

THE

PowerLines

REPORT

DMEA

1 |  Meet Our New CEO

2 |  Electric Vehicle Spotlight

3 |  National Co-Op Month

4 |  Remote Careers

OCTOBER 2021

Say Hello to DMEA's CEO: Alyssa Clemesen Roberts



Years in the utility industry:

16 years

Education:

Park University, BS Business Management; graduated Summa Cum Laude

Experience:

US Navy: Sonar Technician & Instructor

USDA Rural Utilities Service (RUS): Grant Program Manager

United States Environmental Protection Agency: Grant Policy Specialist

Utilities Telecom Council: Manager, Industry Affairs. While here, I successfully lobbied for the creation of a \$100 million federal funding program, Rural Broadband Experiments, for rural utilities to provide broadband services.

Ozarks Electric Cooperative: Vice President of Marketing and Member Relations

Pedernales Electric Cooperative: Vice President of Communications & Business Services

Platte River Power Authority: Chief Strategy Officer

Why did you want to lead DMEA?

One of the reasons I was intrigued by DMEA, is its recent change to a more flexible power supply. DMEA now has more opportunities for local renewable energy development and the ability to take advantage of price changes in the energy market. I'm excited to help DMEA navigate these opportunities with our new power supplier, Guzman Energy.

In addition, DMEA had taken the initiative to launch Elevate. This told me it was a cooperative that was evolving and

changing with the times. Given my extensive background in rural broadband, it seemed like a good fit for me. I believe I have something to add to the organization.

After visiting the area, my family fell in love with the accessibility of mountain recreation, especially the fishing opportunities. My family's visit to the area solidified the move for us. And wouldn't you know, being an electric cooperative CEO has always been one of my dream jobs. All in all, we couldn't be happier to call the Western Slope home.

What excites you about this industry?

I find where the industry is at in its evolution to be very exciting. In the early 1900s, we built this amazing electric grid to meet the challenges of our ever-evolving society, and now, we are asking this grid to do something it was never designed to do. We are at a tipping point where everything we knew is changing every day, and there is so much unknown. I find this all very exciting.

What motivates you to work hard?

If it is worth doing, it is worth doing right. Oh, and I am uber-competitive!

What is your favorite family tradition?

When our family gets together, we make Aebleskiver. It is a Danish pancake, and our family's recipe has been passed down since its original Danish transcription. The tradition is complete when my husband makes his delicious blackberry brandy syrup to pour over top.

Where would we find you in your spare time?

I use my spare time to run, road bike, and watch NBA basketball, the greatest sport of all time.

What are you most thankful for?

My family, the time we get to share, and the support they show me in my career.

If you weren't in this industry, what would you be doing?

I would be an NBA basketball coach. I am convinced that I would lead the Trailblazers to more than one National Championship!

If you had to describe yourself in one word, what would it be?
Relentless

THE SKINNY ON ELECTRIC VEHICLES

An inside look at day-to-day driving with real EV owners



THE COMMUTER

Jim Heneghen, Chevrolet Volt

Why did you decide to go electric/hybrid?

I chose to go with a plug-in hybrid because I wanted an electric vehicle for the reduced emissions, operation costs, and maintenance. At the time I purchased my car, public charging facilities were not as prolific as I would have liked, so a plug-in hybrid that would switch over to gasoline on long trips made sense. Today, I would purchase an all-electric vehicle over a plug-in hybrid.

What has been your longest road trip in your vehicle?

About 700 – 800 miles.

What is your favorite thing about your EV?

My favorite thing is that I can charge at home and start every morning with a “full tank.” Not going to the gas station much has been great!

Any advice to people looking to switch to electric/hybrid? Most of the charging you do will be at home, but for road trips, there are lots of charging facilities out there and easy-to-use apps to guide you along the way!

Any EV tips or tricks to share? There are a good number of different models to choose from, including several pickup trucks coming in the next year or two. The range of EVs is plenty for most folks’ daily driving, and with so much public charging available (and growing), people don’t need to be anxious about range anymore—even on a road trip!



THE CHAUFFEUR

Jana Faragher, Tesla Model X

Why did you decide to go electric?

The primary reason was last fall I was driving multiple kids to multiple activities around Montrose. There were days I would be in my car for 3 hours! I was at the gas station at least 2-3 times per week. I also commute 1-2 times per week to Telluride for my job and was looking to improve gas mileage.

What has been your longest road trip in your vehicle?

The longest road trip to date was to Park City, Utah, with a full bike rack, 2 kids, and 2 dogs. It took about an hour longer than our friend who drove his traditional car. However, the kids and I felt so much more rested. With making 20-30-minute stops to charge along the way, we were able to get out of the car, walk around, and stretch our legs.

What is your favorite thing about your EV?

It goes 0-60 in just a few seconds! It’s a great mountain car, and I also like how quiet it is.

Any advice to people looking to switch to electric?

It’s easier than you think. Make sure you understand how charging your vehicle works. There are different speeds of charging stations around the nation and a few exceptional apps which can make any length of road trip much easier. We often get questions about our electric bill and we have not noticed a large difference.

Any EV tips or tricks to share? Pedestrians typically cannot hear my car, so I’m extra diligent in parking lots.



THE ROAD TRIPPER

Dakota Cole, Hyundai Kona & Nissan Leaf

Why did you decide to go electric? Convenience! I wanted to curb vehicle maintenance costs and fluctuating gas prices. It also helped knowing there were tax incentives for EVs to help reduce the purchase price. Every time I drive, I feel good knowing I’m helping reduce carbon emissions and doing my part to leave behind a better world for my kids and their kids.

What has been your longest road trip in your EV?

My wife’s family is in Dallas, TX. We frequently drive there for holidays: 870 miles one way!

What is your favorite thing about your EV?

There is very little-to-no vehicle maintenance. For example, no oil changes. The only thing I maintain is the tires. EVs use regenerative braking, so even your brake pads last longer.

Any advice to people looking to switch to electric?

Do a little bit of research and identify what’s important to you. If a snappy, fast, near-maintenance-free ride is appealing, then an EV is probably right for you. Also, be sure to pay attention to how quickly your EV can charge and what plug it is equipped with. Cars, plugs, and chargers aren’t universally compatible. Fun fact, Tesla has been building superchargers since 2013, so they outnumber public chargers 5 to 1. Even though I own multiple non-Tesla EVs, for the money, access to charging, and range, the Tesla Model 3 is the best EV you can buy today.

Any EV tips or tricks to share? The fear of needing a battery swap is a myth! All EVs are built to retain 90% or more of their battery capacity up to (and well past) 200,000 miles.

OCTOBER IS NATIONAL CO-OP MONTH!



Electric co-ops power more than **20 MILLION** homes, businesses, schools, and farms in 48 U.S. states.

1 in **3** Americans is a co-op member.



There are more than **64,000** co-ops in the U.S.

Types of co-ops include energy, agriculture, healthcare, housing, credit unions, groceries, and more.

Electric co-ops were founded in the 1930s to meet the energy needs of rural communities, places the big investor-owned utilities refused to go.



29,000

homes, businesses, farms, and ranches are powered by DMEA in Montrose and Delta counties.

DMEA was founded in 1938 by a group of farmers and ranchers near Pea Green, CO.

Every electric co-op is led by the people for the people. DMEA is governed by 9 community-elected board of directors.



Electric co-ops deliver wind and solar energy powering **2.7 MILLION HOMES**



DMEA delivers enough local renewable energy to power nearly 4,100 homes across Montrose and Delta counties.

6.3 MILLION

homes across the nation now have high-speed fiber internet thanks to electric co-ops re-lighting their communities.

970 MILES

of fiber have been built by DMEA, providing more than 20,000 local homes and businesses access to Gigabit internet.

Source: Cooperative.com

OCTOBER

PLAY IT SAFE

KID'S ELECTRICAL SAFETY COMPETITION



WIN BEATS HEADPHONES!

Participate in DMEA's 2021 safety program, PLAY IT SAFE. The contest is open to kids in K through 5th grade. Each month, DMEA announces a new electrical safety problem that your student can research and resolve. The best submission wins, and the prizes are awesome!

OCTOBER SAFETY DILEMMA

Jackie wants to charge her laptop. When she goes to plug it in, she finds that her German shepherd, Max, chewed on the cord. The cord now has frayed and exposed wires. What should Jackie do?

What to submit:

This month, your submissions must be a comic. Entries can be submitted at www.dmea.com/safety-competition.

When to submit:

Entry period is October 1, 2021 - October 31, 2021.

Who can participate:

Kids in grades K-5th

What you can win:

This month's prize is a pair of Beats headphones!



REMOTE CAREERS powered by ELEVATE™

There are more remote career opportunities than ever before. Whether you're sending massive files to your work server or presenting your brilliant new idea on Zoom, do it all with the fastest internet around!

COPYWRITER

Salary range: \$38k - \$70k* **Education:** Associate's degree or higher

Copywriters are responsible for producing engaging, clear text for different advertising channels such as websites, print ads, and catalogs. Their duties include researching keywords, producing interesting written content, and proofreading their work for accuracy and quality.



WEB DESIGNER

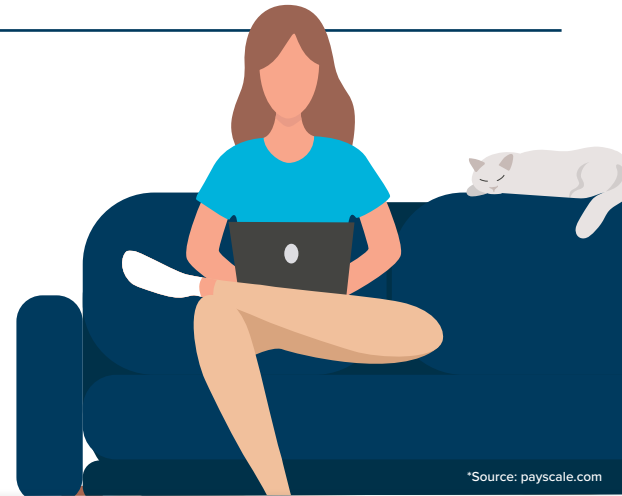
Salary range: \$36k - \$75k* **Education:** Bachelor's degree

Web designers plan, create, and code the online world. They are responsible for design, layout, and functionality of a website, web page, or app. This can include a brand new site or updating a current site.

GRAPHIC DESIGNER

Salary range: \$34k - \$65k* **Education:** Bachelor's degree

Graphic designers create visual text and imagery concepts to communicate ideas that inspire, inform, or captivate consumers. They develop layout and production design for advertisements, brochures, magazines, and more.



elevateinternet.com / 844-386-8744     

*Source: payscale.com



Montrose Office
11925 6300 Road
Montrose, CO 81401
M, W, F; 8:00am-5:00pm
T & Th; 8:00am-6:00pm

Read Office
21191 H 75 Road
Delta, CO 81416
M & W; 9:00am-4:00pm

Contact Us:
1-877-687-3632 | www.dmea.com |    

Your Board of Directors:

Bill Patterson, District 1 *Kyle Martinez, District 2*
Vacant, District 3 *Ken Watson, District 4*
Vacant, District 5 *Damon Lockhart, District 6*
Enno Heuscher, District 7 *Stacia Cannon, North*
Jock Fleming, South

DMEA Board Meetings are open to all members and are generally held on the 4th Tuesday monthly beginning at 3PM with the public comment period at 5PM. Call 970-240-1212 to confirm date, time, and location.

DMEA is an equal opportunity provider and employer. If you wish to file a Civil Rights program complaint of discrimination, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form, found online at www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint_filing_cust.html or at any USDA office, or call (866) 632-9992 to request the form. You may also write a letter containing all of the information requested in the form. Send your completed complaint form or letter to us by mail at U.S. Department of Agriculture, Office of Adjudication, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W. Washington, DC. 20250-9410, by fax (202) 690-7442 or email at program.instake@usda.gov.



DMEA COOKS!

Featuring favorite recipes from our DMEA family

Classic Meatballs

Kate McMonigle, Customer Service Representative



Ingredients:

1 onion
3 cloves garlic
1 tbsp butter
1 lb ground beef
1 lb Italian sausage
1 c breadcrumbs
1 egg
Parmesan cheese to taste

Directions:

Preheat oven to 350°. Saute onion and garlic in butter over medium heat until soft. Combine all ingredients in large bowl. Form into meatballs approximately 1 1/2-inch in diameter. Bake uncovered for 20-25 minutes. Use an instant read thermometer to confirm meatballs are fully cooked with an internal temperature of 160°.

Tell us what you think!

DMEA is conducting a member satisfaction survey via email and phone over the next few months. We are partnering with Pivot Group to conduct the survey on our behalf. If you receive an email or phone call, please consider providing your feedback, as it will help us better serve you in the future. Thank you.