

# The Twin Valley Electric Cooperative, Inc.

"Owned By Those We Serve"



November 2007

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## Twin Valley Electric Directors Achieve Credentials in Today's Electric Utility Competencies

Four Directors from Twin Valley Electric received their Credentialed Cooperative Director (CCD) or Board Leadership certificate from the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NRECA).

Twin Valley Electric Directors were recognized at NRECA's Region 7 meeting held October 2-4 in Overland Park for their commitment to education and attainment of the CCD or Board Leadership certificate before an audience of electric cooperative officials from Kansas, Colorado, Nebraska and Wyoming.

Today's electric utility environment imposes new demands on electric cooperative directors, particularly increased knowledge of changes in the electric utility business, new governance skills and a working knowledge of the cooperative principles. Twin Valley Electric has a commitment to work through Kansas Electric Cooperatives (KEC), the state-wide association, and NRECA to sharpen this body of knowledge for the benefit of their electric cooperative member-owners.



NRECA President Jack Wolfe (left), and NRECA CEO Glenn English (far right) present Twin Valley Trustees: Daniel Peterson, David Hubbell, Ron McNickle and Norman Leistikow with their certificates at the Region 7 meeting.

The NRECA CCD program requires attendance and demonstrated understanding of the basic competencies contained in five core courses:

- Director Duties and Liabilities
- Understanding the Electric Business
- Board Roles and Relationships
- Strategic Planning
- Financial Decision Making

The NRECA Board Leadership certificate recognizes

individuals who continue their professional development after becoming a Credentialed Cooperative Director. Directors who have attained the Board Leadership certificate have completed 10 credits in advanced, issues-oriented courses.

Achieving recognition were Dan Peterson, Norman Leistikow and David Hubbell for completing the Board Leadership courses. Ronald McNickle was recognized for completion of the CCD courses.

# A Tribute to Twin Valley Veterans

Twin Valley Electric is proud to have a tribute to their own employees who have loyally served in the armed forces of the United States of America.

## John Hibbs

Hibbs, Journeyman Lineman, served his country from 1970-1973 in the U.S. Army.

He received his basic training at Ft. Knox in Kentucky. He then proceeded to Ft. Leonard Wood in Missouri and Ft. Gordon in Georgia to receive signal training.

He was based out of Stuttgart, Germany for 2 ½ years and was assigned to the 106 signal group. He was honorably discharged in 1973.

## Reynold "Rennie" Smith

Smith, line clearance crew member, was in the U.S. Army reserves from 1969-1975.

He received his basic training at Ft. Leonard Wood in Missouri, and then received his on the job training at Ft. Rucker in Alabama.

In 1975, he was honorably discharged as a Sergeant out of Pittsburg.

## James Sexton

Sexton, Computer Specialist, served in the U.S. Army for six years. He was on active duty from 1988-1992.

Sexton then returned to serve his country again in the reserves from 1992-1994.

He was a 91 B.Y.8 combat medic. Sexton received basic training at South Carolina; AIT training at Ft. Sam Houston in Texas.

Most of his duty was served at Ft. Wainwright, Alaska. He was honorably discharged in 1994.

## Paul "Buddy" Souders

Souders, Journeyman Lineman, served in the U.S. Navy on active duty from 1970-1972 and inactive duty from 1972-1976.

He was based out of Virginia Beach, Virginia, at NAS Navy Station. Souders served on the USS FDR Roosevelt aircraft carrier CVA #42. His job on the vessel consisted of hydraulics and metal smith on the A-6 intruder navy aircraft.

Souders was honorably discharged in 1976.

## Letter From the Manager

Many of our members have experienced numerous outages in the past several



Ron Holsteen

weeks due to someone shooting insulators and other equipment on our lines. Most of this damage has occurred in the southeast corner of our system in the Chetopa, Oswego, and Bartlett area.

These acts of criminal mischief are very expensive to Twin Valley as our crews have spent many hours patrolling the lines to find the broken insulators and repairing the lines.

The damaged insulators create dangerous working conditions for the lineman. The power lines can also be damaged by the bullets and break and fall. Downed power lines create a tremendous hazard for the public and any livestock in the area.

We need your help. If you see or hear anyone shooting in your area, please try to get a description of the vehicle and persons involved and give this information to the Labette County Sheriff's office. Twin Valley is offering a \$500 reward to anyone providing information that leads to the arrest and conviction of the person(s) responsible for this wanton destruction of our property.

## Make the Season Change Safely This Year

As the leaves change to their beautiful autumn hues and the weather gets colder, keep in mind the following electrical safety tips for the change of season:

- Make sure space heaters are in good repair and certified by an independent testing lab such as Underwriters Laboratories (UL).
- Do not use an extension cord to power a space heater. Plug directly into the electrical outlet.
- Space heaters should have

an automatic shut-off in the event they tip over.

- Check to see if electric blankets are in good repair and certified by an independent testing lab like UL. Do not tuck your electric blanket under the mattress and don't put anything on top of the blanket.
- Check cold weather tools, like leaf and snow blowers, to ensure power cords are in good repair. Extension cords need to be approved for outdoor use.