

Cumberland Electric Membership Corporation

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CEMC Board of Directors

Tommy G. Whittaker,

Sumner Co., President

Wesley H. Aynett,

Cheatham Co., Vice President

Shela K. Williams,

At Large, Secretary-Treasurer

K. Jean Beauchamp, Robertson Co.,

Assistant Secretary-Treasurer

Stephen E. Douglass, Stewart Co.

Charles R. Hancock, Stewart Co.

Michael A. Mason, Robertson Co.

C. David Morgan, Montgomery Co.

Edward L. Oliver, Montgomery Co.

Joe H. Whitaker, Sumner Co.

Mission Statement

Cumberland Electric Membership Corporation is committed to providing dependable, affordable electric service through the expertise and dedication of competent leadership and a well-trained and responsive workforce.

AS I SEE IT

Manager's Viewpoint

The power of American independence

Celebrating July 4 and declaring our energy independence

Fireworks and flags. Cookouts and cold drinks. The Fourth of July is a festive day on which we celebrate with family and friends our nation's independence. Typically, this is not a day of quiet reflection. While we spend a lot of energy having fun, if we give any thought about our forbearers and their determined efforts to bring about our nation's independence, it's fleeting.

An independent spirit is a part of our DNA

However, it is worth reflecting that this uniquely American spirit of independence remains part of our collective DNA more than 200 years after the independent nation of the United States was formed and the Declaration of Independence was crafted. And this sense of independence has served us well. For example, more than 70 years ago, an independent streak inspired groups of farmers across America's countryside to band together to improve their quality of life. Aside from President Franklin Roosevelt's promise of federal aid in the form of low-interest loans and engineering expertise, rural Americans had little help in bringing electricity to their homes. So, they did it themselves by pulling together and working cooperatively — a shining example of American determination and ingenuity.

For the past 40-plus years, nearly every president since Richard Nixon during the time of the Arab oil embargo, has talked about the goal of U.S. energy independence — reducing our reliance on imported oil and other

forms of foreign energy. Today we are closer to that goal than ever before. We are exporting more gas and importing less foreign fuel than in recent memory.



*Jim Coode,
General Manager,
Cumberland
Electric Membership
Corporation*

American ingenuity in the form of new technology and innovation is opening up more options and spurring greater efficiency across all forms of energy. According to the Energy Information Agency, energy expenditures as a share of gross domestic product are forecast at 6.2 percent in 2015, their lowest level since 2002, reflecting both lower oil prices and ongoing increases in energy

efficiency.

The road to energy independence

Consumers have an important role to play in the road to energy independence. They don't have to wait for Democrats and Republicans to agree or environmentalists and fossil fuel advocates to reach consensus on a path to energy independence. Consumers can play a part in moving us toward national energy independence by taking action in simple, practical ways — insulating and caulking around windows, doors and electrical outlets; washing clothes in cold water instead of hot; replacing air filters; installing programmable thermostats; and using more-energy-efficient appliances and home heating and cooling systems. Efficiency efforts can cut costs for individual households, but the collective benefit to our country is even greater.

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Tennessee electric cooperative leaders visit D.C. lawmakers

Representatives from Cumberland Electric Membership Corporation visited with members of Congress on Thursday, April 30, in Washington, D.C. They joined more than 40 co-op leaders from across the state meeting with Tennessee’s congressional delegation. Attending from CEMC were Shela Williams, board secretary-treasurer; Joe Whitaker, board member; Tommy Whittaker, board president; and Mark Cook, Engineering Division manager.

“An important part of our mission to provide affordable and reliable energy is educating our elected officials about co-ops,” says Whittaker. “These visits help legislators better understand the issues that concern co-ops and co-op members.”

“Elected representatives make decisions and pass laws that have serious consequences for Tennessee’s electric cooperatives and their members,” says David Callis, executive vice president of the Tennessee Electric Cooperative Association. “It is important that we tell the electric cooperative story and inform members of Congress of the impact of proposed legislation.”

Co-op representatives discussed environmental and power supply issues with members of Congress during



Members from Cumberland Electric Membership Corporation meet with Rep. Marsha Blackburn in D.C. on April 30. Environmental and power-supply issues were among the topics discussed.

their visits. “It is important that we communicate how legislation affects rates and reliability for everyday Tennesseans,” says Callis.

Director candidates must meet July 29 deadline

Members of Cumberland Electric Membership Corporation interested in serving on CEMC’s board of directors can obtain a petition from the general manager’s office. Each petition must be signed by at least 15 members.

The petition must be completed and turned in by the deadline of Wednesday, July 29, which is 60 days prior to the 2015 annual meeting. This year’s meeting will be held Saturday, Sept. 26, at White House Heritage High School in Robertson County.

An election will be held for the following director positions: South Stewart County, North Robertson County and North Sumner County.

Anyone with a valid membership in good standing as of July 29 can vote in the director elections. Those applying for membership after July 29 will not be eligible to vote in this year’s election but are welcome to attend the meeting and register for prizes.

(CEMC Bylaws Article 3 – Section 3.05)

Cumberland Electric Membership Corporation will be closed Friday, July 3, in observance of Independence Day. CEMC personnel will be available in the event of an emergency — call 1-800-987-2362. CEMC wishes you a safe and happy Fourth of July!

CEMC recognizes super student achievements



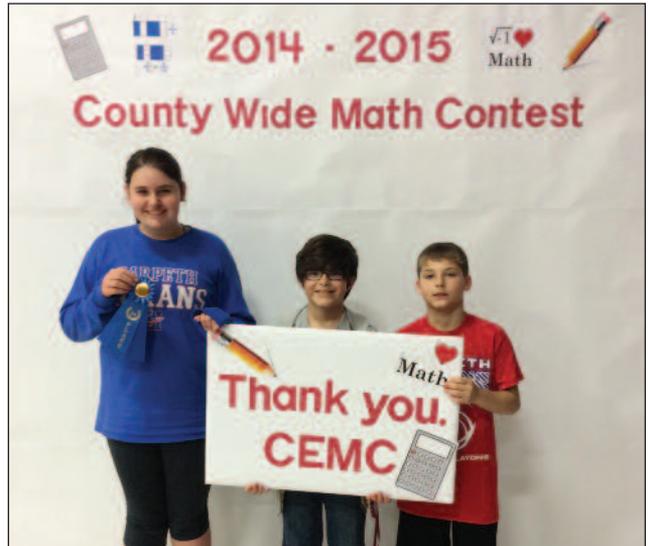
Cumberland Heights Elementary held its annual spelling bee April 6. The winners are, from left, Kylie Hernandez, third place; Samari Williams, first place; and Trey Troyani, second place. The winners were awarded cash prizes courtesy of Cumberland Electric Membership Corporation.



The Cheatham County School District held its annual math contest for third through fifth grades March 13. The third-grade winners are, from left, Austin Campbell, West Cheatham Elementary, first place; Neil Zerkle, Pegram Elementary, second place; and Jackson Earle, Pleasant View Elementary, third place.



Cheatham County fourth-grade math contest winners are, from left, Fiona Mikhail, Pegram Elementary, first place; Adam Hesselbacher, Pleasant View Elementary, second place; and Angus Stergar, Kingston Springs Elementary, third place.



Cheatham County math contest winners from the fifth grade are, from left, Laney Corlew, Harpeth Middle, first place; Javy Matos, Cheatham Middle, second place; and Michael Harris, Harpeth Middle, third place.

CEMC was proud to sponsor North Stewart Elementary School's annual Math Marathon for second through fifth grades April 23. At right are the winners for each grade level and the overall winner. They are, from left, standing, Lydia Edwards, fourth grade, second place; Hagen Albright, fourth grade, third place; Ruben Perez, fourth grade, third place; Will Page, fifth grade, third place; Gage Link, fifth grade, second place; Grant Chaney, fifth grade, first place; and Grace Chaney, fifth grade, overall winner. Kneeling: Darryll Cook, fourth grade, first place; Kylie Romkey, second grade, first place, Eli Jenkins, second grade, second place; Blessed Tomsic, second grade, third place; Joy Beth Hardison, third grade, third place; and Analyce Taylor, third grade, first place. Not pictured is Lani Morgan, third grade, second place.



At left are fourth-grade students from Cumberland Heights Elementary school who participated in Austin Peay State University's STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) Exposition May 4. The students were challenged to create a safe tool for linemen to use when working on live power lines. They began by investigating circuits, differentiating between conductors and insulators and applying knowledge gained by viewing an electric safety presentation performed by Cumberland Electric Membership Corporation. Student teams used the engineering design process to plan, create, test and improve their tool, which was presented at the expo. CEMC is proud to help spark these young thinking minds about electricity.

Tennessee-Kentucky
Threshermen's Association
46th Annual Threshing Show
Friday and Saturday, July 17 and 18,
Bell School Grounds in Adams

- Steam engines • Antique tractors
- Wheat-threshing • Sawmilling • Antique gas and diesel engines • Tractor pulls
- Arts and crafts • Live music • Food • Parade

Admission: \$6; children 10 and under FREE
Gates open at 8 a.m. with FREE parking.

Sponsored in part by

CEMC

Energy Efficiency
Tip of the Month



By cleaning your air conditioner's ducts, you can lower your energy consumption by between 5 percent and 15 percent.

Source: energy.gov

The power of American independence

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If we all work together to achieve increased energy efficiency and reduce our overall energy consumption, we can make even more progress on our road toward energy independence. At Cumberland Electric Membership Corporation, we want to be a resource for you in this effort. We can provide energy-saving tips tailored for your unique household needs.

Electric co-ops provide renewable energy resources

In addition, CEMC, along with other electric co-ops across the country, has been actively engaged in promoting

renewable energy resources like wind, solar, hydropower and biomass (including landfill gas, livestock waste, timber byproducts and crop residue). Today, nearly 95 percent of the nation's 900-plus electric co-ops provide electricity produced by renewable sources, all playing a key role in powering rural America while fostering our nation's energy independence.

Recent advances in technology are transforming how we make and move electricity, and over time, these changes will greatly improve not only the efficiency but the reliability of electric power. So this Fourth of July, as you gaze up at the fireworks lighting up the night sky, reflect on the enduring spirit of independence that is integral to our American character.

Stay safe exploring the great outdoors this summer

By Abby Berry

Summer is in full swing, and that means it is time for fun in the sun! As you find yourself spending more time outdoors, Cumberland Electric Membership Corporation reminds you to stay safe.

Planning a home improvement project? When working outdoors, you may be using equipment such as ladders, power tools, shovels or even paintbrushes with extendable arms. These items help you get the job done but have the potential to be dangerous if used improperly.

Pay attention to where you place metal ladders or dig for fence posts. Before you start any project, always look up and avoid overhead power lines. Keep a minimum of 10 feet between you and overhead lines.

If you are planning a project that requires digging, remember to dial "811" first to find out if the area you will be working in is clear of underground power lines. Keep power tools away from wet surfaces, and don't overload outlets.

Exploring the great outdoors is a great way to spend time with the family, but keep these safety tips in mind:

Children should never climb trees near power lines — always assume a wire is live. Fly kites and remote-controlled airplanes in large, open areas like parks or fields, safely away from trees and overhead power lines.

Planning to take a dip in the pool? Keep electrical devices such as stereos at least 10 feet away from water sources, and outdoor electrical outlets should always be



Remember to keep safety in mind while enjoying the great outdoors this summer. Photograph courtesy of Underwriters Laboratories

covered. If you hear a rumble of thunder, exit the pool right away.

Speaking of thunder, summer storms can be dangerous if you're caught in the wrong place at the wrong time. If you find yourself outdoors during a storm, move toward suitable shelter with covered sides, and stick to low-lying ground if possible.

These are just a few tips to remember when you are spending time outdoors this summer with your family. Have some fun out there, and always keep safety in mind!