



**KANSAS ELECTRIC POWER COOPERATIVE, INC.**

# NEWSMAKER

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative



Summer 2014

## Stephen E. Parr Engineering Intern Selected

*KEPCo is proud to announce the*

**Stephen E. Parr**  
Engineering Internship



*Established by the KEPCo Board of Trustees in honor and recognition of the dedication and contributions made by Steve to KEPCo and KEPCo's member cooperatives.*

Last November at KEPCo's annual meeting, the KEPCo Board of Trustees announced the establishment of the Stephen E. Parr Engineering Internship, in recognition of Mr. Parr's dedication and contributions to KEPCo and KEPCo's Member Cooperatives.



Brett Champlin

KEPCo advertised the internship at Kansas University, Kansas State University, and Wichita State University. Upon receiving and reviewing fourteen applications, KEPCo selected Brett Champlin as the first recipient of the Stephen E. Parr Engineering Internship.

Brett graduated from Cowley County Community College in May with a degree in Pre-Engineering and will attend Kansas State University this fall. Brett is a member of Alpha Pi Mu, an industrial engineering honor society.

The goal of the internship is to introduce a student to the electric cooperative business model, to provide exposure to the opportunities and challenges confronting the electric utility industry, to build upon classroom knowledge and to foster personal and professional growth.

Brett is the son of Mike and Kitty Champlin. Kitty is the Assistant Office Manager at Caney Valley Electric Cooperative Association, Inc. in Cedar Vale, Kansas.

## KEPCo Service Awards



Kelsey Schremp

At KEPCo's staff meeting in March, Kelsey Schremp, Administrative Assistant/Benefits Specialist, and Maurice Hall, Senior SCADA Metering Technician, received one year service awards. Congratulations to Kelsey and Maurice!

Chuck Terrill also completed one year of service with KEPCo. Chuck has announced that he will be retiring at the end of the year and the Board of Trustees, enlisting the services of NRECA, has started a national search for Chuck's replacement.



Maurice Hall

## KEPCo Hires Accountant



Stephanie Worthington

Stephanie Worthington has joined the KEPCo Finance Department as a Finance and Benefits Analyst.

Stephanie is a graduate of Emporia State University with a B.S. in Accounting. Stephanie's responsibilities include assuring the accuracy of the general ledger and subsidiary ledgers for KEPCo and KSI, managing short-term cash accounts, monitoring daily cash levels, making short-term investment decisions, assisting with monthly closing, preparing financial reports for the Board of Trustees and senior management, and administering KEPCo's employee benefit plans sponsored by NRECA.

Prior to joining KEPCo, Stephanie was an Auditor with the Mayer Hoffman McCann P.C. accounting firm for three years.

Stephanie lives in Lyndon and is engaged to her fiancé Trevor Anderson. Trevor is a Chemistry Technician at Wolf Creek. A July wedding is planned.

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## NRECA Legislative Conference

A contingent of 33 Kansas electric cooperative representatives attended the NRECA Legislative Conference in Washington, D.C. on May 4, 5, and 6. Bill Riggins, Senior Vice President, Chief Strategic Officer and General Counsel, and Phil Wages, Director of Member Services, Government Affairs, and Business Development represented KEPCo.



Kansas co-op representatives



Kansas co-ops visit with Senator Moran's staff

More than 2,500 electric cooperative representatives from 42 states were present in Washington to convey industry issues to their respective congressional leaders. Each year the conference is the largest electric cooperative grass roots event in the nation's capitol.

Issues discussed with House and Senate members included FEMA reimbursement, greenhouse gas standards comment period, the Endangered Species Act, NRECA's International Rural Electrification Programs/Electrify Africa Act, and preserving access to large capacity electric water heaters.

## KEPCo Conducts Board Retreat

At KEPCo's May Board meeting, the Board of Trustees participated in a business retreat, in which various aspects of distributed generation, primarily community solar, were discussed. Guest speakers were:

- Bart Rupert - Clean Energy Collective
- Don Ford - Westar Energy
- Dennis Booth - NRTC
- Bill Simons - tenKsolar
- Katie Ellis - National Renewables Cooperative Organization (NRCO)



Bill Simons (left) - tenKsolar and Dennis Booth - NRTC



Bart Rupert - Clean Energy Collective



Don Ford - Westar Energy



Katie Ellis - NRCO

Renewable energy has become an important component in the energy mix of the vast majority of electric utilities in the country. Accelerated by EPA greenhouse gas emission regulations and state Renewable Portfolio Standards, utilities have made sizeable investments in renewable energy. This investment is evidenced in the energy mix of the SPP Day Ahead Market. For the first two months under the new market, March and April, renewable energy accounted for approximately 17% of the energy that was dispatched by the SPP.

As the price of wind turbines and solar panels have decreased, the interest to own renewable generators by businesses and homeowners has increased as well. However, many homeowners and businesses are unable to put a solar array on their property, with reasons ranging from individual ownership not being economical, zoning or building code restrictions, or structural issues of the home or business not accommodating an array. An alternative to individual ownership of distributed solar energy is Community Solar.

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Instead of installing panels on their own homes or businesses, community members can "subscribe" to receive renewable energy. The primary goals of community solar projects are typically to increase access to solar energy and to reduce initial costs. Other potential benefits include; better economies



Chuck Terrill, KEPCo EVP & CEO

of scale; more flexibility in choosing an optimal solar site; greater public awareness and understanding of solar energy; the potential for local job creation; and the opportunity to take advantage of innovative ownership and financing methods.

The presenters discussed topics that included panel design and performance; optimal solar array configuration; installation methods; cost and financing structures; marketing strategies; utility rate design; and solar projects by various utilities, among others.

Mr. Terrill, KEPCo EVP & CEO, concluded the retreat by addressing distributed generation issues from a utility perspective, which included; equitable pricing for all customers; subscription rates needed to make community solar viable; load forecasting; distributed generation in the SPP market; options for participation and ownership; and financing and maintenance, among others.

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## Wolf Creek & Iatan 2 Back Online

Both Wolf Creek and Iatan 2 were returned to service in May after maintenance outages were completed at both sites.

Two major projects were completed during the Wolf Creek maintenance outage. The underground Essential Service Water (ESW) piping replacement and the generator stator rewind were both completed on schedule and without incident.

Iatan 2 was taken off-line in April to perform maintenance before heading into the summer peak. Before being taken off-line, Iatan 2 had run continuous for 397 days. All outage projects were completed as planned.