

VECustomers Share  
Your Change Changes Things



The VECustomers Share program funded \$29,250 in community service grants in September. Since the inception of the program in October 2001, more than \$5 million in grants has been awarded. The deadline for grant applications is the last day of each month. For additional information, contact the office of Marketing and Economic Development, at 423-334-7051. Applications are also available online, at [www.vec.org](http://www.vec.org).



VECustomers Share Board Chairman Harold Reno, center, presents a grant check to Stan Evans, left, and Van Swearingen, right, of Bradley County Scottish Rite.

Organizations receiving grants in September

Operation REACH, Kingston	\$2,000	Manna From Heaven Food Pantry, Crossville	\$500
Youth Achievement Foundation, Crossville	\$1,500	Monterey Dinner Theater	\$500
Pickett County Junior High Boys' Basketball Support Group	\$1,250	Sierra Hull Bluegrass Festival, Byrdstown	\$500
Homestead UMC Food Pantry	\$1,000	Muscular Dystrophy Association, Hamilton County	\$500
Bread of Life Rescue Mission, Crossville	\$1,000	Manna House Ministries, Jamestown	\$500
Monterey High School Quarterback Club	\$1,000	Student Council Leadership Club, Ooltewah	\$500
Children's Fun Day, Benton	\$1,000	Jonesville Women's Outreach, Clarkrange	\$500
Kiwanis Club of Spring City	\$1,000	Grace and Mercy Ministries, Athens	\$500
The Caring Place, Cleveland	\$1,000	Luminary School Backpack Committee, Ten Mile	\$500
Bradley County Scottish Rite Shoe Fund	\$1,000	Intensity 12U Travel Softball Team, Decatur	\$300
Read to Succeed, Byrdstown	\$750	Meigs County High School Lady Tiger Softball Boosters	\$300
Meigs County Health Council	\$700	God Spot Block Party, Decatur	\$300
Rhea County Scottish Rite	\$700	Meigs County Historical Society	\$300
American Cancer Society of Meigs County	\$600	Pikeville Cub Scout Pack 3176	\$300
Vine Ridge MBC 5 Loaves Food Pantry, Crawford	\$500	Rogers Creek Elementary School Beta Club, Athens	\$300
Ooltewah-Harrison Education Foundation	\$500	Polk County 4-H	\$250
Cleveland/Bradley Chamber Foundation	\$500	Rogers Creek Elementary School PTO, Athens	\$250
E.K. Baker Elementary School PTO, Athens	\$500	Polk County High School Basketball Cheerleaders Booster Club	\$250
Clarkrange High School Beta Club	\$500	Benton Fall Festival Booster Club	\$250
Friends of Harrison Bay State Park	\$500	Chilhowee Middle School Softball Booster Club, Benton	\$250
Ooltewah High School Girls Soccer Booster Club	\$500	Rogers Creek Youth Football and Cheerleading, Athens	\$225
MARA Medical Ministry, Crossville	\$500	Riceville Youth Football Organization	\$225
The Allardt Great Pumpkin Festival	\$500	South Polk County Elementary School PTO	\$200
Standing Stone Historical Society, Monterey	\$500		
U-Trust Employee Appreciation and Recognition, Crossville	\$500		

VECustomers Share  
Board Welcomes  
New Members

Each month in *Powerlines* we provide a list of local community service organizations from all across our 17-county service area that have received grants from our VECustomers Share program. What you might not notice, however, is the group of 12 selfless individuals who work so hard to make the program work.

Our VECustomers Share board members are volunteer VEC members who examine scores of applications each month and then travel from all across VEC's service area to deliberate and decide how grant funds are to be awarded.

They don't earn a cent for doing this work. Their only reward is helping communities become better places to work, play, go to school, and raise children.

In October the terms of four VECustomers Share board members expired. Two board members, who have already served two consecutive terms, were rotated off the board. Two board members whose first, three-year term expired were reappointed to second terms.

Gloria Schouggins, who completed two terms representing Meigs County, rotated off the board and was replaced by Joyce Woods.

Woods is a retired teacher and principal. Her last five years in education were spent serving as principal at Meigs South Elementary School. She is also a member of Pisgah Baptist Church where she teaches Sunday school, directs children's church and is secretary treasurer of WMU. She is also secretary of the Meigs County Civitan Club and a member of the Retired Teachers' Society and Gamma Zeta Teachers' Society.

Woods said she is always interested in finding a way to help people.

"VECustomers Share is a wonderful program – it helps so many people," Woods said. "And this board is such a wonderful group of people to work with. They really have a heart for helping others."

Galen Rector also completed two terms representing Pickett County and will be replaced by Barbara



Rody Blevins  
President/CEO  
Volunteer Energy  
Cooperative



Gloria Schouggins



Joyce Woods



Galen Rector



Barbara Rector

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Rector, who has served on the board previously.

Two board members were reappointed to second terms after the completion of their first terms. They are Bobby Scott who represents Hamilton County and Bill Womac who represents Polk County.

As much as I admire these people and the work they do, I think it's important to note that the real heroes of the VECustomers Share program are you – our members. By opting to round your electric bill up to the next nearest whole dollar amount each month, you've provided more than \$5 million to support local communities over the last 12 years.

From hunger relief, literacy, and the arts to emergency services, education support, and all types of aid for the needy, you've helped local communities and your neighbors. Thank you for your support of this program.



Bobby Scott




Bill Womac

STATEMENT OF NONDISCRIMINATION

Volunteer Energy Cooperative is the recipient of federal financial assistance from the Rural Utilities Service, an agency of the U.S. Department of Agriculture, and is subject to the provisions of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended, the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, as amended, and the rules and regulations of the U.S. Department of Agriculture which provide that no person in the United States on the basis of race, color, national origin, age or disability shall be excluded from participation in, admission or access to, denied the benefits of, or otherwise be subjected to discrimination under any of this organization's programs or activities.

The person responsible for coordinating this organization's nondiscrimination compliance efforts is Rody Blevins, President/CEO. Any individual, or specific class of individuals, who feels this organization has subjected them to discrimination may obtain further information about the statutes and regulations listed above from and/or file a written complaint with this organization; or the Secretary, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C. 20250; or the Administrator, Rural Utilities Service, Washington, D.C. 20250. Complaints must be filed within 180 days after the alleged discrimination. Confidentiality will be maintained to the extent possible.




## Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA)

Residential & Outdoor Lighting Fuel Cost Adjustment  
Effective November 1, 2014

# 2.055¢

**For the most current FCA information, visit [www.vec.org](http://www.vec.org)**  
*This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer.*





## VEC Members Elect Three to Board of Directors

At VEC's 78th Annual Meeting October 4th at Meigs County Middle School the results of voting for VEC's Board of Directors were announced. The winners are:

### District 1 Polk County

#### David J. Milen

David J. Milen, of Benton, is the incumbent member of the Volunteer Energy Cooperative Board of Directors representing Polk County. He has served on the VEC Board since 2010.

Milen was born in Old Fort and graduated from Polk County High School. He served four years in the U.S. Navy and is retired from Norfolk Southern Railroad Company.

He has served on the Polk County Commission for 16 years and is also a member of Ocoee Lodge #212 Chattanooga Scottish Rite.

He and his wife, Daphne, have two children, Deanna Sloan and Dusty Milen, and attend First Baptist Church in Benton where he serves as a deacon. He also coached Little League Baseball for 12 years.



Milen

### District 5 Meigs County

#### Sammy Norton

Sammy Norton, of Decatur, is the incumbent member of the Volunteer Energy Cooperative Board of Directors representing Meigs County. He has served on the VEC Board since 2000. He earned his Credentialed Cooperative Director certification from the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association.

Norton is a dairy farmer and a graduate of Meigs County High School. He has served on the board of directors for the Valley Farmers Cooperative and served on the Farm Services Agency board from 1983 to 1997. He is also a member of Meigs County Masonic Lodge.

He has four children, Shelly, Chris, Andrea, and Tonya. He is a member of Pisgah Baptist Church and has served as a Gideon for several years.



Norton

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### District 9 Cumberland County - East

#### Randy Bond

Randy Bond, of Crossville, is the incumbent member of the Volunteer Energy Cooperative Board of Directors. He has served on the VEC Board since 1997. He is retired from his position as executive vice president at Cumberland County Bank.

Bond graduated from Fort Knox High School in Fort Knox, KY. He earned his Bachelor's of Business Administration degree from the University of Kentucky and his Master's Degree in Business and Education from Tennessee Technological University. Bond served as an Infantry Squad Leader with the U.S. Army's 7th Cavalry Division in Vietnam from 1968 to 1970.

He has served on the Board of Directors of Hilltoppers, Inc. since 1983 where he is chairman and on the finance committee. He is commissioner for the Crossville Housing Authority and serves on the Board of Directors for BPC Corporation, and Cumberland County Bank.

He and his wife, Glenda have two children, Michael and Scott, and are members of Dorton United Methodist Church where he serves as chairman of the Board of Trustees.



Bond

## VEC Offers College Scholarships

Volunteer Energy Cooperative (VEC) wants to reward students who have used their time and talents to benefit their local communities. VEC's Lillard-Shadow scholarship program rewards academic and community service achievements by awarding four \$2,000 scholarships to students who will graduate from high schools in VEC's service area in the spring of 2015.

The scholarships honor J.W. Lillard and Willis A Shadow, two community leaders who spearheaded efforts to bring electric power to Decatur and Meigs County in the 1930s, forming the organization that would become Volunteer Energy Cooperative. Mr. Shadow and Mr. Lillard were instrumental in improving the lives and livelihoods of thousands of residents through electric power.

Four awards of \$500 per semester each (renewable for up to four semesters) will be presented to spring 2015 high school graduates whose parents or guardians are VEC electric customers. Applications will be judged by an independent panel based on each student's community service activities and citizenship - 40%; written communication skills - 20 %; financial need - 25%; and academic achievement - 15%.

Scholarship applications are available at any VEC Customer Service Center or from high school counselors in the VEC service area. Applications are also available online at [www.vec.org](http://www.vec.org).

**All application materials must be completed and delivered to VEC's Corporate Office in Decatur no later than 5 p.m. Eastern Time on March 6, 2015.**

## VEC Annual Meeting Showcases the Cooperative Difference

About 920 VEC members enjoyed a free breakfast, free flu shots, informative displays, door prizes and give-aways, and entertainment by David Browning as The Mayberry Deputy at VEC's 78th Annual Meeting on October 4th at Meigs County Middle School. Members were also brought up to date on VEC's activities during the year and plans for the future.

President/CEO Rody Blevins, Board of Directors Chairman Laney Colvard, and Board of Directors Secretary/Treasurer Sammy Norton each gave reports.

VEC's Marketing and Economic Development Department was responsible for putting the event together.

"Our Annual Meeting is a very big part of our year," VEC Vice President of Marketing and Economic Development Patty Hurley said. "It's a great opportunity for us to connect with our member-owners, communicate with them about their cooperative, and do our best to provide answers to any questions they may have about their cooperative."

Hurley was quick to point out that she couldn't put together an event like this without plenty of help.

"We get so much volunteer support from our employees," Hurley said. "Most of our guests probably didn't realize that our employees at the Annual Meeting are not being paid to help with the event. They volunteer to give up their Saturday in order to be available to our members and to help with the event."

She added that the support of the entire Decatur and Meigs County community is immeasurable.



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