/times as they may vary with holidays, etc.

**Board Meeting Minutes, Agendas, Videos, and Policies are posted here:**  
<https://www.socorroelectric.com/board-resources-agendas-minutes-meeting-videos>

## Upcoming SEC Holidays:

- Presidents Day  
- February 20, 2023

## Energy Efficient Tips

- Change your light bulbs to LEDs to save energy.
- Use natural light.