

July 2005

Homeschooler, **James Mieding**, was chosen as the state youth representative for Arizona for the National Rural Electric Cooperative.

Each year, representatives of the cooperative community's brightest youth gather in Washington, DC for the annual Youth Leadership Conference. Each youth is chosen by his or her state delegation, while attending the National Rural Electric Cooperative (NRECA) Youth Tour in Washington, DC, to represent his or her state on the Youth Leadership Council (YLC).

The purpose of the YLC conference is to build leadership skills, public speaking skills, and enhance the delegates' knowledge of the energy industry and the cooperative form of business. These students also make presentations at their statewide and local cooperative annual meetings.

A benefit to serving on the YLC is that the representatives are given the opportunity to attend and participate in the NRECA resolutions process during NRECA's Annual Meeting. Also, the YLC selects a national spokesperson to address the membership at the NRECA Annual Meeting and the Youth Tour delegates the following year.