

You're invited to CEMC's 70th annual meeting

What's the first thing that comes to your mind when you think about the annual meeting? The prizes?

OK, that's fair. We do give away some very nice prizes every year — trips, things for the home, college scholarships and so on. But don't let that be the only reason you come.

Most of you already know about the importance of the annual meeting, so this is for our newer members. (Cumberland Electric Membership Corporation has gained approximately 2,000 new members since our last annual meeting!)

The annual meeting is the biggest day of the year for the cooperative. It's like a shareholders meeting in the corporate world, with a business meeting and director elections. This year's meeting — with the theme, "Living the green life" — will be held Saturday, Oct. 4, at Rossvie High School in Clarksville. As employees of the cooperative, it's our best opportunity to show you, as owners of the coopera-

tive, how things are going in our business. We value your participation, and that's why we encourage you to come take part in the life of your cooperative.

And this is no "stale doughnut and a cup of tepid coffee" affair, either. You'll get a full, hot breakfast. You'll have time to visit with friends and maybe make some new friends before things get going.

There's a youth corner for the kids to play around in. It's fully supervised so you can browse through the exhibits at your own pace.

Entertainment? We've got that, too. Rossvie High School has a beautiful, com-

fortable theatre, and that's where the rest of the morning's activities will take place.

There are a couple of other reasons I hope you'll be there. This is CEMC's 70th anniversary, and it will be my farewell to the membership before I begin my retirement in October. I'd like to see and thank as many of you as possible.

Did I mention the prizes?



Carl Wilson Jr.
General Manager
Cumberland Electric
Membership
Corporation



BOARD OF DIRECTORS — Seated, from left, are Joe H. Whitaker, Wesley H. Aymett, Sheila K. Williams and Jerry T. Peacher. Standing: Carl W. Wilson, general manager; Michael A. Mason; Tommy G. Whittaker; C. David Morgan; Carrol O. Poole; Gene E. Cook; and Stephen E. Douglass.

CEMC Management and Staff

Carl W. Wilson Jr., General Manager
Jim Coode, Assistant General Manager
Randy Holt, Operations Manager
Lynne Wilson, Administrative Services Manager
Chris Davis, Engineering Manager
Michael Batson, Controller
Barbara Harper, Member Services Manager
Howard Whitaker, Eastern Regional Manager
Kevin Cain, Western Regional Manager

CEMC Co-op News Editor
Scott Shelton
P.O. Box 3300
Clarksville, TN 37043

Open Monday – Friday, 7:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.
800-987-2362

Ashland City office
Nicky Roberts, District Operations Supervisor

Clarksville office
J.D. Bumpus, District Operations Supervisor

Dover office
Terry Odom, District Manager

Gallatin office
Allan Cook, District Manager

Portland/White House offices
Homer Mayes, District Operations Supervisor

Springfield office
Larry Richardson, District Manager

CEMC Board of Directors

Joe H. Whitaker, Sumner County,
President
Wesley H. Aymett, Cheatham County,
Vice President
Sheila K. Williams, At Large,
Secretary-Treasurer
Jerry T. Peacher, Stewart County,
Assistant Secretary-Treasurer
Gene E. Cook, Robertson County
Stephen E. Douglass, Stewart County
Michael A. Mason, Robertson County
C. David Morgan, Montgomery County
Carrol O. Poole, Montgomery County
Tommy G. Whittaker, Sumner County

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.

Which of these prizes would YOU like to have?



Clarion Inn & Suites
www.clariongatlinburg.com



Embassy Suites at Cool Springs
www.embassysuitesnashvillesouth.com



Gaylord Opryland Resort
www.gaylordhotels.com/gaylordopryland



College Scholarships
Six will be awarded.

Thinking about skipping the Cumberland Electric Membership Corporation annual meeting on Oct. 4 at Rossvie High School in Clarksville? That would be a shame. Because if you're not there, you can't win!

Just look at this assortment of prizes:

- **The GRAND Prize** — To commemorate CEMC's 70th anniversary, we went to Lowe's for a new, super-efficient, ENERGY STAR side-by-side Maytag washer and dryer — a GREAT way to go green!
- **Gatlinburg Getaway** — Two nights at the Clarion Inn & Suites in Gatlinburg plus a \$50 BP gas card, dinner for two at the Park Grille and two tickets to Ripley's Aquarium of the Smokies
- **Cool Springs Retreat** — One night at the Embassy Suites plus a \$50 BP gas card and a \$200 gift certificate for use at Cool Springs Galleria or area restaurants
- **Pigeon Forge Vacation** — Two nights at the Mainstay Suites in Pigeon Forge, two tickets to Dollywood, two tickets to dinner and a play at Wonderworks plus a \$50 BP gas card
- **Opryland Extravaganza** — One night at the Gaylord Opryland Resort in Nashville plus a \$200 Gaylord gift certificate
- **Front Porch Haven** — Two Hinkle rocking chairs, one-year subscription to your hometown newspaper plus a coffeemaker, coffee mugs, blankets and a birdhouse
- **Backyard Barbecue Package** — A patio set, electric grill, grilling utensils, croquet set plus a \$100 Kroger gift card
- **Home Entertainment Package** — A Wii game system and accessories
- **Pick Tennessee Products Package** — A quilt by Bona Perry, basket by Gail Beard, country ham, 12-inch cast iron skillet, Lodge tableware and cookware, and a birdhouse
- **College Scholarships** — Six \$500 college scholarships will be handed out. (Please bring proof of student registration at an accredited college or university, minimum 12-hour load for fall 2008 semester.)
- **Christmas Package** — A 7.5-foot prelit LED Christmas tree with surprise mystery gifts will help you "Live the green life" more energy efficiently.



In addition to these door prizes, drawings will be held for electric bill credits valued at \$50, \$100 and \$250 and seasonal HVAC tune-ups by TVA-certified QCN dealers. Plus, every member attending the meeting or voting early will receive favors as our way of saying "Thank You!" This year's favors include an LED flashlight, CFL light bulb and a reusable cloth shopping bag.

Don't forget the Youth Corner, where kids 18 and under can enjoy supervised play while parents browse the exhibits. The Youth Corner features face-painting, giant inflatables, drawings for bicycles to be given away and a visit from Louie the Lightning Bug.

All this and more at the 2008 CEMC annual member meeting at Rossvie High School in Clarksville.

We hope to see you there!

Candidates for CEMC board of directors

Four seats on the cooperative's board of directors will be filled during the 2008 Cumberland Electric Membership Corporation annual meeting Oct. 4 at Rossview High School in Clarksville. Members unable to attend the meeting may cast their ballot at any CEMC business office on Friday, Oct. 3, between the hours of 9 a.m. and 4 p.m. Early voters will also receive a token of appreciation for participating in the elections.

CEMC's Nominating Committee met July 17 and recommended the following incumbent directors for re-election:



Shela K. Williams

Shela K. Williams of Bumpus Mills in Stewart County is the nominee for the at-large seat. Mrs. Williams is seeking her fourth term as director after having first been elected in 1999. She holds board leadership and credentialed cooperative director certificates and currently serves as secretary-treasurer of the board.

Mrs. Williams is employed by F&M Bank in Clarksville where she is vice president of marketing/branch administration. She is a graduate of Leadership Clarksville, the Tennessee School of Banking, the Southeastern School of Sales Leadership at Vanderbilt University and the American Institute of Banking. At present, Mrs. Williams is Tennessee district president of Financial Women International and past president of the Clarksville-Montgomery County Child Advocacy Center and Clarksville Business and Professional Women.

She is married to James S. Williams and has a son, Jeremy Bucciarelli.

Joe H. Whitaker Sr. of Gallatin is the nominee from South Sumner County. Mr. Whitaker, who joined the board in 1999, is seeking his fourth term. He also holds board leadership and credentialed cooperative director certificates and currently serves as president of the board.

Mr. Whitaker is a real estate property manager, an occupation he has been involved with for more than 30 years. He holds a degree in business education from Eastern Kentucky University.

Mr. Whitaker is active in numerous civic organizations, including United Chambers of Commerce, Gallatin Kiwanis Club, Gallatin Chamber of Commerce, Sumner Academy, Leadership Sumner and Cairo Community Club. He attends Northeast Church of Gallatin/Hendersonville.

Mr. Whitaker is the father of Joe H. Whitaker Jr. and Julie Ann Whitaker.



Joe H. Whitaker Sr.



Carrol O. Poole

The nominee from North Montgomery County is Carrol O. Poole of Clarksville. Mr. Poole is seeking his fourth term as director after having first been elected in 1999. He is a credentialed cooperative director.

Mr. Poole is retired from Poole Brothers Tile Company, which he owned and worked at for 38 years.

Mr. Poole is active with The Gideons International and Shady Grove Free Will Baptist Church. He is a graduate of Clarksville High School. He and his wife, Mary, are the parents of four children: Vanessa Hollis, David Poole, Greg Poole and Mary Lynn Wood.

"It is an honor and privilege to serve as a director of CEMC," Mr. Poole says. "I have always tried to do what's best for our members, and I think the progress we are making reflects well on our efforts."

Jerry T. Peacher of Indian Mound is the nominee from North Stewart County, an area he has represented since 1974. For the past 23 years, Mr. Peacher, who holds a director's certificate, has served as the board's assistant secretary-treasurer.

Mr. Peacher retired after 39 years with the Stewart County Board of Education where he was a school teacher, principal, transportation supervisor and director of vocational education.

A graduate of Murray State University, Mr. Peacher is an active Mason and member of Indian Mound United Methodist Church.

He is married to Marie C. Peacher, and the couple are parents of Dan Peacher, Anita Hawkins and Eva Smith.



Jerry T. Peacher



Members of CEMC's Nominating Committee for 2008 are, from left, seated Donna Lancaster, Edwina Shemwell, Jeanetta Cheatham and Betty Webb, all of Stewart County, and, standing, Gaines Shearon and Joe Henry of Cheatham County, Wayne Dugger of Robertson County and Edward (Ned) Douglass of Sumner County.



Entertainment at CEMC's 2008 annual membership meeting will be provided by Golden Rhapsody, the choral group at Rossview High School, under the direction of Danny Chartrand. The program promises to include a variety of musical styles such as American standards, patriotic tunes and contemporary hits.

October energy bills expected to rise

The fuel cost adjustment (FCA) that the Tennessee Valley Authority charges to recover what it pays for the fuel used to generate electricity is expected to bring higher electricity bills throughout the Valley effective Oct. 1.

Even though some parts of the Valley have had adequate rainfall this year, other areas are still experiencing drought conditions that have severely reduced the availability of TVA's least expensive form of electricity generation — hydro power. This means TVA has had to buy more power from other generators than originally planned. This summer, TVA is buying more than 1,000 megawatts of power on a daily basis to replace lost hydro generation. Because most purchased power comes from natural gas plants, the price has increased dramatically.

This is a situation that many other electric utilities are facing. Pacific Gas & Electric Company is planning a 4.5-percent rate increase in October and an additional 2-percent increase in January. Progress Energy in May raised its FCA by 15 percent. Dominion filed a request seeking a 20-percent fuel rate increase.

Your itemized statement from Cumberland Electric Membership Corporation shows how much the FCA costs you each month.

We continue to stress the importance of using energy wisely. Please go to www.cemc.org for energy-saving tips and suggestions.

Fine-tune energy use with the right television

Streamlining your home's energy use can make a big impact on monthly electric bills, especially with fuel costs rising. But the devil is in the details, and everyday energy-wasters are sometimes easy to overlook.

One ever-present culprit lurks in your home right now. When combined with DVD players and video game consoles, television use makes up about 10 percent of an average household's annual electricity bill, according to Energy Star, a joint program of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the U.S. Department of Energy.

Depending on the technology behind the TV you're watching, your monthly energy costs can vary dramatically. Standard sets use a cathode ray tube, with those smaller than 40 inches drawing roughly 73 watts when on — close to what a 75-watt incandescent lightbulb uses. An average flat-screen LCD television of the same size also requires 70 watts, while a similar flat-screen plasma TV can really suck some power, consuming an average 246 watts when on.

Currently, there are more than 275 million TVs in use across the country, with the average household tuning in 4.7 hours a day. It takes more than 50 billion kilowatt-hours a year to keep those sets on, according to EPA, meaning it costs Americans \$5.2 billion to watch all of that TV.

Don't just watch TV—watch your wallet, too.

4-H electric campers seek to “change the world”

More than 280 sixth- and seventh-graders from across Tennessee converged on the University of Tennessee, Knoxville June 24-27 for this year’s 4-H Electric Camp. Titled “Change a Bulb, Change the World,” the camp was sponsored by the University of Tennessee Extension, Tennessee Electric Cooperative Association, Tennessee Municipal Electric Power Association and Tennessee Valley Authority.

Students explored energy conservation, technology, the basics of electricity and electric safety through various “hands-on” learning centers, which were led by professionals from electric utility companies. Groups of about 45 students

spent around an hour at each of the six learning centers, which demonstrated the many uses of electricity.

The following campers represented Cumberland Electric Membership Corporation: Staton Otto (Cheatham County); Naomi Castro, Eric Kimbro, Andrew Morris (Robertson County); Anna Blair, Kylie Bradley, Erica Cherry, Chris Dittman, Trae Hall (Sumner County); Ken Crowley, Lindsey Davis (Montgomery County); Sarah Allen, Douglas Briley, Evelyn Dollar, Micah Gould, Brianna Hawkins, Taylor Huff, Ian Kelly, Drew McCoy, Ashton McDuffie, Logan O’Neal, Kyle Reynolds, Autumn Scott, Lee Shepherd, Ashlynn Simpson, Rachel Suiter, David Taylor, and Ashleigh Vanscoyoc (Stewart County).



Chris Dittman displays a battery-powered clock he made out of a compact disc.



CEMC’s 4-H Electric Camp representatives for 2008

Randy Holt promoted to operations manager

Randy Holt is the new operations manager at Cumberland Electric Membership Corporation, succeeding Jim Coode, who will become general manager in October. Holt’s new duties began July 1.

Holt has been with CEMC for 29 years, most recently as White House-based manager of the eastern region, a position he held for five years.

Holt’s career began March 12, 1979, as a meter reader trainee in the Springfield District. From there he advanced to winch truck driver and entered the apprentice program, topping out in 1987. That same year he became Springfield’s district engineer for a period of two years.

In 1989, Holt transferred to Headquarters as supervisor of technical services, a post he held for 14 years until being named eastern regional manager in 2003.

“This is like coming home for me,” Holt says. “I will miss the eastern region and having the opportunity to

focus just on those districts, but now I will have the opportunity to work with both eastern and western districts.”

Looking back, Holt credits former administrative services manager Frank McGregor for encouraging him in the early ’80s to finish his education, making him more eligible for career advancement opportunities.

“It was Mr. McGregor who guided me when I was a lineman. He told me there was a school in Nashville that would be good for me. He definitely was an inspiration to me,” says Holt, who received an associate’s degree in electrical engineering from Nashville State Technical Institute.

“It is very fulfilling to be able to come from where I was to this position,” Holt says.

Holt and his wife, Lucy, are the parents of two daughters, Leslie and Amy, and they have two grandchildren.



Randy Holt