



# OKLAHOMA PUBLIC POWER

A publication of the Municipal Electric Systems of Oklahoma

November 2014

## MESO Board and Staff Looking Forward to 2015 and Next Decade

As the cool temperatures of Fall roll across Oklahoma, the MESO's Board of Directors and the professional staff are preparing for the next decade and activities for calendar year 2015.

"The MESO Board of Directors looked at two important questions at their 2014 Board Retreat, 'where will MESO be in ten years?' and 'what will our members need in the way of services and support?'" said MESO's General Manager, Tom Rider.

In addition to its own deliberations, the Board heard from Dave Osburn, General Manager of the Oklahoma Municipal Power Authority and Dan Sullivan, Chief Executive Officer and Investment Officer for the Grand River Dam Authority. Both provided insight as to the issues that are affecting public power now and that are anticipated in the coming years.

During the next six months, the Board's Executive Committee, with support from staff, will be developing the blueprint for the organization's next ten years. The plan will address such areas as training, safety, education and advocating on behalf of

Oklahoma municipal electric systems. A report to the membership will be made during the MESO Annual Meeting scheduled for April 27 during the MESO Public Power Conference in Norman.

"From a planning perspective, we are looking long-term and short-term, this, in turn, can allow our members to be in a position to take part in the many things we are planning for 2015 while ensuring the level of quality service for years to come," Rider said.

Tom Dougherty, MESO's Job Training and Safety Director, has planned dates in 2015 for a series of apprentice-related training activities for the entire year.

"These training sessions come from our JT&S oversight committee and are necessary for anyone wanting to become an apprentice lineman or to brush up on their skills," Dougherty said. "They are scheduled about every couple of months, so it should be easy for anyone interested to make the sessions.

"We will be adding some additional training to  
(see LOOKING FORWARD, page 9)

## Cities Celebrate Public Power Week



Blackwell Public Power shows appreciation to customers with hot dogs, chili dogs, give aways, door prizes and games at their fari-grounds. (Left photo)

The Okeene Power System hosted an open house for customers who were given a CFL bulb and the 30th guest won a home weatherization kit. (Right photo)



### In This Issue

<b>Drake Rice Recommends You Review Planning and Slow Down – Page 2</b>	<b>GRDA Welcomes Owasso's Vandevier to Board of Directors – Page 3</b>	<b>Kelly Outlines APPA Priorities, Describes Challenges Faced by Public Power – Page 4</b>	<b>MESO Thanks Ron Nemecek for More Than 20 Years of Service – Page 7</b>
---	--	--	---

## Drake Rice Recommends You Review Planning and Slow Down

*Editor's Note: As part of MESO's monthly newsletter, we introduce you to our board members in a Q&A format. In this issue, we meet Drake Rice. In addition to serving on the MESO Board as an ex-officio member, he is OMPA's Director of Member Services.*



I did. However, after college, 4 years in the Air Force with a tour in Vietnam, I started Graduate School at the University of New Mexico and moved to OSU and planned to enter City Management. I got an internship at Cushing and very quickly realized the value of a municipal

electric system to a city. I went on to work for Cushing as an assistant to the manager and then as City Manager for Prague and Blackwell.

**Q. How did you get your start in the electric utility industry?**

A. My first job out of high school was working for PSO at the Sand Springs, Ok power plant. My grandfather and uncle both worked for PSO, but they and my dad made me promise I would quit in August and go to college, which

**Q. Is there one thing that you tell every member of your team?**

A. "Treat people like you would want to be treated."

**Q. What do you think the benefits are of public power?**

A. Local Ownership, Local Control and Local Benefits.

(see RICE, page10)

### MESO MEMBER UTILITIES

- |                     |                |                      |
|---------------------|----------------|----------------------|
| Altus*              | GRDA*          | Pond Creek*          |
| Anadarko            | Hominy*        | Poplar Bluff, Mo     |
| Benton, Ark*        | Hope, Ark*     | Prague*              |
| Bentonville, Ark*   | Kaw City       | Prescott, Ark*       |
| Blackwell*          | Kingfisher*    | Purcell*             |
| Braman              | Laverne*       | Pryor*               |
| Broken Bow          | Lexington      | Ryan                 |
| Burlington          | Lindsay*       | Sallisaw*            |
| Byng                | Mangum*        | Siloam Springs, Ark* |
| Clarksville, Ark*   | Manitou        | Skiatook*            |
| Claremore*          | Mannford*      | South Coffeyville    |
| Coffeyville, Kansas | Marlow*        | Spiro*               |
| Collinsville*       | Miami*         | Stillwater*          |
| Comanche*           | Monett, Mo*    | Stilwell*            |
| Copan               | Mooreland*     | Stroud*              |
| Cordell*            | Newkirk*       | Tahlequah*           |
| Cushing*            | Okeene*        | Tecumseh*            |
| Duncan*             | Olustee        | Tonkawa*             |
| Edmond*             | OMPA*          | Wagoner*             |
| Eldorado            | Orlando        | Walters*             |
| Fairview*           | Paragould, Ark | Watonga*             |
| Fort Supply         | Paris, Ark     | Waurika*             |
| Frederick*          | Pawhuska*      | Waynoka*             |
| Geary*              | Pawnee*        | Wetumka              |
| Goltry*             | Perry*         | Wynnewood            |
| Granite*            | Ponca City*    | Yale*                |

\*Job Training & Safety Participants

### MESO BOARD OF DIRECTORS & STAFF

**President**

Dean Sherrick, Edmond

**President-Elect**

David Slezcicky, Kingfisher

**Vice President**

Tim Schook, Stroud

**Secretary / Treasurer**

Daryl Golbek, Claremore

**Directors**

Mike Doublehead, Tahlequah

Phil Johnston, Ponca City

John Ramey, Okeene

Gary Pruet, Pryor

David Yeager, Duncan

Dan Blankenship, Stillwater

**Ex-Officio Members**

Drake Rice, OMPA

Grant Burget, GRDA

**General Manager**

Tom Rider

**Director of**

**Administration & Accounting**

Deborah Miner

**Administrative Assistants**

Tammie Murdoch

Michelle Danner

**Director of Communications**

Jeff Kaufmann

**Director of Training & Safety**

Tom Dougherty

**Training and Safety Instructors**

Ron Nemecek

Terry Knox

Gary Gardner

**MESO OFFICE**

308 N.E. 27th Street

Oklahoma City, OK 73105-2717

(405)528-7564 or (800)636-MESO

(405)524-5095 FAX

www.meso.org

## GRDA Welcomes Owasso's Vandevier to Board of Directors

With a background in engineering and the oil and gas industry, Owasso's Joseph "Joe" Vandevier is expected to bring a wealth of knowledge to his new role as a member of the Grand River Dam Authority (GRDA) Board of Directors.

On Tuesday (October 14), Oklahoma Governor Mary Fallin announced that she was appointing Vandevier to a five-year term on the GRDA Board, through August 2019. He replaces outgoing GRDA Director Allen Wright (Edmond). Vandevier began his service on the GRDA Board on Monday (October 20), during a special meeting in Tulsa.

"We look forward to Director Vandevier's service and contributions to our organization," said GRDA Chief Executive Officer

Dan Sullivan. "His experience speaks for itself and his leadership will be valuable to GRDA as we enter this exciting time in our history."

Recently, GRDA completed pricing on a \$320 million bond issue and will soon begin construction on a 495 megawatt (MW) combined-cycle natural gas generation plant. The Authority has also expanded its wind generation portfolio in recent months and will also begin a major emissions control upgrade on one of its coal-fired units at its Grand River Energy Center.

"Joe Vandevier's experience in management, business development and engineering brings a valuable perspective to the GRDA," said Governor Fallin in a news release announcing his

appointment. "His leadership and dedication will serve the GRDA and its members well."

Vandevier is the founder and current managing member of Downhole Dynamics, a company that provides business and technical consulting for enhanced production in the oil and gas industry.

He has worked in that industry for the past 40 years in a variety of roles, having served as vice president of operations in the United States, Canada and Russia for Centrilift. He also served as president and chief operating officer of Wood Group ESP, and as a senior adviser for Baker Hughes. Vandevier also served as president of ProductionQuest, a business branch of Baker Hughes.



**Power by Design**

**Garver customizes energy services to meet client standards**

High-voltage transmission lines	Protection and control relaying
Power distribution substations	Route-selection studies
Distribution systems	Environmental and permitting
Generation	Surveying and property acquisition
System studies	

For more information contact Alan Miner at [AEMiner@GarverUSA.com](mailto:AEMiner@GarverUSA.com)



**Exceeding** Expectations

GarverUSA.com

## Kelly Outlines APPA Priorities, Describes Challenges Faced by Public Power

By Jeannine Anderson  
News Editor

Some say that America has become a monoculture, but "that is really not true," Sue Kelly, the president and CEO of the American Public Power Association, told a public power audience in San Antonio. Since becoming CEO last April, she has spent a great deal of time on the road to visit public power utilities across the country, and has been struck by the diversity of APPA's members, she told APPA's Legal Seminar.

For each public power utility — big, small or in between — "our advocacy mission is to give you the tools and freedom to provide reliable, affordable electric service while practicing good environmental stewardship," she said.

Although public power always has faced challenges, "right now we face some difficult issues that directly impact utility operations," Kelly said. She said five of the top challenges are:

- the Environmental Protection Agency's proposed rule on carbon dioxide emissions from existing power plants;
- physical and cyber security issues;
- mandatory capacity markets;
- distributed generation; and
- the preservation of tax-exempt financing.

Comments on the EPA's proposed rule on CO2 are due on Dec. 1, and the agency plans to have a final rule out by June 2015. APPA has a number of concerns about the rule, and "we care deeply what all of our members think about it," Kelly told the room of public power lawyers. Assisted by a CEO working group designated by APPA's CEO Task Force on Climate Change, as well as the full task force, the association has prepared a set of draft comments, she said.

Kelly pointed out that although the environmental agency has said it is proposing to set "state-specific, rate-based goals for CO2 emissions from the power sector," as well as guidelines for the states to follow in developing plans to achieve the goals, these "goals" the EPA is talking about really are requirements, not mere objectives.

APPA will argue for regulations that prevent customers of public power utilities from paying stranded costs for existing or modified fossil fuel-fired generating units, she said. The association also will argue for allowing these units to operate for their remaining useful lifetimes.

Cyber and physical security is another hot issue, Kelly observed. The North American Electric Reliability Corporation (NERC) now is in Version 5 of its cybersecurity standards to protect critical infrastructure. Those standards are enforceable as of April 1, 2016, and APPA is holding in-person and online training to help its members prepare, she said. In March of this year, the Federal Energy



(see KELLY, page 5)

An advertisement for Guernsey, an engineering, architectural, and consulting firm. The ad features a large image of a power substation with the text "public power" overlaid. To the right is a vertical list of services. The bottom section includes the Guernsey logo, contact information, and a QR code.

**public power**

Financial & Rate Analysis  
Power/Fuel Supply  
Restructuring  
Strategic Planning  
Market Analysis  
Load Forecasting  
Power Contract Negotiation  
Gas & Electric Acquisition  
Substation  
Transmission  
Distribution  
Architecture  
Power Engineering  
Environmental Services  
Security

Partnering with municipalities since 1928 providing quality engineering, architectural and consulting services throughout the United States.

Guernsey primarily works closely with electric cooperatives and municipal electric systems. Beyond traditional substation, transmission and distribution design services, we provide technical consulting services, such as power system planning, supervisory control and data acquisition/load management, relay coordination, renewable generation, Certificates of Convenience and Necessity, and environmental/regulatory compliance.

**guernsey**  
ENGINEERS  
ARCHITECTS  
CONSULTANTS

REALIZE THE DIFFERENCE  
405.416.8100 | guernsey.us

HEADQUARTERS 5555 NORTH GRAND BOULEVARD OKLAHOMA CITY, OK 73112

## Kelly

(continued from page 4)

Regulatory Commission ordered NERC to file new reliability standards to address physical security risks for "identified critical facilities" within 90 days -- a very short time frame. NERC obeyed promptly, and filed its standard on May 23, ahead of schedule, Kelly said.

In July, FERC issued a notice of proposed rulemaking on the physical security standard. The commission said that governmental entities should have the right to add or subtract facilities from an entity's list of critical facilities, a proposed change that raised concerns for APPA. APPA, along with the Large Public Power Council and the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association, filed joint comments in early September urging FERC to accept NERC's original proposal as it was filed.

One of APPA's goals for the physical security standards is to "limit them to the truly critical physical facilities," Kelly told the Legal Seminar. There are 55,000 substations, and "we cannot protect every facility," she said. "It's like trying to boil the ocean."

Mandatory capacity markets run by regional transmission organizations are causing problems for public power utilities and their customers in the East, Kelly said. They are called capacity markets, but they

really are not markets at all, she said. Rather, they are administrative constructs that are making life difficult for consumer-owned utilities in the areas where they have taken hold, she said. APPA has worked to prevent the spread of mandatory capacity markets to other regions, such as the Midcontinent Independent System Operator, Kelly said.

Another interesting development in the world of utility regulation is that FERC commissioners recently split, 50-50, over the results of ISO New England's Forward Capacity Market Auction No. 8. Despite allegations that prices in that auction were affected by market manipulation due to the strategic withholding of capacity, FERC allowed the auction to take effect "by operation of law."

There were four sitting commissioners, and they could not agree over this matter, Kelly explained. Commissioners Tony Clark and Norman Bay said FERC should set the results of the New England auction for hearing, to make sure the results were "just and reasonable," as required by the Federal Power Act. The other two commissioners, Cheryl LaFleur (the agency's chairman) and Philip Moeller, had a different point of view, saying that as long as the tariff was followed, that was sufficient to allow the rates to go into effect.

(see KELLY, page 9)

ENGINEERING & OPERATIONS
CUSTOMER CONNECTIONS
BUSINESS & FINANCE
SYSTEM IMPROVEMENT



**Hometown Connections®**  
DELIVERING VALUE TO PUBLIC POWER

*Integrated Solutions for Public Power*



**BUSINESS & FINANCE**

*For premier cost of service studies/rate design, CIS/billing/financials, workforce solutions, and energy risk management, turn to Hometown Connections for Business & Finance solutions from public power's leading consultants and software providers.*

---

*partners*






970.682.4217 + [www.hometownconnections.com](http://www.hometownconnections.com)

## GRDA's Sullivan Addresses Infrastructure Financing at DOE Meeting

For publicly-owned electric utilities like the Grand River Dam Authority, tax-exempt bonds continue to be an important financing tool. However, alterations to that exempt status could make it more difficult for these utilities to build the infrastructure they need to serve customers reliably.

That was one of the points made by Grand River Dam Authority Chief Executive Officer Dan Sullivan at a recent United States Department of Energy (DOE) event focused on national energy issues.

Speaking on behalf of the American Public Power Association (APPA) Sullivan was a panelist during DOE's Quadrennial Energy Review (QER) on Monday, October 6, in New York City. The panel was put together to discuss the future of municipal bond tax exemptions and how that might affect investments in transmission, storage and distribution (TS&D) infrastructure. In other words, the

infrastructure needed to support the national electric grid.

"We believe that if a new federal tax were imposed on municipal bond interest, it would increase the cost of issuing these bonds," said Sullivan in his address. "This, in turn, would make infrastructure investments more difficult."

In recent years, GRDA has joined with APPA, the Large Public Power Council and the nation's public power industry in stressing the importance of tax-exempt bonds as a financing tool for publicly-owned utilities. Sullivan noted that even discussions about possible changes to the tax treatment of municipal bonds can drive up financing costs for public power utilities. If these utilities are left with stranded costs, it can make financing new infrastructure investments — needed to meet customer demand and maintain reliability -- more expensive.

"I will focus my remarks



today on the potential damage a change in the tax treatment of municipal bonds could have on my and other public power utilities' ability to finance infrastructure investments," added Sullivan. "While investor-owned utilities finance such investments through debt and equity, for a variety of reasons public power utilities rely almost exclusively on municipal bonds. In the last decade, nearly 1,400 power-related municipal bonds providing roughly \$110 billion in new money financing were issued."

That has been GRDA's

(see GRDA, page 8)



### Kerr Dam 50th Anniversary

(Top left photo) GRDA Board Chairman Tom Kimball (left) greets Pryor High School Band Director Roy Jackson. The Pryor High School Band was on hand at the GRDA Energy Control Center on Friday, October 24, to take part in GRDA's 50th anniversary celebration for Robert S. Kerr Dam. The band from the same high school led a parade celebrate the groundbreaking for the dam on January 2, 1062.

(Bottom left photo) Oklahoma Secretary of Energy and Environment Michael Teague addresses the crowd at GRDA's 50th anniversary celebration for Robert S. Kerr Dam on Friday, October 24.

### APPA Customer Connections Conference

(Right photo) OMPA's Jennifer Rogers speaks at APPA's Customer Connection Conference in Jacksonville, FL. She was joined at the conference by others from MESO, OMPA and GRDA.

## MESO Thanks Ron Nemecek for More Than 20 Years of Service

After 45 years of service in the electric utility industry, MESO's Ron Nemecek is retiring. He delivered safety presentations to public power cities across Oklahoma for more than 20 years.

He joined the MESO team as a Training and Safety Coordinator in 1992 after a 23 year career with OG&E.

"Ron was an asset to MESO and the public power cities he served," said Tom Dougherty, MESO's Director of Job Training and Safety. "We thank him for his service and wish him the best.

"His knowledge & skill set was the foundation of his training, and we try to add personal experience as part of our curriculum while we are teaching. I like that Ron always has a story to tell."

Ron reports he will miss the people and the places after he retires, and he has some "honey dos" to catch up on.

A retirement celebration will be held during the MESO Public Power Conference scheduled for April 26-28, 2015.



### MESO Affiliate/ Associate Members

- Allgeier, Martin & Associates, Inc.
- Altec
- APPA
- CIA Machinery
- Equipment Technology, Inc.
- ESC Engineering
- Finley & Cook, CPA's
- Fred Oberlender & Associates
- Garver, LLC
- Grand River Dam Authority
- Green Equipment Company
- Guernsey
- Hometown Connections
- Irby
- Kriz-Davis Company
- Local Government  
Testing Consortium
- M.W. Bevins Company
- Marathon Electric Co.
- Northwest Transformers Co., Inc.
- Oklahoma Municipal  
Power Authority
- Protective Equipment  
Testing Laboratory
- Solomon Corporation
- Sooner Meter Sales & Service
- Southwestern Power Administration
- Southwestern Power  
Resource Association
- Stanley Consultants
- T&R Electric Supply Co., Inc.
- Techline
- United Systems  
Technology, Inc. (USTI)

### UPCOMING 2015 MESO & APPA EVENTS

March 9 – 12, 2015  
**APPA Legislative Rally**  
Washington, D.C.

April 26-28, 2015  
**MESO Public Power Conference**  
Norman, Oklahoma

May 16, 2015  
**APPA Lineworkers Rodeo**  
Sacramento, CA

May 17-20, 2015  
**APPA Engineering and  
& Operations Technical  
Conference**  
Sacramento, CA

June 5-10, 2015  
**APPA National Conference**  
Minneapolis, MN

Sep 23-24, 2015  
**Oklahoma Municipal League  
Conference**  
Tulsa, Oklahoma

October 1, 2015  
**MESO Lineworkers Rodeo**  
Location TBD



**Northwest Transformer Co., Inc.**  
2 SE 29th • Oklahoma City, OK 73129  
(405) 636-1454  
Fax (405) 636-0127 • 1-800-633-1613  
"Transformer Sales & Service"  
"OCR Repair"

## Conference Named for Energy Services Manager

Organizers for a state-wide conference designed for energy engineers have named their event after Roger Farrer, long-time Energy Services Manager for the Oklahoma Municipal Power Authority (OMPA).

The Roger Farrer Energy Engineers Conference was first held this October in Tulsa. It is an annual event, hosted by the Oklahoma chapter for the Association of Energy Engineers (AEEOK).

Some of the topics the first year included advances in lighting, the impact of distributed generation and geothermal heat pumps, energy efficiency and market barriers.

“The Oklahoma chapter of the Association of Energy Engineers has been and is blessed by Roger Farrer’s leadership, dedication, and, most importantly, his actions in energy efficiency and management for all Oklahomans. To demonstrate our appreciation, we have chosen to name our annual conference for Roger,” AEEOK President Garen Ewbank said. “Roger, thank you from the AEEOK.”

Farrer has managed Energy Services at OMPA for nearly 20 years, administering the Competitive Utility Program, providing training for member city personnel and supervising the production of publications. He holds a Ph.D in physics and a certification for Certified Energy Manager.

Farrer has served in various capacities on the board of the Oklahoma chapter of AEE, including president, vice president and secretary. He also has held committee and board positions with the American Public Power Association, the Interstate Solar Coordination Council and the Solar Rating and Certification Corporation.

The Oklahoma Association of Energy Engineers is a group of energy management professionals dedicated to promoting the highest level of competency and credentials in energy management within Oklahoma. It is the state chapter of the Association of Energy Engineers, which is a 16,000-member network, focused on energy engineering, energy efficiency and management, renewable and related fields

---

## GRDA

*(continued from page 6)*

approach. In fact, Sullivan spoke at the QER just a day before retail pricing on GRDA’s \$320 million bond issue. Most of the proceeds from that issue will be used to construct a new, combined cycle natural gas generation plant at GRDA’s Grand River Energy Center (GREC) near Chouteau, Oklahoma.

“This is certainly an issue we understand at GRDA,” said Sullivan, “and I think our recent bond offering is a good example of why it’s so important. Altering the tax exempt status could adversely affect public power ratepayers all across the country.”

In closing, Sullivan also addressed regulatory uncertainty as another issued faced by publicly-owned electric utilities as they look to build new infrastructure and prepare to meet the future needs of consumers.

“If the question is how to make infrastructure investments more bankable, the clear answer is to

eliminate uncertainty,” Sullivan said. “I have talked about the risk of an unprecedented tax on municipal bonds, but the same is true about the risk utilities, our investors, and our customers face from regulatory uncertainty.”

He added that the risk of investments being rendered obsolete by new regulations and inconsistent policy objectives could make future policy decisions difficult and thus “limit the portfolio diversity that is foundational to our credit strength.”

Hosted by DOE Secretary Ernest Moniz, the QER meeting was open to the public for the purpose of gathering input on the energy infrastructure finance issue.

Based in Washington, D.C., APPA is the service organization for the nation’s more than 2,000 community-owned electric utilities. Collectively, these utilities serve more than 47 million Americans.

## Looking Forward

(continued from page 1)

meet various needs and our trainers will continue to be in cities doing regular safety meetings," Dougherty added.

Planning for MESO's Professional Development Training for calendar year 2015 also is underway.

"Our onsite professional development includes five visits a year for a series of one and a half hour sessions," said Jeff Kaufmann, MESO's Director of Communications and Professional Development. "We are currently scheduling all of the dates for next year and finalizing topics to be covered.

"We have about one quarter of public power cities currently participating in this training, and we are in a position to include additional cities," Kaufmann said.

The "Crucial Training" sessions — part of LGTC (alcohol and drug testing) — are planned for 2015 as well.

"This training is very important because it trains senior staff and supervisors on the detection, action and documentation phases if an employee is suspected of

drug and/or alcohol abuse in the workplace," said Deborah Miner, MESO's Director of Administration and Finance. "This training has been conducted throughout the state over the past year and has been very well received.

"We expect to continue sessions in various regions around the state and we are currently seeking cities willing to host the events," Miner added.

In addition to MESO Training Programs, the MESO team and committees are preparing for annual events such as the MESO Public Power Conference scheduled for April 26 – 28 in Norman, Oklahoma and the MESO Lineworkers Rodeo tentatively scheduled for October 1 (location to be determined).

There are also several American Public Power Association activities which the staff will attend.

Anyone interested in learning more about MESO Job Training & Safety Training, MESO Professional Development Training, Crucial Training or any MESO events, please call 405-528-764, watch for emails, or check the MESO website, [www.meso.org](http://www.meso.org).

## Apprentice 1-2 day class training sessions for 2015\*

Jan 14 & 15 2015

### Apprentice Climbing School Sallisaw

Instructor: Tom Dougherty

March 18, 2015

### AC/DC Fundamentals

MESO Office – Oklahoma City

Instructor: Dean Sherrick

May 13 - 14, 2015

### Tools of the trade class & Overhead Electric Basics

Edmond

Instructor: Tom Dougherty

July 15, 2015

### Underground Basics

Edmond

Instructor: Rusty Brown

Sept 14-18 2015

### Line Design Build/MESO Lineworkers Rodeo Build

Location TBD

Instructor: Tom Dougherty

November 18, 2015

### Pole-top Equipment

Edmond

Instructor: Tom Dougherty

\*Dates and/or instructors are subject to change.

## Kelly

(continued from page 5)

The Eastern-style capacity markets "have not done a good job of supporting new generation capacity," Kelly added. APPA issued a report earlier this month showing that very little capacity was done on spec recently. (See "APPA study affirms that mandatory capacity markets fail to create a proper framework for building new generation," in the Oct. 15, 2014 Public Power Daily.)

Another important issue is to preserve public power's access to tax-exempt municipal bonds, Kelly said. "Our federal government is in need of cash," so various proposals have been circulated that could affect cities' traditional ability to use tax-exempt municipal bonds to finance projects, she said. "This is our No. 1 financing tool," and public power needs to hold onto it, she said, warning that this issue has come up recently, and may appear again in 2015.



**Fred Oberlender & Assoc., Inc.**  
 Dallas • Fort Worth • Houston • Austin • Tulsa • Oklahoma City  
[www.oberlender.com](http://www.oberlender.com)

*Proudly representing the following manufacturers:*

Aluma-Form, Inc. • AmeronInternational • Armorcast  
 Basler Electric Company • CG Power Systems Americas • Cantex  
 Cementex • ERICO, Inc. • GE Lighting Systems  
 GE Lamps • Hastings • Kerite/Hendrix • Mehta Tech, Inc.  
 Pascor • Power Delivery Products, Inc. • Power Monitors, Inc.  
 S&C Electric Company • Sabre Tubular Structures • Schneider Electric  
 Tech Products • Trench • Unifin • Union Metal • Utilco

---

**Doug Osborn** • Territory Manager  
 Mobile (918) 630-2782 Email: [dosborn@oberlender.com](mailto:dosborn@oberlender.com)

**Gene Peavler** • Oklahoma City Office  
 Mobile (405) 833-8647 Email: [gene@oberlender.com](mailto:gene@oberlender.com)

**Sue Trammel** • Inside Office Support for Tulsa & Oklahoma City  
 Office (918) 627-4200 Email: [sue@oberlender.com](mailto:sue@oberlender.com)

## Rice

(continued from page 2)

**Q. What is the biggest mistake you ever made and what did you learn from it?**

A. Most mistakes have been due to lack of planning or being in too big of a hurry. What I try to do is review my planning and slow down.

**Q. Customers may not always understand the municipal electric utility business, if you teach them one thing, what would that be?**

A. A municipal system is the closest to its customers who are the owners and still maintains an office that is open in the town.

**Q. What is your biggest accomplishment?**

A. Proving my High School Counselor wrong, he said I should not go to college it would be a waste of my parent's money and I should be a mechanic. I attended Northeastern State to be a teacher, to help kids like myself, only borrowed \$50.00 from my Dad, worked for the school, worked two jobs in the summer during my college days, completed my degree in four years and only owed my Dad the \$50.00 I borrowed

the first year. He wouldn't take my re-payment; he said he wanted me to be in debt to him for life.

**Q. Tell us one thing about yourself that most people don't know?**

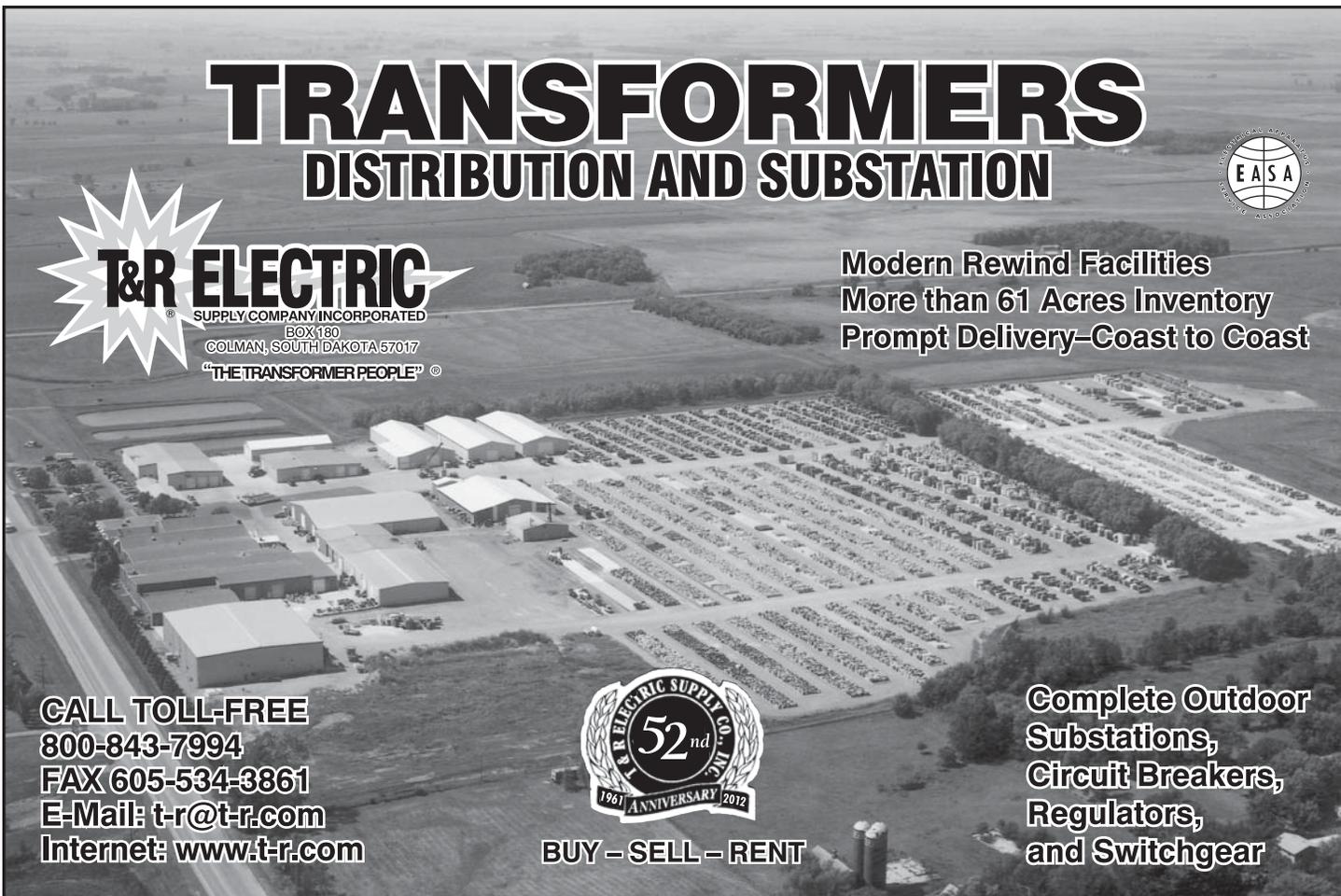
A. I own a small railroad Maintenance of Way Motor Car and organize tours on railroads in Oklahoma.

**Q. Will you tell us a little about your family, kids, pets?**

A. I married my high school sweetheart after I returned from Vietnam and have been married for 42 years. We have two daughters, two grandsons and one granddaughter.

**Q. What do you see as the biggest issues facing public power today?**

A. Employees. We need to encourage young people to enter municipal electric systems as a career and help educate the public on the value of the systems to their communities.



# TRANSFORMERS

## DISTRIBUTION AND SUBSTATION



**T&R ELECTRIC**  
SUPPLY COMPANY INCORPORATED  
BOX 180  
COLMAN, SOUTH DAKOTA 57017  
"THE TRANSFORMER PEOPLE" ©

Modern Rewind Facilities  
More than 61 Acres Inventory  
Prompt Delivery—Coast to Coast

CALL TOLL-FREE  
800-843-7994  
FAX 605-534-3861  
E-Mail: [t-r@t-r.com](mailto:t-r@t-r.com)  
Internet: [www.t-r.com](http://www.t-r.com)



BUY – SELL – RENT

Complete Outdoor Substations, Circuit Breakers, Regulators, and Switchgear

**Rate Studies**

**SCADA Systems**

**Substation Designs**

**Grounding Networks**

**Power Supply Studies**

**Optical Fiber Systems**

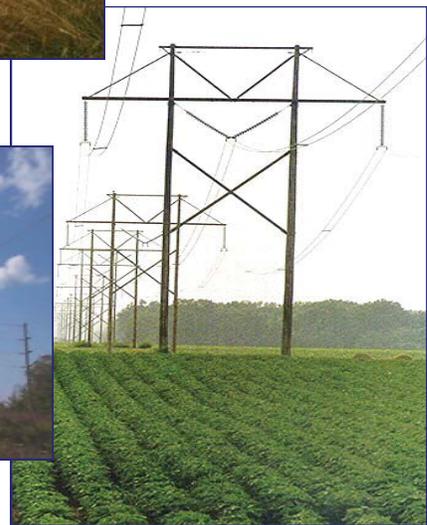
**Distribution Line Design**

**Protective Relaying Systems**

**Gas and Diesel-Fired Generation**

**Regulatory Compliance Assistance**

**System Mapping and GIS Services**



[www.amce.com](http://www.amce.com)



For more information,  
scan the QR code  
or contact us at  
[mail@amce.com](mailto:mail@amce.com).



**ALLGEIER, MARTIN AND ASSOCIATES, INC.**

*Consulting Engineers and Surveyors*

**Corporate Office:** 7231 East 24th Street - Joplin, MO 64804 - 417.680.7200

**Rolla Office:** 112 West 8th Street - Rolla, MO 65401 - 573.341.9487

Contact Dave Garrison, P.E. at 918.638.7857



# Kriz-Davis Co.

WHOLESALE ELECTRICAL SUPPLIES

“An Employee Owned Company”



## GROVE DIVISION

63201 E 290 Road  
Grove, OK 74344  
918-791-9600

## JOPLIN DIVISION

1027 Virginia Avenue  
Joplin, MO 64801  
1-800-798-0118

## WICHITA DIVISION

3800 West Dora  
PO Box 13281  
Wichita, KS 67213-3281  
1-800-766-5654

## DODGE CITY DIVISION

2303 West Frontview Street  
P.O. Box 1088  
Dodge City, KS 67801  
1-888-408-9179