

# Investing in our members is investing in strong communities

As you look through the pages of this month's magazine, I hope you will take notice of the articles dealing with the various activities we are involved with here at Cumberland Electric Membership Corporation. The past few weeks have been a busy time, what with Member Appreciation Days and preparations for the upcoming Washington Youth Tour and the awarding of college scholarships. It's also a very exciting time, both for our cooperative and particularly for our younger members.

## Member

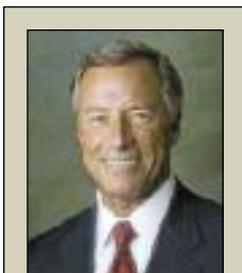
### Appreciation Days

We started observing Member Appreciation Days four years ago. The idea was to offer a simple gesture of thanks to you for being our customer, only in our business we try to avoid using the word "customer" because you're more than that: You're a member, and that makes you a full-fledged owner of this company. And while we invite all of our owners to come together for the annual membership meeting each year, we felt that wasn't enough. For one thing, the annual meeting is largely business-oriented, and we wanted to offer an opportunity for people to come and just relax in a picnic setting. There are no neckties or speeches at a Member Appreciation Day cookout! As you can see from the photos on the next page, our emphasis is on casual. If there is any such thing as a *new* tradition, Member Appreciation Days is proving to be a good one.

### Washington Youth Tour

CEMC has participated in the Washington Youth Tour for many years, only now we're participating in a much bigger way than before. The youth tour is put on by the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association, of which CEMC is a member, along with hun-

dreds of other electric co-ops. The idea behind the youth tour was to introduce young cooperative members to the United States of America by providing a guided tour of the nation's capital — its historical homes and monuments as well as many major tourist attractions. Participants get to meet members of



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

Congress, and there have been years when they even got to meet the president. We believe this annual tour rewards participants for being good students and also provides them an incentive to be loyal cooperative members. You can read more about this year's trip on page 18.

### College scholarships

This is the 12th year CEMC has offered Citizen

Scholar College Scholarships to students who plan to continue their formal education after high school. Ten academically gifted students from throughout our service area will head off to school this fall with \$1,000 each from CEMC. How they qualified for the award is explained on page 19. We see this as an investment in our future, and not just our cooperative's future. We believe college helps build better citizens, and we are proud to encourage our young members to work hard for their degrees and lay the groundwork for successful careers.

Each of these projects reflects our belief in the Seven Cooperative Principles, which all cooperatives strive to follow, especially principle number seven, "Concern for Community:"

"While focusing on member needs, cooperatives work for the sustainable development of their communities through policies accepted through their members."

We believe we're on the right track toward developing great communities.

## CEMC Management and Staff

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### Portland/White House offices

Homer Mayes, District Operations Supervisor

### Springfield office

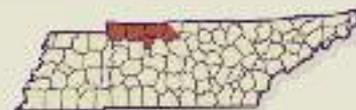
Larry Richardson, District Operations Supervisor

## CEMC Board of Directors

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## 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.



## Cumberland Electric Membership Corporation

Serving Cheatham, Montgomery, Robertson, Stewart and Sumner counties.

# Crowds flock to Member Appreciation Days

Thanks to all the fine folks who attended Member Appreciation Days this spring! It was great taking our electric grill on the road and serving hot dogs to hundreds of Cumberland Electric Membership Corporation customers during three weeks in April. We found warm weather and even warmer people at every stop.

CEMC appreciates its members, and our employees are proud to be of service every day, not just on the days we're giving out hot dogs and cold drinks!

Thanks also to those who purchased our "Family Favorites" cookbook, which is a fundraising effort for Project Help. The cookbooks are still available for purchase at each CEMC business office.

We hope to see you again next year!

## They won a grill!

Congratulations to the following winners of a Deluxe Electric Cart Grill:

**Clarksville:** Gail Powers of Clarksville

**Dover:** Jeff Knott of Dover

**Ashland City:** Chuck Bennett of Chapmansboro

**Springfield:** Vincent Ellis of Springfield

**Gallatin:** Roger Twito of Hendersonville

**Portland:** Wayne Roberts of Portland

**White House:** Gershon McGregor of Cottontown



**Day 1 – Enjoying the balmy, midday Clarksville weather are, from left, CEMC Montgomery County Director Carrol Poole, Ronnie Boyd and Jimmy Settle.**



**Day 2 – From left, CEMC meter reader Dale Ross entertains Wayne Sears, Mrs. Bill Adamec and her son, Rod Adamec, during our visit with Dover members.**



**Day 3 – There is definitely a party atmosphere at our event in Ashland City — a steady stream of members plus live radio interviews made it a day to remember.**



**Day 4 – From left, Jessie, Amy and Lizzie Wilson of Greenbrier are among the many Robertson Countians to attend Member Appreciation Day in Springfield.**



**Day 5 – Serviceman Trey Harrison adds a hot dog to James Lee's bundle of freebies as lineman Jared Hesson mans the grill during a cool cookout in Gallatin.**



**Day 6 – The wind keeps Old Glory flying proudly throughout our best-ever day in Portland. We have a plan to increase parking spaces when we come back next year!**



**Day 7 – Jim Coode (standing, rear), general manager, visits with a tent full of guests during our final stop in sunny White House. It was the perfect end to this year's "tour!"**

# Seniors look forward to Washington Youth Tour



**Jared Barber**



**Josiah Brown**



**Taylor Genz**



**Hailey Keith**



**Natalie Kela**



**Brittney Meador**



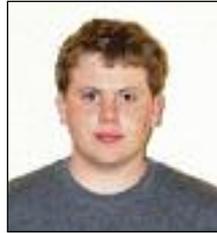
**Lesley Wallace**



**Kaitlyn Warren**



**Erin Weakley**



**Casey Williams**



**Nicole Wolowicz**



**Chase York**

Early on the morning of June 11, 12 high school seniors will board a bus to begin what many before them have described as “the trip of a lifetime” as participants in the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association Washington Youth Tour.

Chosen for the weeklong trip as representatives of Cumberland Electric Membership Corporation, the students first had to write a short story on the subject “Electric Cooperatives: Energizing Our Communities” and have it judged as one of the best from among more than 300 entries.

The winning papers were submitted by the following Washington, D.C.-bound students:

- **Jared Barber**, son of Barry and LaJeana Barber of Portland. Jared attends Portland High School.
- **Josiah Brown**, son of Scott and Kathy Brown of Ashland City. Josiah attends Sycamore High School.
- **Taylor Genz**, son of David and Heather Genz of Indian Mound. Taylor attends Stewart County High School.
- **Hailey Keith**, daughter of William and Kimberly Keith of Greenbrier. Hailey attends Greenbrier High School.
- **Natalie Kela**, daughter of Jim and Petra Kela of Clarksville. Natalie attends Montgomery Central High School.
- **Brittney Meador**, daughter of Kellie Bangert of Portland and Derek Meador of Bowling Green. Brittney attends Portland High School.
- **Lesley Wallace**, daughter of Reggie and Ginger Wallace of Indian Mound. Lesley attends Stewart County High School.
- **Kaitlyn Warren**, daughter of Penny Warren of Big Rock. Kaitlyn attends Stewart County High School.
- **Erin Weakley**, daughter of Phillip and Lou Ann Weakley of Cunningham. Erin attends Montgomery Central High School.
- **Casey Williams**, son of Greg and Stacie Williams of Cunningham. Casey attends Montgomery Central High School.

- **Nicole Wolowicz**, daughter of Ted and Melinda Wolowicz of Springfield. Nicole attends Greenbrier High School.

- **Chase York**, son of Lisa York of Pleasant View. Chase attends Sycamore High School.

Accompanying the group will be two employees from CEMC’s Member Services Department — Barbara Harper and Stephanie Lobdell. William James “Dusty” Holder, a history teacher at Stewart County High School, is also going.

Day One is for traveling across Tennessee with a destination of Staunton, Va.

The real sightseeing begins on Day Two with a stop and tour of Monticello, the home of President Thomas Jefferson in Charlottesville, Va. Later, students will participate in a guided tour of the Jefferson and Lincoln memorials in Washington, along with the Vietnam, Korean, World War II and Iwo Jima memorials.

On Day Three, stops include Arlington National Cemetery with an excellent view of a wreath-laying ceremony at the Tomb of the Unknowns and the first of two trips to the Smithsonian Institution. In the evening, plans call for attending the play “Thurgood” at the Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts.

Day Four includes a VIP tour of the U.S. Capitol and a stop at the Washington National Cathedral.

On Day Five, students will visit Mount Vernon, the home of President George Washington, tour the Crime and Punishment Museum and return to the Smithsonian.

On Day Six, their last full day in the city, the group will hear from and pose for pictures with members of Tennessee’s congressional delegation before touring the Newseum.

The next morning, everyone will be roused from their slumber at 3 a.m. to prepare for the flight to Nashville, hopefully with many new friends and wonderful memories that will last a lifetime.

# CEMC awards dollars for scholars

## Citizen Scholar scholarships help make college education more affordable

Continuing their formal education beyond high school is the dream of many young people, and Cumberland Electric Membership Corporation is pleased to help make the dream a reality for the students pictured on this page. Each of them has been awarded a \$1,000 Citizen Scholar College Scholarship from CEMC.

To qualify for the award, students were required to write papers describing how attending college will help them achieve their life's goals. Students were also required to demonstrate academic commitment and financial need. The papers were judged by a panel of retired teachers who chose the top 10 finalists from among scores of entries.

"CEMC is proud to contribute to the college careers of such outstanding students as these," says Barbara Harper, member services manager. "The determination they have shown in their studies will lead to success in college and beyond."

This year's winners are:

- **Nicole Bowers**, daughter of Mike and Charmaine Bowers of Dover. Nicole is a graduate of Stewart County High School and will be attending Austin Peay State University.
- **Matthew Bracey**, son of Sidney and Kathy Bracey of Clarksville. Matt is a graduate of Sycamore High School and plans to attend The University of Tennessee, Chattanooga.
- **Evelyn Cordeiro**, daughter of Robert and Amanda Cordeiro of Pleasant View. Evelyn is a graduate of Sycamore High School and will attend Western Kentucky University.

- **Deanna Couts**, daughter of Vickie Couts of Springfield. Deanna is a graduate of East Robertson High School and plans to attend Western Kentucky University.
- **Molly Fields**, daughter of David and Teresa Fields of Springfield. Molly is a graduate of Springfield High School and will be attending Belmont University.
- **Spencer Garrett**, son of Larry and Sherry Garrett of White House. Spencer is a graduate of White House Heritage High School and will be attending Austin Peay State University.
- **Lauren Gregg**, daughter of Lisa and William Gregg Jr. of Hendersonville. Lauren is a graduate of Beech High School and will be attending The University of Tennessee, Knoxville.
- **Paige Jessop**, daughter of Jennifer Page of Cumberland Furnace. Paige is a graduate of Montgomery Central High School and plans to attend The University of Tennessee, Knoxville.
- **Leslie Marberry**, daughter of Michael and Angie Marberry of Cottontown. Leslie is a graduate of White House Christian Academy and is deciding between Lipscomb University and Austin Peay State University.
- **Ashley Nelligan**, daughter of Micheal Nelligan of White House. Ashley is a graduate of White House Christian Academy and plans on attending East Tennessee State University.

This marks the 12th year CEMC has awarded scholarship money through the Citizen Scholar program. This year's winners were chosen from among 151 applicants representing 26 public and private high schools throughout the CEMC service area of Cheatham, Montgomery, Robertson, Stewart and Sumner counties.



**Nicole Bowers**



**Matthew Bracey**



**Evelyn Cordeiro**



**Deanna Couts**



**Molly Fields**



**Spencer Garrett**



**Lauren Gregg**



**Paige Jessop**



**Leslie Marberry**



**Ashley Nelligan**

# CEMC offers new paperless billing option

**Action comes in response to members' requests for environmental responsibility**

“It’s not easy being green,” is a quote attributed to Kermit the Frog of “Sesame Street” fame. But with all due respect to everyone’s favorite television amphibian, Cumberland Electric Membership Corporation is making it easy to start your greening process.

Beginning April 22 — Earth Day — CEMC members who are signed up for e-bill, the electronic billing service, were given the option to discontinue receiving printed statements in favor of paperless billing.

“For our members who want to do something to help the environment, reducing the amount of paper they use is a good way to start ‘going green,’” says Jeff Bryant, supervisor of information systems and general accounting.

Information about signing up for paperless billing can be found on our website, [www.cemc.org](http://www.cemc.org). Users should click on “Pay Your Bill Online” and follow the instructions that will display after you log in. This is also where you sign up for e-bill, which is necessary in order to go paperless. It is important to note that the check boxes on the screen in the selection box are

already set to update your account(s) to paperless billing statements, so it will be necessary to click on the box that says “Send Me A Statement By Mail” if you do not wish to switch to paperless billing.

Once you have selected the paperless billing statement option, you will no longer see this prompt on subsequent logins.

“We have been working with our software vendor for some time to make it possible to provide this option for our members,” Bryant says. “There definitely was interest among the membership for a paperless option.”

Approximately 20,000 e-bill users are eligible to make the paperless switch. Within 48 hours of activation, even without promoting its availability, nearly 200 members had signed up for paperless billing.

“We would like to offer this option to all of our members, but first they must sign up for e-bill to be eligible to take advantage of it,” Bryant says.

So, save some paper, save some trees, and partner with CEMC to help save our planet! Go paperless!



Appliance rebates are now available through the economic stimulus package.

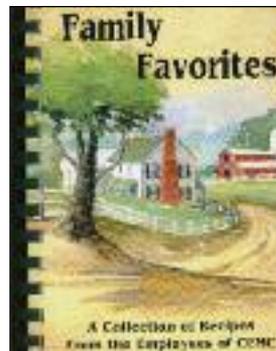
The stimulus plan provides rebates for consumers who replace an old appliance with a new, energy-efficient model rated by Energy Star. Each state’s plan is unique. Visit

[www.energysavers.gov/rebates](http://www.energysavers.gov/rebates)

to find out how rebates can help you keep your electric bills affordable!

## ‘Family Favorites’ cookbook now on sale

Lots of delicious spring and summer recipes are included in “Family Favorites,” the new cookbook compiled by past and present Cumberland Electric Membership Corporation employees and board members.



“Family Favorites” is available at all CEMC business offices for \$12 plus sales tax. Proceeds from “Family Favorites” go to Project Help, the program that helps pay utility bills for families in need.

Pick up a copy for your kitchen! It makes a great gift, too!

## Correction

An incorrect date was published in last month’s issue regarding Cumberland Electric Membership Corporation’s 2010 Annual Membership Meeting.

The correct date for the meeting at Portland High School is Saturday, Sept. 18.

We apologize for any inconvenience this may have caused, and we hope to see you on Sept. 18!