

# Rural Power

## Pioneer trustee Perry Rubart writes memoirs

Pioneer Trustee Perry Rubart has published a memoir entitled, "Dare to Dream...Dare to Make the Dream Come True." The novel spans Rubart's life up until the present, detailing his depression-era childhood in the flint hills, young adulthood in the Korean war and business and family ventures in Ulysses from the 1960s-1990s.

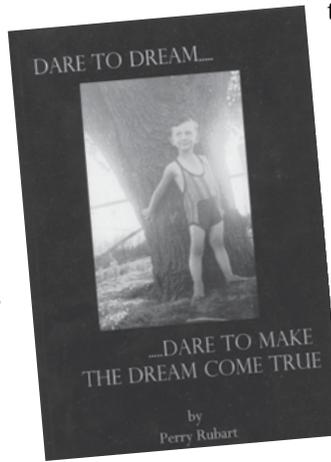
A quick and fascinating read, "Dare to Dream" highlights the importance of perseverance and faith in Rubart's life. When faced with formidable circumstances like poverty, having his business robbed and an explosion that left him hospitalized for three months,

Rubart keeps a positive outlook and tells the story in a way that focuses on the positive eventual outcomes.

"My goal was to leave a record for my children and my grandchildren," Rubart said. "I see this as a way of encouraging them and communicating with them.

The book also contains an afterword from one of Perry's daughters, recounting his community involvement and missionary work, and an added section detailing his work in the oil field industry, complete with a glossary of terms.

To purchase a copy of the book, contact Perry Rubart at 620-356-3632 or email [prubart@pld.com](mailto:prubart@pld.com).



## Kansas Electric Cooperatives to host its 70<sup>th</sup> annual meeting

KEC's Annual Meeting will be held Jan. 21-24, 2012, at the Capitol Plaza Hotel in Topeka.

Two NRECA trustee courses will be offered prior to the meeting on Jan. 21-22. On Jan. 23-24, a breakfast buffet is offered from 6-7:30 a.m. in the Emerald Ballroom.

The KEC Annual Meeting will begin Jan. 23 at 8 a.m. Attendees will hear from legislators, as well as reports from KCRE, CFC and NRECA. There will be a trustee roundtable, safety awards will be presented, and Leslie Kaufman will make a Kansas Cooperative Council presentation.

Also available to the meeting attendees on Jan. 23 is the 7<sup>th</sup> Annual KEC Expo. Breaks and door prizes will be given in the Exhibition Hall.

A photo area will be available in the Exhibition Hall on Monday from 3-5 p.m. for any trustee or manager who would like a new photo in the annual KEC Directory.

The Kansas Committee for Rural Electrification (KCRE) will host its annual silent auction on Jan. 23 and its annual meeting on Jan. 24. For more information or to donate items, please contact Carol Dorr, KEC.

The Legislative Reception will be held from

5:30-8 p.m. on Jan. 23, and is hosted by Federated and the Kansas electric cooperatives.

The KEC Auxiliary will meet on Jan. 23 from 8 a.m.-3 p.m. The agenda includes speaker Colonel Gary LaGrange and a tour of Cedar Crest. Donations of school supplies will be accepted for the *Help Us Learn...Give Us Hope* program.

A special KEC Auxiliary silent auction item is a hand-made quilt donated by Carolyn McNickle, wife of Twin Valley director Ronald McNickle. This year's KEC Auxiliary raffle prize is an outdoor, oak bench hand-crafted by John Roniger, member of Flint Hills. Raffle tickets are on sale now and will be available at the meeting.



Tickets for the quilt and the bench are available for \$1 each, or 6 for \$5. Proceeds benefit KEC's youth programs. For tickets, contact Carol Dorr at (785) 478-4554 or email [cdorr@kec.org](mailto:cdorr@kec.org).

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A Traditional Energy Cooperative

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## 800-mile high voltage transmission line to be built

Fluor Corporation has signed a memorandum of understanding with Plains and Eastern Clean Line LLC to provide development support, preliminary engineering, procurement and construction services for the proposed Plains & Eastern Clean Line project.

The 800 miles of overhead HVDC transmission lines will deliver 3,500 megawatts of power from Oklahoma, Texas and Kansas to the southeastern United States.

CLEAN LINE – 12/14/11

## Glenn English to retire in 2013

NRECA CEO Glenn English has announced his retirement, effective March 1, 2013, following the association's annual meeting in New Orleans.

The former 10-term congressman informed the NRECA Board of his decision at the start of its winter meeting Dec. 5 in Arlington, VA.

Board President Michael J. Guidry said the board will conduct an extensive search for candidates to serve as the next CEO.

NRECA – 12/7/11

## Ontario must phase out all power subsidies, says Ontario Sustainable Energy Association

The Ontario Sustainable Energy Association (OSEA) issued a report that calls for the Ontario Minister of Energy to cease subsidies to nuclear projects, and adopt a 'degression model' which phases out all premiums paid for new renewable energy projects during the next decade. Currently, new green power purchases for hundreds of Feed-in Tariff program projects collectively will cost Ontarians \$220 million per year.

OSEA – 12/9/11

## DECEMBER

23, 26 KEC Office Closed, Christmas Holiday.

## JANUARY

2 KEC Office Closed, New Year's Holiday.

18-19 KEPCo Board of Trustees Meeting, KEPCo Headquarters, Topeka.

20 Sunflower Board of Directors Meeting, Sunflower Headquarters, Hays.

21-24 KEC Annual Meeting, Capitol Plaza Hotel, Topeka.

21 Certified Cooperative Director Course (CCD), 2630.1 – Strategic Planning.

22 Board Leadership Course (BL), 901.1 – Rules and Procedures for Effective Board Meeting.

## Kansas Cooperative Council hosts Legislative Action Day

The Kansas Cooperative Council will host its Legislative Action Day (LAD) on Jan. 25, 2012, in Topeka. The annual event is co-hosted by the KCC, Kansas Grain & Feed Association and Kansas Agribusiness Retailers Association and will feature legislative briefings and a legislator appreciation dinner.

LAD is an excellent opportunity for co-op leaders (employees, directors and members) to learn about the legislative process and let lawmakers learn how

their actions influence cooperatives' daily operations.

The day begins with lunch at the Topeka Country Club. Governor Sam Brownback has been invited to be a luncheon speaker along with Senate President Steve Morris and House Speaker Mike O'Neal. After an opportunity to visit the Statehouse and meet with individual legislators, attendees will welcome policymakers to a dinner at the Topeka Country Club.

## upcomingtraining

## Two trustee courses offered at KEC Annual Meeting

The KEC Annual meeting will be held at the Capitol Plaza Hotel in Topeka on January 21 - 24, 2012. Two trustee courses will be offered that weekend.

Scheduled for Saturday, Jan. 21, from 9:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m., is the CCD

course 2630.1 Strategic Planning, instructed by Scott Luecal.

Scheduled for Sunday, Jan. 22, from 11:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m. is the Board Leadership Course 901.1 Rules and Procedures for Effective Board Meetings, instructed by Colette Trohan.

## NRECA Annual Meeting - building a better world

The NRECA 2012 Annual Meeting online registration and hotel reservation is now open at Cooperative.com.

This year's annual gathering of cooperative leaders from across the country is scheduled for March 1-9 in San Diego, CA. It's time to celebrate the strength of the cooperative network, to conduct important business of our association and to focus on how we as cooperatives can continue our mission of providing members with affordable and reliable electricity.

The annual meeting is March 5-7, and the director education dates are March 1-4. For a complete listing of

which courses are available, visit the annual meeting page on Cooperative.com. This year's TechAdvantage Expo will be March 6-8, and the Tech Advantage Conference is March 7-9.

For those arriving in San Diego early, Touchstone Energy Cooperatives and NRECA are again sponsoring a Community Service Day on Saturday, March 3. This volunteer project spotlights the United Nations International Year of Cooperatives. Volunteers are encouraged to meet and work with other dedicated cooperative employees to demonstrate the cooperative commitment to community.

## Co-op employees learn supervisory skills

From Dec. 14-16, 40 cooperative employees from across the state sharpened their supervisory skills in a series of workshops held in Wichita.



NRECA's Bryan Singletary (right) facilitates the supervisory modules at the December workshop in Wichita.

experienced supervisors, and CEOs.

"It was a very good course with an excellent instructor, and I picked up several tips that I plan to utilize

now and in the future," said Caney Valley's Kitty Champlin.

Pioneer's Rae Gorman said, "I learned valuable skills through this course; the importance of maintaining clear channels of communication, developing goals and invaluable time-management skills - just to name a few."

To earn the supervisory certificate, the attendees must complete all nine interactive, co-op specific half-day courses. The remaining modules will be offered May 22-23, 2012.

## KEC's Doug Shepherd named KSAE president

At its December Annual Meeting, the Kansas Society of Association Executives (KSAE) elected KEC's Doug Shepherd as the society's 2012 President.



Doug Shepherd

Others elected to the KSAE Board of Directors were Wendy Harms, Kansas Aggregate Producers Association/Kansas Ready Mix Concrete Association, Secretary/Treasurer; 2012-2014 Board of Directors: Ashley Charest, Centric Management & Consulting, Jennifer Findley, Kansas Hospital Association, and Steve Kearney, Kearney and Associates.

KSAE is a non-profit organization dedicated to the professional advancement of association management executives.

## Touchstone Energy membership grows in Kansas

Heartland and Prairie Land are both new members of Touchstone Energy Cooperatives.

The separate decisions were approved at Heartland's October board meeting and Prairie Land's November board meeting.

"We've been very familiar with Touchstone Energy, and over the last couple of years they've added some programs that have upped the ante and made it a good investment for us," said Ron Graber, Heartland's member services and communications specialist.

Joining Touchstone Energy will give both cooperatives access to programs available only to Touchstone Energy members, including training, educational resources and communications tools.

"Some of the survey resources are going to be very helpful for us," said Anna Foley, Prairie Land's Member services assistant.

With the addition of these two cooperatives, there are now 25 Touchstone Energy members in Kansas.

## KEPCo celebrates its 37th annual meeting

Approximately 180 representatives from KEPCo member cooperatives, staff and guests attended the 37th Annual Meeting, Nov. 16 at the Prairie Band Hotel & Casino in Mayetta.

Guests were invited to attend a reception preceding the Annual Meeting, sponsored by GDS Associates, C.H. Guernsey & Co., Miller, Balis, &

O'Neil, Polsinelli Shughart, and Core-First Bank & Trust.

Kirk Thompson, KEPCo president, reviewed the year and challenges ahead. Stephen E. Parr, KEPCo executive vice president & CEO, welcomed the group, provided remarks about KEPCo's accomplishments and working with members on future issues.

## insympathy

### Jack Denton

Jack B. Denton, Doniphan trustee, passed away on Dec. 6.

Denton served on the Doniphan board since 1988, and was currently serving as Board president. He also had served as a KEC board member since 2005.

Visitation was Dec. 9 at the Harman-Rohde Funeral Home, Wathena. A private family interment will be held at a later date.

Memorials may be made in care of Harman-Rohde Funeral Home and will be donated to the Shriners Hospital for Children.

Cards for the family can be sent to Betty Denton, 418 150th Rd, Denton, KS 66017.

### Dewayne "Barney" Barnett

Dewayne C. "Barney" Barnett, former Caney Valley trustee, passed away on Dec. 12.

Barnett served on the Caney Valley board from 1994-2003, and also served as a board member at KEC and KEPCo.

The family has suggested memorials to the First Baptist Church in Sedan. Those remembrances can be left in care of the David W. Barnes Funeral Home, 209 N. Douglas, Sedan, KS 67361.

# Cooperatives show commitment to community during holidays



Clockwise from left: Brian Dreiling, Midwest Energy, plays Santa for employee's children. LJEC's Kevin Tenfelde helps hang the city decorations. Brown-Atchison's Rod Gerdes and Michelle McClaskey hand out candy at a local parade. Tri-County's Ray Damron puts the nose on 'Cimmy' the dinosaur at the Cimarron Heritage Center museum. Wheatland linemen put up the holiday decorations in Great Bend. Sumner-Cowley Electric employees collect gifts for their adopted family. Victory's Steve Day dresses as Santa in the Dodge City Parade of lights. Victory employees and board members donated food and toys to a local organization.



Photo by Dale Hogg, Great Bend Tribune



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