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Contributor



[Richard Bush](#) received his bachelor's and master's degrees in mechanical engineering from the Georgia Institute of Technology in 1976 and 1981, respectively. Prior to joining T&D World as editor-in-chief...[more](#)

[Eddie Deen](#)

[Richard Bush](#) September 19th, 2008



Eddie Deen is an institution. And a person. Eddie Deen's Ranch Ranch is in downtown Dallas where his guys put on two of the last four IEEE T&D World receptions. I've roped a mechanical steer there (or attempted to), downed awesome barbeque, danced to country music and watched an artist sketch women's jeans from the backside – quite a distraction.

But I met Eddie Deen in the flesh here in Lufkin. Eddie was sautéing onions. Eddie is joined at the hip with Oncor, and he is the caterer providing the meals to the crews here as well as at the other Oncor staging areas. I mentioned his breakfast in an earlier blog.

Tuesday evening, I made my way into the outdoor kitchen where the beef was being barbequed and the chicken was being grilled. Now, Eddie absolutely had to be ready because 40 or 50 line workers had already gathered for the 8:30 p.m. dinner that was to commence in 15 minutes. And of course, the food had to be plenty because these guys had just



put in 14-hour days. And they weren't disappointed. Good eats and hot!

Like I said, Eddie is an institution here in Texas. He told me that in addition to up to 1000 mouths in Lufkin, he was handling all the Red Cross. To give you an idea of the magnitude of his operations, Eddie Deen served 160,000 meals between Rita and Katrina.

I noticed in the kitchen that the Eddie Deen workers were polite and eager to serve. I mentioned it to Eddie, and he shared a little of his philosophy of sensing and serving. It got a little deep but suffice it to say we discussed quantum physics. I mentioned the Heisenberg Principle and Deen quoted the principle and even knew the year it was pronounced. To say I was flabbergasted is an understatement. Deen went on to break down the concept of perception to light waves, sound waves and touch. Deen believes that we would do well to understand that we have the capacity to decide what these incoming signals mean to us. In essence Eddie likes to serve. Yes he fills the body, but he also fills the mind and soul.

Photos:

Eddie Deen in his outdoor kitchen sauteeing onions and veggies.

Crews pack away a hearty breakfast.



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