

Cumberland Electric Membership Corporation

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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.

AS I SEE IT

Manager's Viewpoint

Teach your children well about electrical safety

Electricity is a dynamic power source. We live our lives surrounded by it, but sometimes we forget just how dangerous electricity can be. Many home electrical fires, injuries and electrocutions can be prevented when we understand and practice electrical safety. This is especially true for our youngest co-op members.

Throughout the year, not just in May during National Electrical Safety Month, Cumberland Electric Membership Corporation offers many value-added benefits such as the high-voltage electric safety demonstrations presented to our schools and communities to help teach youngsters about electricity. But as your child's first and most important teacher, perhaps it's time to have a talk with your sons and daughters to reinforce those lessons.

Start at an early age, teaching them about the physical dangers associated with electrical components and how to handle electrical plugs, outlets, switches and other devices. Keep in mind that talking to your children about electrical safety should also include fun activities and facts about the basics — what electricity is, the need to respect its power and how to use it efficiently as children study, work and play.

As we all know, kids will be kids. Getting them to show interest in some of these lessons won't be easy. Just remember that what your children learn from you today can be a lifesaver later when they encounter potential hazards like downed power lines in their path, play hide-and-seek behind those big metal electrical boxes in the neighborhood or are tempted to clamber up a utility pole.

Gather your youngsters around the kitchen table or on the front porch —

some of the best teachable moments about electrical safety can happen in and near your home. Look around. There are plenty of opportunities to demonstrate safety that are as close as the electrical outlet on your living

room wall. For example, show young children how plugs work, and let them know that even if they are curious about the slits of an electrical outlet, nothing besides plugs should be placed inside. Each year about 2,400 children end up in emergency rooms after suffering injuries caused by inserting objects — paper clips, pens, screws, nails, forks, hair pins, coins and more — into electrical receptacles.

That's about seven children a day who sustain injuries ranging from electric shocks to burns.

But this isn't the only electrical mishap that impacts youngsters. Our reliance on electronics and gadgets has left youngsters and their parents at risk when they overcrowd electrical outlets, continue to use frayed wires, place devices near liquids or leave electronics on for long periods of time. Some of the same guidelines CEMC offers to protect adults also help protect children. We should all set good examples for our youngsters.

Supplement your lessons at home with resources galore, including those provided by CEMC. The Electrical Safety Foundation International (www.esfi.org) is among the many national organizations offering free kits, videos and interactive online tools that make learning and practicing electrical safety fun for you and your children. And as they grow older, remember to keep teaching them about the power of electricity and how to use it safely.



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

Co-op receives Green Certification

Cumberland Electric Membership Corporation is pleased to announce that its headquarters and Clarksville District office buildings have earned Green Certification through the Clarksville-Montgomery County Green Certification Program.

In order to obtain certification, CEMC was required to meet certain criteria that involved energy conservation, recycling, pollution prevention and water conservation. Employees on CEMC's Green Certification Committee attended workshops hosted by Montgomery County and worked with employees in multiple departments throughout the co-op to accomplish this goal.

"We have increased our cardboard, paper, plastic and aluminum can recycling, and we are now being paid for our junk aluminum and steel wire," said Scott Bagwell, CEMC purchasing and warehousing supervisor who led the certification effort. "To reduce energy, we have updated lighting from T12 to T8 lightbulbs, added a white reflective roof that increases the insulation and adjusted thermostat settings in unused areas of our buildings."

"We are planning to expand recycling efforts in our other locations as well," said Member Services Manager Barbara Harper. "In addition, we have reduced our paper



From left, Mayor McMillan, Jim Coode, Scott Bagwell, Barbara Harper, Mayor Bowers and K. Jean Beauchamp discuss measures taken by CEMC to earn program certification.



Members of CEMC's Green Certification Committee, General Manager Jim Coode and CEMC board members are joined by Economic Development Council Executive Director Cal Wray, Clarksville Mayor Kim McMillan, Montgomery County Mayor Carolyn Bowers and Clarksville Area Chamber of Commerce Executive Director Melinda Shepard at the co-op's official green-ribbon-cutting ceremony at CEMC's Headquarters office June 27.

use and reduced energy by eliminating fax machines and moving to electronic communication. We also encourage our members to use online billing to save on paper, fuel and postage."

Montgomery County Mayor Carolyn Bowers, Clarksville Mayor Kim McMillan, Economic Development Council Executive Director Cal Wray and Clarksville Area Chamber of Commerce Executive Director Melinda Shepard attended the official green-ribbon-cutting ceremony at CEMC's Headquarters June 27. Mayor Bowers and Mayor McMillan expressed their gratitude for the co-op's effort to voluntarily conserve resources in Montgomery and surroundings counties.

"What you are doing is making a difference, and we appreciate you and the support of your board in these efforts," Bowers said.

CEMC serves the five-county area of Cheatham, Montgomery, Robertson, Stewart and Sumner Counties. For more information about CEMC and ways you can conserve electricity, visit www.cemc.org.

2014 Washington Youth Tour

#tripofalifetime

By: Barbara Harper, CEMC member services manager

The 2014 Washington Youth Tour (WYT) officially began Friday, June 13, at 6 a.m. as short story writing contest winners representing electric cooperatives from West and Middle Tennessee began boarding four Anchor buses in Nashville at the Tennessee Electric Cooperative Association office. They were joined by cooperative chaperones and several high school teachers. Cumberland Electric Membership Corporation's party was assigned to Bus 2. Our journey began promptly at 7 a.m. as the buses drove across the state, picking up additional winners in East Tennessee.

As you can imagine, the first day students looked a bit concerned as to what they were actually doing on a road trip with so many strangers. By the time we reached our stop for the night in Staunton, Va., the students traveling on Bus 2 were relaxed, enjoying getting to know their bus buddies, who quickly became friends, and rocking Bus 2



Spoon relay champions

with excitement and energy as their trip to D.C. became more real each mile. That evening students from the four buses participated in get-acquainted games. Students on Bus 2 were ready for the challenge and claimed first place in the spoon game. Oh, yes, they were “loving” Bus 2! And so were their chaperones.

Saturday morning's first stop was at Monticello, the beautiful home of Thomas Jefferson, and then it was on to the National Museum of the Marine Corps in Quantico, Va. There we learned it was National Flag Day and that employees and visitors at all monuments, museums and government offices would join together to sing our National Anthem at promptly 3 p.m. As timing would have it, we were on the bus rolling toward D.C., but this did not stop Bus 2 from joining in. At 3 p.m., everyone began singing our National Anthem. Their singing was awesome and confirmed what the chaperones already knew: The best students were under our watch! The day ended with a group photo of all students representing Tennessee in front of the U.S. Capitol, followed by guided tours of D.C.'s famous memorials.



Thomas Jefferson statue

“Washington, D.C., reminds you that it wasn't that long ago that men in powdered wigs committed the ultimate and unprecedented act of treason by signing the Declaration of Independence,” said Youth Tour attendee Ally Smith.

Each day the students' schedules were filled with visits to numerous monumental sites and museums that illustrate how our nation has become the free country that it is today. Among the stops were the Washington Monument and memorials for Abraham Lincoln, Franklin Delano Roosevelt, the Vietnam and Korean wars, World War II, Thomas Jefferson and Martin Luther King Jr. There was a photo op in front of the White House, and tours included the Smithsonian complex and Holocaust Memorial Museum.

“Getting to see all the landmarks that make our country great really astounded me, from the grand Washington Monument to Thomas Jefferson's Monticello,” commented Stephen McNeil, another student participant.

Sunday morning began at Arlington National Cemetery where we met at the Women in Military Service for America Memorial for a student-led devotional, followed by a tour of the cemetery. We watched the changing of the guard and a wreath-laying ceremony at the Tomb of the Unknowns. The week also included a boat cruise on the Potomac River, a trip to the National Zoo and a performance of “The Lion King” at the Kennedy Center.



FDR Memorial



Selfie with Rep. Blackburn

Student Murphey Stodghill summed it up when he stated, “Our government is real. It’s not some faraway fantasy land, and it’s not intangible. It’s quite tangible, and not only did we reach out and touch our government, we walked all over it.”

One of the many highlights on the annual Youth Tour is our interaction with our government officials. U.S. Sens. Lamar Alexander and Bob Corker welcomed the Tennessee students on the Senate steps, and co-op groups also visited with their U.S. representatives. Several CEMC students took advantage of their meetings and made “selfies” with their representatives! (For those of you of my generation, that is a picture of yourself made with your cell phone, which you can immediately send to everyone you know.)

Using today’s technology, the students kept their families and friends at home close by through websites, Facebook, texting, Twitter, Instagram and more!

Once again, we were amazed at the students representing CEMC, their schools, communities and families. They were well-mannered, respectful to all and responded as adults to the busy agenda and time limitations. CEMC Community Relations Coordinator Stephanie Lobdell and I were very proud to claim them as ours! The students’ comments are always fun to share, and this year, as in the past, they were unanimous that the WYT trip was their “best experience” or “a trip of a lifetime.”

“The Washington Youth Tour is definitely the trip of a lifetime — but only if you bring the right shoes!” said Sarah Welker.

“There is no other way to explain it,” said Abbey Cole. “I’m shy, and I have so many close friends now. Work hard on this paper because this trip is worth the work.”

“‘Trip of a lifetime’ only begins to define this awesome adventure,” said Caleb Johnson. “All of the monuments



Taking in the sights of D.C.

and history are amazing, but the memories and friends that were made make this trip 100 percent better. This is a trip that defines a lifetime.”

“This trip has been one of the best experiences I’ve ever had,” said Ana Marie Swearingen. “Seeing the nation’s capital while making memories with new friends is a gift I will always treasure!”

“I feel so blessed to have the opportunity to come on this trip,” said Lauren Tippit. “It truly was the trip of a lifetime.”

Colton Tingler said, “You get used to the lack of sleep.” “All the adventures we went on enabled me to grow closer to my newfound friends and learn more about our

ON THE COVER

Standing on the grounds of the U.S. Capitol are CEMC’s 2014 Washington Youth Tour representatives. From left are, back row, Caleb Johnson, Sarah Welker, Colton Tingler, Abbey Cole, Sloan Caroland, Stephen McNeil, Haley Bearden, Murphey Stodghill and Janice Scott. Front row: Barbara Harper, Jenna Poole, Ana Swearingen, Lauren Tippit, Ally Smith, Vivian O’Brien, Emily Hancock and Stephanie Lobdell.



One last photo at the airport

country’s history. I am so thankful for this opportunity,” said Vivian O’Brien.

“I would write this paper all over again, every single day, to have this amazing experience again,” said Jenna Poole.

The 2014 Washington Youth Tour proved to be an enlightening experience for White House Heritage High school history teacher Janice Scott, Lobdell and myself as we observed the 14 students who represented CEMC reacting to the many wonderful sites of our nation’s capital and watched the amazement in their eyes as they witnessed what they have learned in history class come to life right in front of them.

Will you be a junior in high school this year? If so, don’t miss this opportunity to win a spot as a CEMC delegate in 2015! Watch for information to learn what you need to do to enter for a chance to be part of this “trip of a lifetime” with students from across the state! I hope next year I will be reading your name on CEMC’s list of winners. Write your short story!

Electric Cooperatives: Serving Our Members Past, Present and Future

By Lauren Tippit, White House Heritage High School

Swirling gusts of salty air blew into Daniel's face as he cupped his coarse hands around his mouth and shouted, "Claire! Claire! Where are you?" Three days had passed since he'd last seen his best friend, Claire, who had agreed to come along with him on his vacation aboard the ship the Adventurer. He could vividly remember the force of the crashing waves as they swelled, pulling the ship under the vast ocean and along with it the passengers and its crew. Now he was alone with none of the comforts of home available to him. He missed the availability of a warm shower as well as his prized cell phone and laptop.

"Claire, I've been worried sick about you! Where have you been for the past three days?"

She answered excitedly in reply, "I was searching for you but soon realized the vastness of the island. You won't believe it. I found a man in a cave!" She then grasped his hand and led him to the cave's entrance hidden by a veil of thick vines. The man who reclined against a stalagmite was very old, judging by the innumerable wrinkles on his face and long, gray beard, and yet, he held an air of superiority and confidence. Claire quickly introduced Daniel to the man.

"Who are you, and how did you come to be here?" Daniel inquired.

"My name is Lt. Hendrik," he replied in a strong voice that betrayed his age. "You see, I am originally from the Netherlands. My parents were windmill constructors there, but they moved to America when I was only a babe. In the 1940s I was a pilot of a bomber plane during World War II; however, my plane malfunctioned and I became stranded on this cursed island. I've been here for nearly 73 years!"

Claire exclaimed in amazement, "How can you survive here that long without technology and other modern conveniences?"

Hendrik responded, "My family and I grew up in rural Tennessee without those types of items. It wasn't until 1933 that President Franklin D. Roosevelt signed the Tennessee Valley Authority Act, which brought affordable electricity to rural areas. I remember how my mother stored food in the cool cellar, how she used to write her letters by the light of a kerosene lamp, how she scrubbed our clothes and washed the dishes to the point where her hands became terribly dry and cracked."

"That sounds completely awful," Daniel said. "In today's world we have refrigerators, cell phones and electric lighting. In fact, we even belong to a rural electric cooperative. The cooperative provides electricity, informs members how to make their homes energy-efficient, makes safety presentations and even holds youth camps."

Hendrik replied, "You don't say. Tell me more. I've never heard any of this before."

"Well, we even have electric cars now. They are much more energy-efficient, producing less carbon output. We also have geothermal heat pumps, which provide free hot water and cut energy use in half. They use the earth's warmth to cut down on electric use. Oh, what I'd do for some hot water right now!" Daniel responded, shivering.

As the sun departed from the sky, increasing the coolness of the air, Hendrik crafted a fire for illumination. Claire mentioned as they sat around the fire, "We could really use a compact fluorescent lamp right now." She realized that Hendrik had no idea what she was talking about, so she went on to explain: "CFL bulbs are like incandescent lights, except they last 10 times longer and use one-third the electricity." The confusion disappeared from his face and the group stared in silence at the fire until tiredness overcame them, causing them to drift

off to sleep.

The next morning Claire spotted an object in the distance that had just washed ashore.

"Look! What's that?" she shouted as she darted toward the object. It was a piece of luggage. Claire, investigating its contents, discovered a cell phone in a tightly sealed case. Much to her regret, the phone would not turn on. The other two men had now gathered around her.

Just then Daniel had an ingenious thought. "Hey, Hendrik. You said that your family used to make windmills, correct?" Hendrik responded with an inquisitive yes. "Well, just before we went on the vacation ship, I made the Green Power Switch to enable us to generate energy from cleaner and renewable resources. America has come a long way in the development of using the sun, methane gas and wind to conserve energy ... the wind! Don't you see? Once I attended an electrical cooperative youth program where I learned all about green energy, even how to assemble a flashlight. We can use Hendrik's knowledge of windmill construction and our knowledge of modern technology to create a generator to charge the cell phone!"

After two days of hard work, the construction was complete. Hendrik was given the honor of attaching the phone to the generator for the charging to begin. After a few minutes, the phone came to life, and the group was able to make the call that would bring them back to civilization.

Two days later, the group of castaways was rescued. On their way back home, they were flooded with the realization that green energy had perhaps saved their lives!



Lauren Tippit
White House
Heritage High
School

4-H Electric Camp

'Follow Me #4-HElectricCamp'



Students explore the world of energy, electricity and the basic sciences at 4-H Electric Camp, held on the University of Tennessee Knoxville campus June 24-27.

Cumberland Electric Membership Corporation sent a group of 70 rising seventh- and eighth-grade students to 4-H Electric Camp June 24-27 on the University of Tennessee Knoxville campus. CEMC's campers joined hundreds of other students from across the state in discovering the world of electricity by participating in various camp learning centers that provided "hands-on" activities where 4-H'ers were able to "learn by doing." Here are features of his year's learning centers:

Electric Lamp — In this learning center, students made electric lamps using lamp kits and electric insulators.

Home Energy Conservation — We use electricity to light our homes, cook our food, play music and operate televisions. But as we use more electricity, our electric bills rise. In this activity, students learned how conserving electricity in their homes not only helps to lower their electric bills but also helps to protect our environment and conserve resources.

Electric Motors — Motors convert electricity into useful work. Campers learned in this activity the different parts of an electric motor and how electromagnetism

makes a motor turn. They also put to use what they learned by constructing their own electric motors.

Electric Vehicles — Campers learned about batteries as well as direct current and how it is used to propel electric vehicles. They also demonstrated their driving skills by maneuvering an electric golf cart through an obstacle course.

Solar Energy — Renewable energy resources reduce the use of fossil fuels to avoid negative impacts on our environment. In this activity, students learned how they can utilize the sun to power things they use every day.

Electrical Safety — Though electric power does a tremendous amount of work for us, because it is such a powerful force, we must be careful around it. This learning center taught campers how to play it safe around high-voltage power lines.

The 4-H Electric Camp is a joint venture of the Tennessee Electric Cooperative Association and its statewide member cooperatives, including CEMC; University of Tennessee Extension; Tennessee Municipal Electric Power Association and its statewide municipal power systems; and the Tennessee Valley Authority.