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A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative



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Cooperatives: United We Stand

July 18, 2003

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Ott Elected President of Western Farmers Board

Alfalfa Electric's general manager, Max Ott, was recently elected as President of the Western Farmers Electric Cooperative's (WFEC) Board of Trustees.

While WFEC membership includes 19 distribution co-ops, the last distribution co-op manager to serve as board president was in 1960.

"I feel very honored to have been voted to this position and to represent Western Farmers in this capacity," said Ott about his one-year presidential term.

Among his first tasks will be to help select a new manager for WFEC and to renegotiate a power supply contract.

"I would like to work on the power supply needs to extend wholesale power contracts for our members," Ott explained. "We're also working on a rate study to develop a new rate structure that will be fair and equitable to all our members."

Gary Roulet, WFEC's General Manager



of Corporate Strategies, said, "Max provides excellent leadership for the difficult choices we face in the industry today. The board had a lot of confidence that he will get us through the challenges."

Ott's leadership skills are also recognized by Kansas Electric Cooperatives, Inc. (KEC).

KEC's Executive Vice President, Barry Hart, said, "The good news we received of Max's

election as President was no surprise to all of us in Kansas. It proves that Oklahoma electric cooperative leaders also recognize Max's talent, abilities and commitment to the members."

Hart added. "While this position brings with it a great deal of responsibility, especially since Western Farmer's is in the midst of selecting a new CEO, I am confident Max will take the challenges head on and Western Farmers members will benefit as a result of Max's leadership."



Have an idea or
a story for
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Cooperative Calendar

July	18	Sunflower Board Meeting, Sunflower Hdqtrs, Hays, 8:30 a.m.
	19-25	Cooperative Youth Leadership Camp, Steamboat Springs, CO.
	24	Eastern MDM Meeting, KEC Headquarters, Topeka, 10:00 a.m.
	27-30	NRECA / ECA Tax, Accounting & Finance Conference, Chicago, IL.
August	2	NRECA Board Leadership Course "Governance and Policy Issues for a New Century", Marriott Hotel, Overland Park, 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
	2	Executive Committee Meeting, Marriott Hotel, Overland Park, 12 -1 p.m.
	3	NRECA "New Board Challenges", Overland Park, 1:30-4:30 p.m.
	3	Budget and Operations Committee Meeting, Marriott Hotel, Overland Park, 11:00 a.m.
	2-4	KEC Summer Board Meeting, Marriott Hotel, Overland Park.
	7-8	Kansas Material Managers Assoc. Meeting, Country Inn & Suites, Salina.
	7-9	Belleville Midget Races, Belleville.
	15	Sunflower Board Meeting, Sunflower Hdqtrs, Hays, 8:30 a.m.
	21	KEPCo Board Meeting, KEPCo Hdqtrs, Topeka, 8:30 a.m.
	22	KCRE Golf Open, Salina.
	28	Eastern MDM Meeting, KEC Headquarters, Topeka, 10:00 a.m.
September	10	Leavenworth-Jefferson Annual Meeting – Dinner at 6:00 p.m., Meeting at 7:00 p.m. at McLouth High School Purple Gymnasium, McLouth.
	11-12	Kansas REC Managers Association Meeting, Plaza Inn, Garden City.
	13	Kansas Electric Cooperatives State Fair Day.
	18	KEPCo Board of Trustees Meeting, KEPCo Headquarters, Topeka.
	19	Sunflower Board of Directors Meeting, Sunflower Headquarters, Hays.
	25	Eastern MDM Meeting, KEC Headquarters, Topeka, 10:00 a.m.
	25-26	Kansas Line Supervisors Meeting, Manhattan.
29-30	Kansas Wind Energy Conference, Airport Hilton, Wichita.	
October	1	KEC Standing Committees, Holiday Inn Select, Wichita.
	2	KEC Board Meeting, Holiday Inn Select, Wichita.
	6-8	Region VII Meeting, Marriott Hotel, Overland Park.
	16	KEPCo Board of Trustees Meeting, KEPCo Hdqtrs, Topeka, 8:30 a.m.
	17	Sunflower Board Meeting, Sunflower Hdqtrs, Hays, 8:30 a.m.
	22-24	Kansas Accountants Club Meeting, Holiday Inn, 3606 Vine St., Hays.
November	23	Eastern MDM Meeting, KEC Headquarters, Topeka, 10:00 a.m.
	5	KEC District 3 Meeting, Agricultural Research Center, Hays.
	6	District 4 Meeting, Dodge City.
	13	District 1 Meeting, Flint Oak Lodge, Fall River.
	14	District 2 Meeting, KEPCo Headquarters, Topeka.
	19	Kansas Electric Power Cooperative (KEPCo) Annual Meeting – Dinner at 6:00 p.m. Meeting immediately following Dinner, Holiday Inn, Salina.
	20	KEPCo Board Meeting, Holiday Inn Holidome, Salina 8:30 a.m.
21	Sunflower Board of Directors Meeting, Sunflower Hdqtrs, Hays, 8:30 a.m.	
December	3	KEC Standing Committees, Holiday Inn Select, Wichita.
	4	KEC Board of Trustees Meeting, Holiday Inn Select, Wichita, 8:30 a.m.
	18	KEPCo Board of Trustees Meeting, KEPCo Hdqtrs, Topeka, 8:30 a.m.
	19	Sunflower Board of Directors Meeting, Sunflower Hdqtrs, Hays, 8:30 a.m.

New Course to Help Advance Your Management Career

You can now attend a special "blended learning" training program - Accepting a Management Role - to be offered at NRECA's 2003 Cooperative Managers & Supervisors Conference August 18-20 in San Antonio, Texas.

Accepting a Management Role helps you identify what employees want from managers, identify what organizations want from managers, avoid the six myths of management, manage different work styles, delegate for success, and deal effectively with difficult people.

For more information, call Valerie Taylor, NRECA, at (703) 907-5697.

Upcoming Workshops

NRECA Region VII Meeting Overland Park, Kansas

Sunday, October 5

Pre-Regional Training
Programs

Monday, October 6

Orientation Session for New
First-Term Distribution
System Directors

October 6 - 8

Regional Meeting
Overland Park Marriott

*Advance registration deadline date:
September 26, 2003.*

CCC Testing to be in Kansas

The Certified Cooperative Communicators (CCC) Program allows co-op communicators to earn a credential that signifies professional competence. This year, the CCC exam will be offered in Overland Park, KS, at the Region VII meeting in October. For more information, contact Matt Rhoades, NRECA, (703) 907-5722, matt.rhoades@nreca.org.

CKAE Fast Track Workshop

The NRECA Certified Key Accounts Executive (CKAE) fast track is scheduled the week of October 20-24, in Tampa, FL. For specific information regarding the CKAE certification, contact Matt Rhoades, NRECA, at (703) 907-5722.

For Sale

Almost new Vermeer 1250 Brush Chipper with 4.236 81 hp diesel engine, auto feed control system, pivotal tongue, pintle hitch, electric brakes, DOT required lights, tool box, hour meter, safety chains, and heavy duty tires. Has only 299 hours on it. For more information, contact Bob Hall, Ark Valley, at (620) 662-6661.

News from Kansas Cooperatives

Communicators Earn "Excellence" Awards



CREC vice president Bruce Graham, KEPCo, (center) poses with Shannon Borders, Pioneer Electric, and Bob Jennings, KEC, at the awards luncheon.

KEC's Bob Jennings and Pioneer Electric's Shannon Borders recently took honors in the 2003 "Spotlight on Excellence" awards program, sponsored by the Council of Rural Electric Communicators (CREC). Jennings received an Award of Merit for the KEC Annual Meeting program, and Borders received an Award of Excellence for her article "Lighting the World" that detailed Pioneer Electric's involvement with the NRECA International Foundation.

CREC presented the awards at the 2003 NRECA Marketing, Member Services and Communications Conference during a special recognition luncheon, July 14, in Reno, NV. CREC board members, including Bruce Graham of Kansas Electric Power Cooperative, Inc., announced the winners. All winning entries were displayed at the conference.

CREC developed the awards program to recognize top-rated performance in communication and marketing efforts by electric cooperatives. Electric cooperative communicators submitted 640 entries in the awards program, now in its 15th year. Faculty members of the University of Missouri School of Journalism and Southwest Missouri State University judged the entries.

"When Pioneer Electric gave me an opportunity to enter the contest, I looked forward to my work being reviewed by professors at the University of Missouri - the premiere journalism school in the nation," Borders said. "I was thrilled to receive the Award of Excellence."

"It was a nice honor," Jennings said. "With the large amount of competition, it shows that teamwork at KEC can accomplish an excellent product."

Kansas Co-ops Earn KDOCH Awards

DS&O and Pioneer Electric were honored at regional ceremonies in June in recognition of Kansas Business Appreciation Month. The awards, sponsored by the business development division of the Kansas Department of Commerce and Housing (KDOCH), were presented by Lieutenant Governor John Moore.

"From the smallest company... to major corporations..., Kansas businesses are the lifeblood of our Kansas communities," said Lt. Governor Moore. "We are proud to honor them for the enormous contributions they make to our economy and our quality of life."

Merit Recognition Awards in the service category were presented to DS&O and Pioneer Electric for their sponsorship of area events, enhancing community awareness of electrical safety, and capital investments.

Lyon-Coffey Responds to Accident



Lyon-Coffey linemen responded to a call where the driver of a boom truck pulled electrical wires down, making contact with the truck. Immediately after the accident, the driver stepped out of the cab of the truck and luckily survived. Lyon-Coffey is using this incident to reeducate its members on safety procedures.

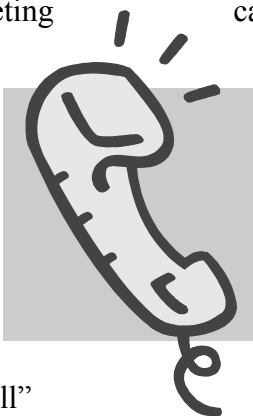
No More Telemarketer Calls to Interrupt Your Dinner

The Federal Trade Commission (FTC) activated their national do-not-call list on July 1.

Once you place your number on this list, the telemarketing calls should stop within three months. Placing your number on this list is a free service, although some scams have already been detected offering to help people sign up for a fee.

You can sign up for the National "Do Not Call" Registry online (<http://www.ftc.gov/bcp/conline/edcams/donotcall/index.html>) or by calling 1-888-382-1222. If telemarketers risk the \$11,000-per-call fine and call you after you have signed up for this list, you may report them or even take them to small claims court.

As with the Kansas no-call list, several types of businesses are exempted from having to use the registry. The businesses exempt



from the national registry include long-distance telephone companies, banks and credit unions, airlines, insurers, political campaigns, charities, and companies with which you already have a business relationship. (These can call you for up to 18 months after your last purchase, or three months after you make an inquiry or submit any type of application). But if you ask these callers to stop bothering you, they are required to comply.

Even if you choose not to sign up for the registry, there are still

some rules that telemarketers must follow:

- Telemarketers will be required to transmit their phone numbers and names to your Caller ID service.

- Telemarketers are required to tell you upfront who they are and why they're calling.

- There should be someone on the line when you pick up the phone, not just dead air, or you should get a recorded message saying who's calling.

If you are unsure if you are registered, you may verify your registration or simply re-register at www.donotcall.gov or by calling 1-888-382-1222.

Employment Opportunities

Twin Valley Seeks General Manager

Electric distribution cooperative serving approximately 2,450 meters in southeast Kansas seeks a qualified manager to succeed current general manager.

Candidates should possess a broad knowledge of electric distribution system management, including planning, finance, operations, personnel management and membership/public relations. The ability to work effectively with a member-elected board of nine trustees is essential. A college degree in an appropriate field is preferred. A strong personal commitment to the cooperative philosophy and to bettering the quality of life in the rural area served is required.

The cooperative has 15 full-time employees and over 940 miles of distribution line. Total utility plant investment approximately \$9.2M; gross operating revenues, approximately \$3.3M. The cooperative is headquartered in

Altamont, a small community of 1,000 residents, approximately 50 miles west of Joplin, MO.

Salary commensurate with experience and qualifications. Excellent benefits. Send resume with three references and salary history to: Board of Trustees, Twin Valley Electric Cooperative, Inc., PO Box 385, Altamont, KS 67330. (EOE)

Nebraska PPD Seeks Journeyman

Polk County Rural Public Power District is seeking a qualified Journeyman Lineman. PCRPPD provides service to consumers in four municipalities with 4,326 consumers and 1,060 miles of line. Candidates must have Journeyman experience, completed or be willing to complete the Merchant JT&S Program or an equivalent type of training, and have or be able to obtain a CDL. Contact Phil Burke, Operations Manager, PCRPPD, PO Box 465, Stromsburg, NE 68666-0465; or call (402) 764-4381.

Kansas Co-op Hall of Fame Seeks Nominations

Since its inception in 1999, 14 deserving people have been inducted into the Hall. Winners are inducted at the March joint annual meeting of the Kansas Cooperative Council and Kansas Farmers Service Association.

Nominees should have made significant contributions to cooperatives on a state or national level; have demonstrated innovation, personal commitment, leadership and vision; or advanced the cooperative form of enterprise.

Nomination forms can be obtained on the Kansas Co-op Council website at www.kansasco-op.coop or by calling 888-603-2667. Deadline is October 15.