

**Kay McKinley**

Central Region Director

Route 1, Box 12

Hooker, OK 73945

(620) 629.3878

maeciesmaemie@gmail.com

November, 2021

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November - the month of elections, not only at city, state and national levels, but also elections held for the eleven clubs within the Central Region. I want to thank those whose names have been nominated for willingness to take on responsibilities to move your clubs forward in 2022. I believe 2022 will be an exciting year for ADDC as we are planning “in person” meetings with opportunities to share and learn just how important our organization is in educating our fellow citizens in today’s political environment where the Oil and Gas Industry is under attack from the “Green New Deal” activists.

Our 2022 Central Region Director, Jamie Sabata, and I traveled to Wichita Falls on October 19th to join the 2022 Central Region Host Club to attend their 70th Industry Appreciation Luncheon on October 20th where Cye Wagner, Chairman of the Texas Alliance of Energy Producers, (one of the most long-standing oil and gas industry trade associations in America, with a legacy that goes all the way back to 1930) gave a stirring speech on “Oil and Gas: Good, Bad & Fake News.

Cye is certainly doing her part to educate those in Washington D.C. with her experience of literally growing up in the industry;

“her **mom and dad built a true mom and pop startup—they’ve been in business for over 40 years. They drilled their own wells, and it was just the two of them. Her mom left her job at the hospital to keep the books and run the regulatory side of the business. Her dad is, just bootstrap, learned the business. He had an uncle that was in the business and got interested, and then started drilling his own wells in his 20s. Pretty much a true Texas wildcatter. They grew and developed over the years into a much larger and successful company.” (Article by David Blacknon from ShellMag, July 21, 2020.**

Even as good as Cye’s speech, the meal, the beautiful venue of The Forum, the true Texas decorations of cowboy boots and bluebonnets, and the tremendous job of leading the meeting by Nichole Harney, the best thing was being able to see and hug old friends we hadn’t seen in **years,** and meet members we will see again in April, 2022.

While there, Jamie and I spent the night in the Tru side of the Hilton hotel that will be used for our 2022 Region Meeting. The other side is Home2Suites. More details about the hotel will be shared by the Wichita Falls GAC, but we were impressed with the hotel for being clean, (it’s new), the staff, and we enjoyed a breakfast that is included in the room price, and even has Texas-shaped waffles! Also, something to note is that there are plenty of shopping opportunities very close to the hotel. We are going to have a great time in Wichita Falls!

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| This is also the month of Thanksgiving! I know I am guilty of taking so many of my blessings for granted. I have read that “If you have food in your fridge, clothes on your back, a roof over your head and a place to sleep, you are richer than 75 percent of the world. If you have money in your bank, your wallet, and some spare change, you are among 8 percent of the world’s wealthy. If you woke up this morning with more health than illness, you are more blessed than the million people who will not survive this week. If you have never experienced the danger of battle, the agony of imprisonment or torture or the horrible pangs of starvation, you are luckier than 500 million people alive and suffering. If you can read this message, you are more fortunate than 3 billion people in the world who cannot read at all.”  Wow! We certainly are blessed! With current unrest in our beautiful America, where our freedoms are being threatened, my hope for all of us is to remember and be thankful to God and the freedom he has given each of us through the divine providence in the foundation of the greatest country in the history of the world, the United States of America and to the countless everyday Americans, our founding fathers, patriots, and military, who have shed their blood to protect our freedoms.  Count your blessings, and enjoy your Thanksgiving with family and friends!  Kay McKinley  2021 Central Region Director |  |  |  |
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