

In Memoriam

Ted Gibbs, who served on the VEC Board of Directors from 1980 through 1987, recently passed away. Mr. Gibbs served as President of the Board from June 1982 until July 1987 and represented Rhea and Bledsoe counties.



Larry Storie

DISTRICT 12 - Pickett County

Larry Storie is a graduate of Pickett Co, High School, a farmer and a former owner of an automotive parts business. He has been a VEC director since 1996, currently serving as Vice Chairman. He has been a director of Pickett Co. Farm Bureau for 25 years and currently serves as President. He has served on many community organizations including the Pickett County Soil Conservation board, the Tennessee Association of Conservation Districts, and a variety of committees for the Tennessee Farm Bureau. He and his wife Judy are the parents of 3 adult children and are members of Williams Chapel Church.

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The Lazy Days of Summer Are Not So Lazy

While we rarely rest here at Volunteer Energy Cooperative, summer is an especially busy time for us. Among our activities during the Summer of 2015 are:

- Inspectors are travelling throughout our seventeen-county service area to inspect poles and identify those that need to be replaced or repaired. They also check equipment locations so that system maps can be updated.
- Right-of-way crews are trimming trees and vegetation from around poles and wires so that power can be kept reliable and affordable for our members.
- We travel with four students to Washington, D.C. as part of the Tennessee Electric Cooperative Association Washington Youth Tour. This is a nationwide trip that brings hundreds of high school juniors to the nation's capital each year. It's a great trip for these young people.
- Plans are being finalized for our annual membership meeting. This year's meeting will be held on October 3rd at Meigs Middle School. More information will be coming soon about this event.
- We continue our project to connect our substations and offices via a fiber optic network. Our plans include adding fiber each year until we can effectively communicate with all VEC personnel and equipment via high capacity connections.
- Summer storms frequently translate into service calls and outage restoration. Our response time has continued to drop as we use more sophisticated technology to report and record outages.
- Ongoing substation upgrades include a complete revamp of our Goodfield substation in Meigs County. Personnel worked several weeks to complete this extensive project, which has been needed for several years.
- Extreme temperatures mean a higher volume of calls from customers wanting to better manage their energy costs. Customer service representatives answer many questions this year regarding energy efficiency measures, heat pump loans, eScore energy evaluations and rebates, Levelized Billing, PayMyWay prepaid billing, and other VEC programs.



Rody Blevins
President/CEO
Volunteer Energy Cooperative

As the temperatures heat up, rest assured that VEC is working each and every day for our member-owners. Have a wonderful summer!

Candidates Qualify for VEC Board Positions

The following candidates have qualified to be re-elected to represent VEC member-owners in their respective districts. All are incumbent candidates. There are no contested elections in any of the districts voting this year.

DISTRICT 10 - White, Putnam, Overton Counties



Keith Phillips

Keith Phillips is a graduate of Monterey High School and the Kentucky School of Mortuary. He is the owner and operator of D. M. Goff Funeral Home, Inc. in Monterey. He is a member of the National Funeral Directors Association, the Upper Cumberland Funeral Directors Association, the Monterey Masonic Lodge, and the Monterey Lions Club. He formerly served as a volunteer fireman. He is a member of Monterey United

Methodist Church where he served as youth leader from 2002-05.

DISTRICT 11 - Fentress, Morgan, Scott Counties

William J. "Butch" Campbell is a retired businessman, farmer, and attorney. He is a graduate of York Institute, Tennessee Technological University, and the Nashville School of Law. He served for four years in the U.S. Army and spent one year in South Vietnam. He served on the Tennessee Wildlife Resources Commission and is a director for Union Bank in Jamestown and the Fentress County Farmers Co-op.



William J. "Butch" Campbell

VEC Recognized as Being One of the Top Performers in the TVA Energy Right Solutions Program



Volunteer Energy Cooperative was recognized recently as being among the top performers in the TVA Energy Right Solutions program. Pictured from left: Laura Campbell (VP Customer Delivery-TVA), Cindy Herron (VP Energy Right & Renewable Solutions-TVA), Kristy Kelly (VEC), Connie Landrum (VEC), Candyce Hitchcock (Energy Utilization and Marketing, Customer Delivery-TVA), and Brian Solsbee (ERS Customer Systems Manager-TVA).

VEC Customers Share Your Change Changes Things



The VECustomers Share program funded \$30,800 in community service grants in June. Since the inception of the program in October 2001, more than \$5.3 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.



Cindy Lee, left, of Walk By Faith Ministries accepts a check from Barbara Rector, Pickett County VECustomers Share board member.

Organizations receiving grants in June

Pickett County 8th Grade Boys' Basketball Boosters	\$1,750	Midway Middle Soccer Club	\$500
Campus Kids Early Learning Club	\$1,550	American Red Cross of SE Tennessee - McMinn County	\$500
Ooltewah Elementary PTA	\$1,500	Cub Scouts Pack #15	\$500
Rogers Creek Youth Football & Cheerleading	\$1,400	Ocoee Theatre Guild	\$500
American Red Cross of SE Tennessee - Bledsoe County	\$1,250	Monterey Lions Club, Inc.	\$500
American Red Cross of SE Tennessee - Rhea County	\$1,250	Midway Middle School Beta Club	\$500
The Refuge Community Centre (aka The Refuge)	\$1,250	Dragon Renaissance - York Institute	\$500
Midway Youth Development Organization	\$1,000	Monterey Youth Baseball - Little League	\$500
American Red Cross of SE Tennessee - Bradley County	\$1,000	South Roane County Volunteer Fire Department	\$500
American Red Cross of SE Tennessee - Hamilton County	\$1,000	Crossville Quilt of Valor Quilters	\$500
Obed Watershed Community Association	\$1,000	Polk County High School Skills USA	\$500
Meigs County Fair Association	\$1,000	Polk County High School Business Leaders of America	\$500
Helping Hands of Providence	\$1,000	Wilson Elementary Outdoor Club	\$500
Meigs County 4-H	\$1,000	Polk County High School Girls' Soccer Booster Club	\$500
Cumberland County High School Family, Career, & Community Leaders of America	\$1,000	Agape Preschool	\$500
Fentress County Agricultural Fair	\$1,000	Children's Garden Path	\$300
Unaka District - Great Smoky Mountain Council, Boy Scouts of America	\$800	Polk County Band Boosters	\$300
Good Neighbors Theatre	\$750	Hannah Brooke Health Care Center	\$300
Crossville Housing Authority Residence Council	\$700	American Red Cross of SE Tennessee - Meigs County	\$250
		People Helping People	\$250
		Tennessee Shooting Stars	\$250
		For the One Ministry	\$250
		Polk County Health Council	\$200

Volunteer Energy Announces Scholarship Recipients

Volunteer Energy Cooperative has announced four recipients of the Lillard-Shadow Scholarships for 2015.



Paula Haslam

Paula Haslam, daughter of Johnny and Natalie Hope, is a 2015 graduate of McMinn County High School and plans to attend Johnson University. Paula was selected to attend the Governor's School for Prospective Teachers and also received first place in Level A and B Spanish poetry competitions. She has volunteered with Keep McMinn Beautiful, the McMinn Student Council Prom Dress Drive, Relay for Life, and the United Way.

Bethany Young is the daughter of Donald and Melissa Young of Byrdstown. Bethany is a 2015 graduate of Pickett County High School and plans to attend Tennessee Technological University, with the goal of becoming an occupational therapist. She has volunteered with the Second Harvest Food Bank, Operation Christmas Child, and local blood drives.



Bethany Young

Ooltewah High School graduate and scholarship recipient **Chai Park** plans to attend UT-Knoxville. She has volunteered at Erlanger Hospital, served as a mentor at Wallace A. Smith Elementary School, and participated in a local food drive. She is the daughter of Kwang and Yeun Park of Ooltewah. Chai has maintained a GPA of 4.0 and obtained a rank of ninth in her graduating class.



Chai Park

Jerrica Hale is a 2015 graduate of Stone Memorial High School. She is the daughter of Debbie Whittaker of Crossville and plans to attend Tennessee Technological University in the fall. She has volunteered for various church outreach activities and assisted with Alzheimer's of Tennessee and Special Olympics. She plans to pursue a nursing degree.



Jerrica Hale

This scholarship program began in 2003 as a way to honor Willis A. Shadow and J. W. Lillard, founders of the Meigs County Power Association which would ultimately become Volunteer Energy Cooperative. Four \$2,000 scholarships are awarded to high school seniors each year by VEC using an independent panel of judges.

VEC, TVA Partner to Provide STEM Skills to Local Students

The Tennessee Valley Authority and Volunteer Energy Cooperative have teamed up to provide resources that will bring science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) concepts to life for Chilhowee Middle School students this fall through Learning Blade technology. Learning Blade uses a principle of game-based "missions" that focus on real-world applications of these skills. The program also shows students how STEM skills can be useful in a variety of situations. The material supplements classroom instruction and is designed to be flexible so that teachers can easily incorporate it into their classroom instruction.

The Learning Blade program demonstrates to students how core academic skills are used to solve problems and provides tools for teachers to track student progress. The program's web-based format is simple to incorporate into the classroom. The program has attracted nationwide attention as a valuable educational resource.

Nathan Hooker, a power utilization engineer for TVA who was instrumental in bringing STEM education to Polk County, says, "Every student would benefit from a STEM education. The logical thinking processes, creativity, imagination, and problem-solving abilities that are necessary to master concepts of science, technology, engineering, math, and even music, are assets that will serve any adult well." Hooker grew up in Polk County and says he is proud to see the curriculum integrated into the schools there.

"The Department of Education says that the United States is not producing enough candidates to fill the need for STEM jobs", said Connie Dunn, principal of Chilhowee Middle School. "We want to show our students how STEM skills can be used in a practical way and, hopefully, generate student interest in STEM career paths."

For more information about STEM programs, contact Ms. Dunn at 423-338-3102.



Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA)

Residential & Outdoor Lighting Fuel Cost Adjustment
Effective July 1, 2015

2.397¢

For the most current FCA information, visit www.vec.org
Volunteer Energy Cooperative is an Equal Opportunity provider and employer.

