

CEMC Management and Staff

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**Clarksville office**

**Kenny Davis**,  
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**Dover office**

**Terry Odom**,  
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**Allan Cook**,  
District Operations Supervisor  
**Portland/White House offices**

**Homer Mayes**,  
District Operations Supervisor  
**Springfield office**

**Larry Richardson**, District Operations Supervisor

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**Wesley H. Aymett**,  
Cheatham Co., Vice President

**Shela K. Williams**,  
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**Jerry T. Peacher**, Stewart Co.,  
Assistant Secretary-Treasurer

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**Stephen E. Douglass**, Stewart Co.

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**C. David Morgan**, Montgomery Co.

**Carrol O. Poole**, Montgomery Co.

**Tommy G. Whittaker**, 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.

## Honor Electrical Safety Month

Every May, we celebrate Electrical Safety Month. It's a time when we place a spotlight on ways we keep you, our members, safe.

This year, we're focusing on how to keep safe after a storm rolls through. No matter the type of weather or damage to electrical equipment and infrastructure, resulting safety hazards are generally the same.

To stay safe after a major storm or natural disaster strikes, Cumberland Electric Membership Corporation urges you to develop a family action plan. Designate a place for everyone to meet after an event. Map out ways to evacuate your home. Create a laminated card with emergency contact names and numbers for each family member.

Consider listing a relative or friend who lives far from your community as the point of contact—if your family gets separated, that person can let others know who is safe.

And don't forget pets in your family action plan—many rescue shelters will not accept pets after a catastrophe of some sort, so it's important to decide beforehand where animals can take up residence for a while.

It's not hard to understand why safety remains a top priority for CEMC working around electricity is a life or death situation every day for many of our employees. As a result, we work hard to instill a culture of safety that our folks can take home with them and live with 24/7.

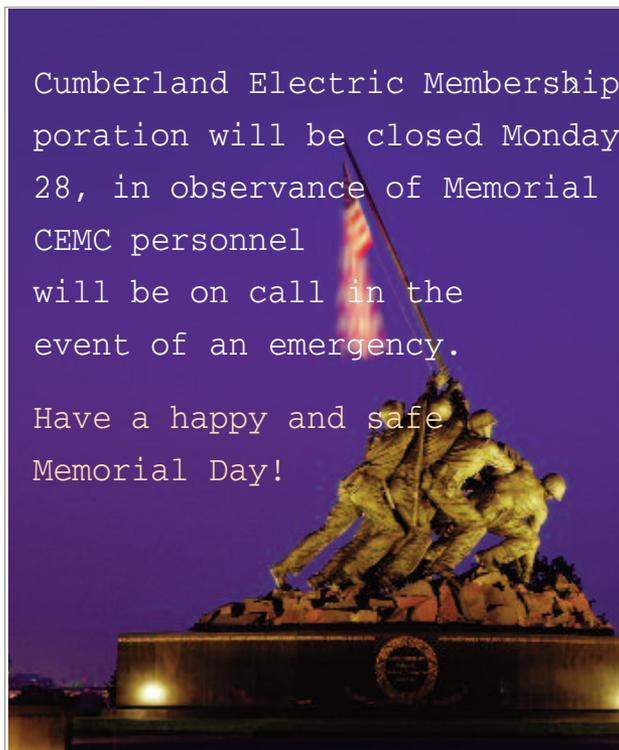
We also strive to raise safety awareness among CEMC members. Look for safety tips in The Tennessee Magazine each month, and check [www.cemc.org](http://www.cemc.org) for more information.

Pledge to honor Electrical Safety Month by fashioning an emergency action plan for your family today.

Learn more about weathering storms safely at [www.ready.gov](http://www.ready.gov).



Jim Coode,  
General Manager,  
Cumberland Electric Membership  
Corporation



## CEMC announces 2012 annual member meeting

**M**ark your calendar to attend the 2012 Cumberland Electric Membership Corporation Annual Member Meeting.

This year's meeting will be Saturday Sept. 29 at White House Heritage High School in White House.

The meeting will include:

Registration - 8 a.m. - 10 a.m.

Voting - 8 a.m. - 10 a.m.

Breakfast - 8 a.m. - 9:30 a.m.



Entertainment  
General Information  
Youth Corner

Each membership will receive  
- a meeting favor  
- one ticket to enter for the grand prize  
- one stamped form to enter for a door prize

Watch for more details in the coming months.

**Make your plans to attend  
and join the fun!**

## Strawberries, strawberries, strawberries...

**L**ooking for a great family fun filled event? The Annual Middle Tennessee Strawberry Festival is the place you need to check out. You will find delicious strawberries and great activities for all ages. The Portland Chamber of Commerce has each day planned for you, all you have to do is be there, relax and have fun. This year's festival is May 12-19 with Saturday May 19 as the Main Festival Day.

The week's events start May 11 - 12 with the Strawberry Pageant sponsored by the PHS cheerleaders. Events are scheduled each day up to the big day, Saturday May 19. Saturday morning the events start early with the Strawberry Stride (5K run) at PHS and a pancake breakfast, sponsored by the Rotary Club, at the Portland Baptist Church. Downtown Portland will be filled with activities for all ages starting with booths, live entertainment, a parade sponsored by Portland Lions Club, Kid's Town, and yes, strawberries, grown by local farmers, will be for sale as long as they last.



Other activities include Garden Tractor Pull and Classic Car Cruise-in, 14th annual golf tournament, a berry best cake contest, a strawberry eating contest, a strawberry jam featuring local musicians, a strawberry reading hour and a variety of vendor booths. The many strawberry activities are designed for all age groups, because they want everyone to come out and enjoy the strawberry experience.

Several events require preregistration, for additional information and activities be sure to visit their website at [www.portlandcofc.com](http://www.portlandcofc.com) or contact the Portland Chamber of Commerce at 615-325-9032.

## Eagle Fest 2012: A Salute to Freedom

**D**over, Tennessee invites you to their 6th Annual Salute to Freedom beginning Thursday May 24 through Sunday May 26. The official opening ceremony will be at 10 a.m. on Saturday May 26 on Church Street in downtown Dover.

Each night will be Family Night with carnival rides beginning at 3 p.m. until 10 p.m. and Sunday from noon to 5 p.m. On Saturday there will be a variety of craft booths, local artists' exhibits, food, music and more to visit in downtown Dover. Additionally, the Stewart County Chamber of Commerce is hosting a beauty contest and a car show. Saturday night, starting at 7 p.m., the parking lot at Sentry Armor will become a dance stage with the night ending with a fabulous firework display in honor of our freedom. Sunday will offer additional events with the Salute to Freedom ending with a candlelight walk to Fort Donelson National Cemetery for a luminary service at 8 p.m.

The Memorial Day event is focused on all the members of the armed forces who continue to maintain our freedom and to those who maintained our freedom in years past. The event offers the citizens of the community and their guests the opportunity to say "thank you" to all of those serving and who have served our country. Come join the community of Dover for Eagle Fest 2012.

# 2012 State Legislative visit

Tuesday March 13, CEMC staff and board members along with Tennessee's 22 other electric cooperatives made their annual visit to our state capital. This annual visit gives us the opportunity to talk with our state senators and representatives. It is increasingly important that we maintain an active presence in both Nashville and Washington, D.C., to be certain that the interests of co-op members are protected. Part of our job's responsibility is making sure that legislators understand the impact their decisions will have on our co-ops' ability to provide safe, reliable and affordable energy.

CEMC's group visited the representatives and senators serving our members. At each visit, CEMC personnel discussed our concerns of current issues which could affect the way we conduct business. This opportunity to educate and inform our legislators gives them a better understanding of our position on issues which may affect the way CEMC operates.

As in the past several years, the on-going legislation concerning pole attachments was discussed. Electric utilities charge cable TV and telephone providers when they attach their wires to electric poles. Cable and telephone companies believe these rates should be lower, but co-ops believe they charge fair rates based on the actual cost of installing and maintaining the pole. "CEMC's board mem-



From left to right, Jim Coode, CEMC general manager, visits with Sen. Kerry Roberts (R-Springfield) along with board members Shela Williams, Joe Whitaker, Steve Douglas and Chris Davis, engineering division manager.

bers do an outstanding job in verifying what is charged and establishing fair attachment rates," says Jim Coode, general manager. "It is an issue that is best settled locally by each cooperative's board, rather than by state government."

Jim Coode, general manager; Chris Davis, engineering division manager; and Barbara Harper, member services manager, represented CEMC at this year's legislative conference along with board members Joe Whitaker, president; Shela Williams, secretary-

treasurer; and Steve Douglass.

"The decisions made in Nashville affect our co-op and our co-op members," says Coode. "We have an obligation to our members to see that their voice is heard."



Rep. Mike McDonald (D-Portland) visits with Coode and Whitaker.

## What's your story?

CEMC will celebrate 75 years in 2013.

In preparation for this milestone, we are gathering members' stories to share when power first came to their homes or businesses. Your story may be a fond memory told by a family member who shared the experience with you. While 2013 seems like a long time off, we need the time to organize the stories and possibly to come visit you for a photo to go with your story.

We are looking forward to receiving your story about how electric power changed the lives of your family 75 years ago!

Contact the Member Services Department at 800-987-2362, extension 1158 or 1118.



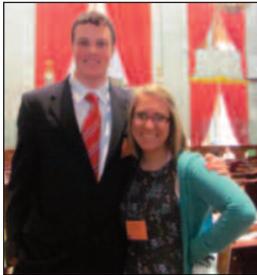
### Energy Efficiency

*Tip of the Month*

Smart home landscaping can lower your electric bills. Trees on the east and west sides of your home provide shade—and reduce your cooling costs—during hot summer months. Shade for your air conditioner can save 10 percent of your cooling costs. And by adding trees and shrubs to the north side of your home, you can reduce winter winds that trigger higher heating costs. Find more ways to save at TogetherWeSave.com. Source: Touchstone Energy® Cooperatives

# CEMC youth visit legislative

In addition to cooperative employees and board members visiting our state officials, each year the 23 cooperative distributors sponsor two students, a boy and a girl, from CEMC service area to attend the Youth Leadership Summit (YLS). This experience includes a visit to the state capital where students have the opportunity to meet their state representative, senators and sometimes even the governor.



Meet CEMC's 2012 YLS students- **Logan** and **Malori**

This year CEMC student representatives were Logan Mierop from White House Heritage High, and Malori Stone, from Cheatham County Central High.

Both students were excellent representatives for CEMC, their schools and communities.

The YLS allows students across our state the opportunity to see first-hand how state government is conducted. Their first order of business was learning how to work with others they have never met before and finding out what type of leadership skills they have. "CEMC was very fortunate to have two natural leaders representing our members who quickly became involved in all the activities," stated Stephanie Lobdell, CEMC public relations coordinator.

The theme this year was "All In", encouraging the students to venture out of their comfort zone. The adult leaders urged the students to become involved in school and community activities in ways that they may have not thought of doing before.



CEMC's group met Lt Gov and Speaker of the Senate Ron Ramsey while at lunch.

"These students are our future leaders and I am confident they will be leaders of character in their communities." says Lobdell.



Logan Mierop, Malori Stone and Stephanie Lobdell, meet Rep. Phillip Johnson, Malori's representative from Cheatham County, in front of the capital.

## CEMC employees volunteering with our youth



Communications Coordinator Julie Wallace poses with her son's first grade class at North Stewart Elementary after reading "Are You My Mother" with them.

March 2, CEMC employees were invited to celebrate Read across America, a nationwide event aimed to promote youth literacy, with students at Cumberland Heights and North Stewart elementary schools located in CEMC's service area. Employees volunteer to read one or two Dr. Seuss' books to different grade levels; often one of our employees will have a child in one of the classes. The students were celebrating Dr. Seuss' birthdate, which is

always a fun activity for the employees who are asked to read. They are given the opportunity to interact with the students and experience their enthusiasm as they react to the stories read.

CEMC donated books and bookmarks to the students at Cumberland Heights and North Stewart to thank them for inviting us to be a part of their celebrations. We see our youth, tomorrow's leaders, as energetic and eager to learn.



Kelly Deffendoll, billing clerk, is spotted at Cumberland Heights Elementary reading another Dr. Seuss classic to the above group of students.

# CEMC youth excel academically



Cumberland Heights Elementary Spelling Bee Winners (L-R) 1st - Landry Clardy, 2nd - Jarius Satterfield & 3rd - Jessica Troyani.



Cumberland Heights Elementary Science Fair Winners - Grades K - 5th. The 2012 Marva Brooks winner was 4th grader Madison Niles.



Cheatham Co 4th grade Spelling Bee winners (L-R) 3rd - Caroline Colvin, 2nd - Slayden Reed and 1st - Chloe Winters.

## C O N G R A T U L A T I O N S



Cheatham Co 4th Grade Math winners(L-R); 3rd - Caden Mitchell, 2nd - Christian DePriest and 1st -Avery Shepherd



Cheatham Co 5th Grade Math winners (L-R);2nd - Tyler Simpson, 3rd - Nathan St. Andre, and 1st - Jonathan Mayberry.



Cheatham Co 6th Grade Math winners(L-R); 1st - Dillon McCormick, 2nd - Alexis Ford, and 3rd - Kelsey Brumfield

## Promoting electric safety

CEMC employees consider electric safety a top priority year around as they perform the many different job tasks required for our business. When visiting schools, community clubs, fire halls, highway safety group, etc., our goal is communicating electric safety and to stress how important it is to CEMC's employees that everyone understands thoroughly how dangerous electricity is.

If you are interested in an electric safety presentation and would like to schedule one, contact CEMC at 800-987-2362 extension 1143.



**Chad Corlew**, programs inspector, shows 4th graders at Pleasantview Elementary examples of hazardous situations involving electricity.



CEMC's safety demo was presented to these 3rd graders attending Clarksville Christian School.



Above - Stephanie Lobdell, public relations coordinator, demos CEMC's electric safety display to 4th graders at Cumberland Heights Elementary School. Students enjoy asking questions at the end of the presentation.

Every day is  
**Electric  
safety day!**