



1987 Inductees



August Dahme

August Dahme was one of the pioneering leaders of the Farmers Union Grain Terminal Association (now Cenex Harvest States Cooperatives).

He was a member of the GTA board of directors from 1946 until 1972 and was first vice president from 1969 to 1972.

Dahme was an active proponent and organizer of other cooperatives in northern South Dakota. He was a member of the board of directors of the Farmers Union Oil Company at Aberdeen and served briefly as acting manager of the Union Equity Exchange at Aberdeen.

He was also an activist in South Dakota farm organizations. He was chairman of the Brown County Farm Holiday Association during the early 1930s and, in that capacity, worked closely with Emil Loriks who was state Farm Holiday secretary. He was also an active member and organizer for the South Dakota Farmers Union and an officer in the Brown County Farmers Union.

In addition to his cooperative and farm organization activities, he was a member of the South Dakota State Senate from 1937 until 1944 and was a member of the House from 1961 to 1962.

Dahme was one of nine farm leaders appointed by President John F. Kennedy to a National Wheat Study Committee in 1961 and was appointed by Secretary of Agriculture Orville Freeman to serve on the National Wheat and Feed Grains Advisory Committee.



1901-1980

John Riedy

John Riedy was one of the original incorporators of Grand Electric Cooperative Inc. at Bison in 1946. He served as board chairman from 1946 to 1987 and was a member of the board of the South Dakota Rural Electric Association from 1950 to 1952.

Riedy was also an activist supporter of area farmer cooperatives. He was manager of the Farmers Cooperative Association at Thunder Hawk from 1938 to 1942 and served as chairman of the board for five years. He was also interim manager of Lemmon Equity Exchange in 1947.

He was an organizer of the Dakota Propane Gas Cooperative at Lemmon in 1945 and served on the board as secretary and chairman from 1945 to 1954. He also helped to organize the Lemmon Cooperative Food Store and served as chairman of the board.

Riedy was an organizer of the Lemmon Federal Credit Union in 1957 and was a member of the first supervisory committee. He also served as a member of the board of directors of the former Equity Union Creameries of Aberdeen, S.D.

In addition to his cooperative activities, he served as a member of the board of directors of the South Dakota Farmers Union from 1947 to 1949 and 1954 to 1955. He received the South Dakota Farmers Union Award for Meritorious Service in 1987.

Riedy was a member of the South Dakota State Senate from 1973 to 1977 and was the prime sponsor of S261 – legislation establishing territorial integrity of South Dakota electric utilities.



1911-2001