

**Biography
for
John N. Rose**

John Rose is president of the Organization for the Promotion and Advancement of Small Telecommunications Companies (OPASTCO). OPASTCO is a full-service, national trade association representing rural telecommunications companies' interests before the FCC and Congress and providing educational programs and publications. Its 500 LEC members collectively serve 2.6 million customers primarily in rural areas of the United States and Canada. The association also has an affiliate nonprofit foundation, the Foundation for Rural Education Development (FRED) and a comprehensive insurance plan for its members, OPASTCO PLUS.

During his ten-year tenure with OPASTCO, John Rose's hands-on participation has played a role in national telecom policy and has helped increase his organization's membership from 350 telecommunications companies to its present level of approximately 500. He works with OPASTCO's various member-run committees on policy issues, directs industry-related studies such as the Keeping Rural America Connected project and Rural America: Connections to the Future, and helps define federal regulatory issues by keeping OPASTCO's members high on the FCC's priority list.

John's career in the telecommunications industry began 30 years ago, when he joined C&P Telephone Company in Virginia in 1969, working in accounting, auditing, and separations and settlements. From 1977 to 1984, John worked for the Rural Electrification Administration, now known as Rural Utilities Service (RUS), serving first as chief of the Loans and Management Branch and later as director of the Telecommunications Management Division.

Not only is John a "veteran" in the telecommunications industry, he also is a veteran of the armed forces. Prior to embarking on a career in telecommunications, he served in the U.S. Navy and attained the rank of Lt. Commander. John has a degree in Business Administration with majors in Finance and Economics and a minor in Mathematics from the University of Richmond in Richmond, Va.

John and his wife, Catherine, have four children and reside in Alexandria, Va.