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In the blink of an eye, summer break has come to an end. Most of us are looking around and wondering “How did that happen?”, but for many high school students a busy summertime is to credit for the time warp.

Earlier this summer, Meeker High School senior, Vivian Brown (left) represented WREA at the Washington D.C. Youth Tour. Brown was one of 41 exceptional Colorado and Wyoming students who were selected to represent their electric cooperative in the nation’s capital. While in D.C., Brown and her peers learned about the state and federal legislative process and why it’s important for citizens to remain engaged and involved with policymakers- even at a young age. Students spent one morning speaking with Sen. Michael Bennet, Sen, John Hickenlooper, Rep. Ken Buck, Rep. Lauren Boebert, Rep. Yadira Carveo and toured the U.S. Capital later that afternoon. Throughout the week, the group also visited the Vietnam, World War II and Korean War Memorials.



For Brown, it was the World War II Memorial that was most impactful. “The World War II Memorial stands as a powerful testament to the sacrifices and valor of those who served during one of the most pivotal moments in history,” Brown wrote in an email to WREA. “The memorial’s design beautifully captures the scale of sacrifice and the enormity of the conflict.”

Brown and the group also toured Fort McHenry, Mt. Vernon, the Pentagon Memorial, Lincoln Memorial, Ford’s Theatre, the National Cathedral, and the National Archives as well as the Smithsonian Museums of their choice. As a special treat, students were witness to the changing of the guard at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier in Arlington National Cemetery.

“Words cannot explain how much this trip has changed my outlook on the world,” said Brown. “I’m so grateful that our co-op stays true to its key principals and invests in our community.”

In a more local setting, Meeker High School juniors, Rebecca Hood and Alex Garcia (right) traveled to Clark, Colorado to represent WREA at the Youth Leadership Camp in July. Hood and Garcia were joined by 75 students from Colorado, Kansas, Oklahoma and Wyoming. The camp is designed to teach students about electric cooperatives and enrich their leadership and public speaking skills. Students run their own ‘camp cooperative’ for one week which includes electing fellow campers to serve on the camp board of directors, appointing a general manager and participating in a committee to help host the week-long camp of their peers. Campers also visited Mt. Warner, floated the Colorado River, visited Craig Station power plant, hosted a volleyball tournament, and worked in small groups of their peers and with world renowned speakers to hone leadership skills.



“I would like to say thank you to WREA for sponsoring me and giving me an opportunity to make lifelong memories,” said Alex Garcia.

WREA would like to reciprocate its gratitude to these bright, young leaders for representing our community and WREA this summer. We are proud of your accomplishments and the dynamic you bring to each of these events- year after year. WREA wishes all Meeker students, teachers, and administrators the very best in the coming year.