



# Co-op News from Wyrulec Company

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May 2011

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### Board of Directors

Dewey Hageman  
*President*

Julie Kilty  
*Vice President*

F.E. "Wally" Wolski  
*Secretary*

Brent Mullock  
*Treasurer*

Jack Preston  
*Assistant Secretary*

### General Manager

Rollie Miller

### Senior Staff

Joe Kinnan  
*Operations Manager*

Cindy Potter  
*Office Manager*

## Warmth, good food, & positive financials

A delightful crowd of 353 was on hand when Wyrulec Company celebrated its 75th anniversary March 29 at the Annual Member Appreciation Dinner and Meeting at the Rendezvous Center in Torrington.



### Beautiful afghans

All attending members received a beautiful anniversary afghan in addition to other useful household gifts. The Camp Guernsey Color Guard presented the colors and Cody Bremer led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Scholarships for the 2011-2012 school year were awarded to Ashley Harrison, Jessie Sturman, Andrew Carpenter, Emily Madden, Dakota McClun, Perry McNees, Kohl Schaneman, Joe Docheff, Luke Eddington, Miranda Baker, and Brittney Mitchell.

### Honoring those who serve

Active-duty service men and women were honored for their dedication to the ideals of the United States of America. All veterans were also recognized for their tremendous service to this country.



More than 300 members mailed in ballots and there were 155 members at the meeting.

### Scholarship winners

Julie Kilty announced that Ashley Harrison, Jessie Sturman, Andrew Carpenter, and Emily Madden each were awarded a \$1,000 Wyrulec Scholastic Scholarship. \*Craig Cotton\* Dakota McClun, Perry McNees, Kohl



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## Warmth, good food, & financials

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Schaneman, and Joe Docheff were each awarded a \$1,000 Wyrulec Trade Scholarship. Luke Eddington was awarded the \$1,000 Basin Electric Power Cooperative scholarship. Miranda Baker and Brittney Mitchell were each awarded a \$500 Tri-State Generation & Transmission Assn. scholarship.

## Wyrulec history available to members

Director Jack Preston wrote a history of Wyrulec Company, which was available to all members attending the meeting. \*Thomas A Schissler\* He spoke briefly during the meeting about Wyrulec's founding.

F.R. Pearson, L.R. Brewer, R.V. Allen, Emery Bright, and T.J. Lisle met in Torrington on Oct. 9, 1936. They elected themselves directors of a new electric cooperative called Wyrulec Company. They voted on articles of incorporation and passed bylaws.

A half-hour later, they held their first board meeting and elected officers. At this meeting, they also appointed L.R. Brewer as the company's agent and determined that his office in Lingle would be Wyrulec's office also. They designated a bank to hold the company funds and authorized President Pearson to adopt plans



Assistant Secretary Jack Preston was re-elected to represent District 4

for the construction of an electricity distribution system. Pearson was also given responsibility for negotiating a loan and hiring the necessary people to get the project completed.

After the conclusion of this first board meeting, the group immediately convened the first meeting of the membership and endorsed actions taken by the board. \*Kent B Shannon\*

Mr. Preston's history is easy to read, full of interesting facts and



Not so long ago, these friends were at the same school

surprising details. If you were unable to attend the meeting, stop in at the Wyrulec office for a copy of this history. They will be available as long as supplies last.

Mr. Preston is always interested in historical information, pictures, and mementos, especially as they relate to Wyrulec Company or electricity service in the area. Please contact the Wyrulec Company office if you can contribute something.

## Door prize odds improved for some

Door prizes took a delightful twist after Mr. Preston's report. The person present who had signed on as a Wyrulec Company member before anyone else in the crowd was presented with \$100 cash. Later, the person with the birthday closest to Oct. 9 was presented with \$75 in cash. Wittni Mitchell was presented with \$75 for being the youngest user of electricity in the crowd.



He won \$75 for having the birthday closest to the co-op's founding date of Oct. 9

Cody Bremer and Donovan Valentine talked about their experiences on the Washington, D.C., Youth Tour. Only those students who have attended Energy Camp (which is sponsored, in part, by Wyrulec Company) are eligible to apply for the Youth Tour.

## A wealth of co-op knowledge

Director Wally Wolski talked about his experiences in the cooperative program. In early March, he com-



She won \$75 for being the youngest electricity consumer in the crowd.

## Warmth, good food, & positive financials

pleted his term as president of the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association. He thanked the membership for their support and recounted his experiences as a man from Yoder, population 169, influencing the actions of cooperatives serving 42 million Americans.

His remarks served as an invitation to members of Wyrulec Company to step forward and participate more actively in the business of the cooperative as well as its sister organizations.

President Dewey Hageman noted that Wyoming is the least-populated state in the nation and yet has been represented in the president's seat of NRECA three times. Mr. Hageman celebrated the cooperative's vibrant history and urged members to not only consider where Wyrulec has come from, but where it's going.

### Right time to build a new facility

The cooperative will be breaking ground on a \$3.5 million facility soon and the need cannot be overstated. If the Niobrara formation produces as much oil as is anticipated, the impact on Wyrulec Company will be tremendous. Not only is the existing building too small to accommodate staff needs, it is also an example of a facility best designed for typewriters and paper records.

A new facility will enhance efficiencies among staff and resources and accommodate the burgeoning electronic requirements of Wyrulec Company's successful, dynamic, competitive operation. \*Lisa Brenner\* The board looked long and hard at remodeling the existing building, but that solution just isn't sensible given the changing needs of business today.

### At 75, Wyrulec is financially sound

Treasurer Brent Mullock reported on the financial health of the cooperative. Revenues were down slightly. Expenses were up slightly. The Wyoming Army National Guard project appears to have a negative effect on paper but Wyrulec will be reimbursed and the



Secretary Wally Wolski was re-elected to represent District 3

project as a whole is very positive for Wyrulec members. All patronage capital is paid through 1991 and partially through 1993. "We want nothing of yours on the books after 20 years," Mr. Mullock noted.

### Coal essential part of affordable future

Wally Wolski represents Wyrulec Company on the Tri-State board and, in his report, he noted that Tri-State is focused on keeping coal clean and affordable. Wyrulec Company was a founding member of Tri-State in 1952 and has seen that cooperative grow to serve 44 member co-ops over 200,000 square miles of service territory. \*Lynne L Chizek\* Tri-State owns more than 5,000 miles of high voltage transmission line and 135 substations and switching stations. In 2010, they returned \$20 million in capital credits. Last year was the 22nd consecutive year they've been able to return capital credits.

### Reliable, affordable service is mission of Tri-State

Tri-State General Manager Ken Anderson told the membership that the generation and transmission co-op has a mission-driven staff. While many electric utilities are not experiencing any growth, Tri-State's in 2010 was 3.8 percent over 2009.

"We look at affordability as key to continued reliability," Mr. Anderson said. "We work diligently to keep our options open," he noted in reference to handling the challenges of growth. "Your coal plants are clean."

### Taking care to spend wisely

Wyrulec General Manager Rollie Miller praised his employees for their dedication to quality, their teamwork, and their commitment to the membership. "I am honored to work with them," he said as he introduced



Treasurer Brent Mullock presented positive financial news



Bill Potter has been employed with the co-op for 35 years

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## Warmth, good food, & positive financials

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his staff. He singled out Bill Potter, Joe Kinnan, Gene Prickett, Cindy Potter, and Tom Mitchell for their length of service. "I don't know what we'd do without these people," he said.

Electricity availability is an average of 99.99 percent for every consumer on the Wyrulec system. That's a phenomenal record and one that speaks volumes about the crews' skills in building and maintaining line.

### Big projects

Mr. Miller also praised the Wyrulec system—and the staff that planned, built, and maintains it—for the low 6.22 percent line loss. "We would have to spend tens of millions of dollars to get that number down another percentage point," he said.

Mr. Miller revealed some of the sobering aspects of the Wyoming Army National Guard power line project which was recently completed. He praised the citizens of Hartville for their patience. He also held

Operations Manager Joe Kinnan up as an example of the dedication, caring attitude, and leadership qualities prevalent at Wyrulec for Kinnan's role in ensuring that the WANG project went as smoothly as possible.

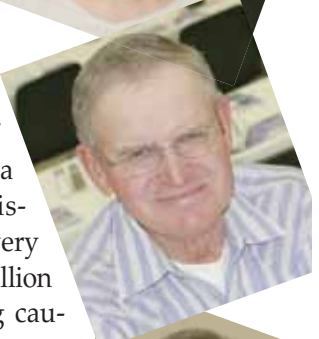
### Boom talking

Manager Miller explained the advantages and disadvantages to Wyrulec regarding the oil resource load developing in the neighborhood. A new delivery point for electricity from Tri-State may be built north and west of Veteran on the Western Area Power Administration transmission line. The cost of this delivery point would be in the \$4 to \$5 million range so the staff is proceeding cautiously.

### Valuable years of service

Serviceman Larry Paules was honored for his ten years of service to the cooperative. His knowledge is exhaustive and he works independently most days. Mr. Paules' ability to solve problems quickly, effectively, and safely is highly valued in the organization.

Bill Potter, an equipment operator, has been with Wyrulec for 35 years and he was also honored for his years of service. He is dependable, skilled, and a highly valued team member at the cooperative.



❁ **Not all May flowers droop in the rain** ❁

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**Spring in Style**

Each month, we hide the names of five members in this fascinating, informative newsletter. If you see your name this month, call the office, 307-837-2225, to enjoy some spring style (\$25) from us!