

SOUTHEAST ELECTRIC *Cooperative*



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KUNTZ RECEIVES AWARD

Long-time SECO business manager wins the Fritz Keller Cooperative Spirit Award

At the 2025 MECA Annual Meeting in Great Falls, it was announced that Robin Kuntz received The Fritz Keller Cooperative Spirit Award. This award recognizes personnel whose actions in their community continually promote the Cooperative Spirit.

Robin has been at Southeast Electric for 44 years. Because we are a small cooperative, Robin wears many hats. Her official title is business manager, but she works in all aspects of this cooperative. She does billing, payroll mapping, and even jumps at the chance to put on her jeans and help the guys when there is a trouble call. She actually is an important part of our outage team as she will dispatch during large outages. She ensures that messages are relayed correctly, and keeps the crew abreast of new issues as she gets calls. She is also very patient with new employees while she teaches them that it is OK to repeat as many times as needed to keep the crew safe.

Robin also shares her knowledge of what transpires in the field as she has been there side by side with them on outage calls. She has educated employees as to what needs to happen and what the linemen need from the office staff during the day.

Robin knows our system inside and



out. She knows everyone's account number and service.

Robin is not only an exemplary employee, but also a community member. She volunteers at the Trails End Ranch Christian Camp south of Ekalaka during the summer, fall and winter. Evenings and weekend you can see her helping in all aspects of the camp, whether it be in the kitchen, with the horses, or on the zip line — she is willing to do it all.

Robin is also very active with the local credit union. She has served as a loan committee member and is now on the supervisory committee. She enjoys this because it is the cooperative model that she believes in. She also helps the community by taking tickets at events, is always willing to help with town cleanup and be an election judge.

As far as the cooperative spirit, there is no one that is more dedicated to serving our members and our community. If there are ever any changes, she wants to make sure that they will benefit the members because that is who we are here for.

"We work for our members," she says almost daily. "They are what is important. Our service to our members is what the co-op is about."

Very rarely does she take time for herself, but when she does, she likes anything outdoors such as hiking, kayaking, walking and boating. She also loves to travel and spend time with her beautiful granddaughter.

Robin is the face and the voice of this cooperative. The members know her and appreciate her knowledge, as do her co-workers. Robin is very deserving of the Fritz Keller Cooperative Spirit Award. 



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ONCE-IN-A-LIFETIME!
UNFORGETTABLE!
IMPACTFUL! BEST KEPT
SECRET! These are thoughts
shared by previous students
who had the opportunity
to attend the National Rural
Electric Cooperatives Association
Washington D.C., Youth Tour.

The Youth tour is more than just a
FREE trip, it's a chance for students
to explore the history and workings



of our government, engage
with elected officials and
meet peers from across the
United States who share
their interests in leader-
ship and civic involvement.
Delegates tour historic land-
marks, visit museums and gain a
firsthand view of how our democracy
functions.

They also attend a youth conference,
listen to engaging speakers and learn

more about the cooperative model.
Southeast Electric covers the cost of
the trip. We encourage all sophomores
and juniors to apply today if their
parents are members of Southeast
Electric. More information, rules and
the application can be found at www.seecoop.com/youth-tour.

Applications are due on November
21st. Don't miss this opportunity for a
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