

Eric Petersen

I'm one of the few lucky unicorns that was born and raised in Missoula, growing up on Wapikiya Dr. along with my parents and two older sisters. I graduated from Sentinel High School (Go Spartans!) and from there got out of town for a bit by going to Pacific Lutheran University in Tacoma, WA where I played collegiate soccer and managed to earn a BS in Applied Physics. I then spent some time in the Seattle area working for a small company called Integrated Technologies testing materials for the aerospace industry. From there I moved to Hot Springs, AR for about a year and a half, then moved back to Seattle, and then was given an opportunity to move back to Missoula to work for my Dad as an electrical construction project manager and drafter at PETES Electric. I was beyond happy to get back to Missoula and have been back ever since. Getting back to Missoula I was able to get involved with the community by coaching the Loyola High School Soccer Team for a season when they were co-ed, playing C-League Parks and Rec Soccer and getting involved with the Missoula Building Industry Association and the Missoula Chamber of Commerce. I quickly learned the term "you get out of it what you put into it" and it has served me well to be involved. I made lasting relationships through the Chamber's Business Networking Group. After five years working in the business I was able to leverage my first degree and earned a BS Electrical Engineering through the University of North Dakota Distance Engineering Program which qualified me to take the Montana Master Electrician's test of which I took and passed. Achieving this I was positioned to purchase the business from my parents in 2011 helping them to retire. I've been driving the PETES Electric ship ever since and have learned a lot along the way. I have two kids, one a graduate of Sentinel and one that is a senior at Sentinel.

One piece that had been missing on my list of wants was to participate in the Missoula Chamber of Commerce Leadership Missoula Program and I'm proud to have been accepted into the LM 40 class and am looking forward to learning more about Missoula!