



1992 Inductees



John A. Cink

John A. Cink was one of the original incorporators of Turner-Hutchinson Electric Cooperative in 1941. "I first heard about REA when I was working with the county agent...I had no doubts that it would work and that we could do it here," he told the *South Dakota High Liner Magazine* in 1985.

He served on the board of directors until 1945, when the cooperative was reorganized and the size of the board was reduced from 15 to nine.

He was again elected to the co-op's board of directors in 1954 and was still serving when he was elected to the Co-op Hall of Fame in 1992. He was president of the board from 1985 until 1987.

Cink was selected to represent Turner-Hutchinson on the East River Electric Power Cooperative board of directors in 1980 and was also continuing to serve on that board in 1992.

Cink was an active organizer of the new Farmers Union Oil Company at Parker in 1953. He remained as a member of the board of directors for 25 years and was president of the board for 23 years.



Ken Holum

A native of Groton, Ken Holum served as a director of Northern Electric Cooperative at Bath and was an original incorporator of East River Electric Power Cooperative at Madison.

Ken Holum was also president and executive director of Mid-West Electric Consumers Association and was chairman of the Western States Water and Power Consumers Conference.

Following eight years as assistant secretary of the Interior for Water and Power under Presidents Kennedy and Johnson, he became the first general manager of Western Fuels Association, a regional fuel supply cooperative.

Holum was an incorporator, director and president of the James Valley Telephone Cooperative and first president of the South Dakota Rural Telephone Association. He also served as executive director of the South Dakota Association of Cooperatives from 1957 to 1961.

His community activities also included service as an original supervisor of the South Brown Soil Conservation District and two terms in the South Dakota State Legislature. He was a candidate for the U.S. Senate in 1954 and 1956.

Holum has been widely honored for his contributions to the cooperative movement. He was a recipient of the National Farmers Union Meritorious Service Award and was named to the National Co-op Hall of Fame in 1993.



1915-1998

