




# Board of Director Elections Set


Volunteer Energy Cooperative's (VEC) Board of Directors has three positions up for election. Balloting for contested races will be conducted by mail and results will be announced at VEC's annual meeting on October 4, 2003.

Positions up for election are District 10 which covers White, Putnam and Overton Counties; District 11 which covers Fentress, Morgan and Scott Counties; and District 12 which covers Pickett County. Candidates for the board positions are:

**Kenneth Vaden District 10**  
 Kenneth Vaden was first elected to the VEC Board of Directors in 1977. A retired postal worker, Vaden graduated from Monterey High School and served eight years in the Tennessee National Guard.  
 Vaden is a deacon at Monterey First Baptist Church. He has served as president of the Civitan Club and was named Civitan of the Year. He is a member of the Monterey Cemetery Board and a former member of the Tennessee Electric Cooperative Association (TECA) Board. He has also served as chairman of the Monterey Health Board and as a member of the Monterey Planning Commission.  
 Vaden and his wife, Eliese, have three daughters, Belenda, Karen and Libbie.

**James Brooks District 11**  
 James Brooks was first appointed to fill a vacancy on the VEC Board of Directors for District 11, which occurred in 1990. A lifelong Fentress County resident, Brooks graduated from York Institute before attending Tennessee Tech.  
 He served in the U.S. Navy from 1951 to 1955 and returned home to work in the family's grocery business and to farm until his retirement in 1981.  
 Brooks serves as a director for Jamestown Union Bank, a position he has held since 1989 and he also served six years on the Fentress County Farmer's Co-op Board.  
 Brooks attends Jamestown United Methodist Church and South Main Street Baptist Church.

**Larry Storie District 12**  
 A life-long Pickett County resident, Larry Storie was first elected to the VEC Board of Directors in 1996.  
 He graduated from Pickett County High School and operated Storie's Automotive Warehouse for 22 years before retiring. Raised on a farm, Storie now runs his beef cattle and tobacco farm full time. He serves as president of the Pickett County Farm Bureau, Director of the Pickett County Soil Conservation District and is past director of the Overton/Pickett County Farmers Co-op. In 1990 he was named Grassland Farmer of the Year by the Pickett County Soil Conservation District. He also serves as Trustee at Williams Chapel Church.  
 Storie and his wife, Judy, have three children, Tina, Shawn and Scott, and five grandchildren.

**Janice Marie Shewmake District 12**  
 Janice Marie Shewmake, a life-long resident of Pickett County is a candidate for the Volunteer Energy Cooperation Board of Directors for District 12.  
 Shewmake graduated from Pickett County High School and has also earned her Affiliate Broker Real Estate License. She is supervisor at Kardol Products Inc., in Byrdstown and owns and operates an antique store, also in Byrdstown. She is a past president of the Pickett County Development Commission and currently serves on the Pickett County/Byrdstown Land Development Committee. She is a member of Smyrna Church in Byrdstown.  
 Shewmake and her husband, Eugene, have two children, Patricia Melton and Jackie Shewmake.

# The Switch is on

## The Green Power Switch® Plugs Everyone into a Healthier Environment



TVA, Volunteer Energy Cooperative (VEC) and other local power companies, working with input from the environmental community, have created a program called Green Power Switch® to produce electricity from cleaner, greener sources and add it to the Tennessee Valley's power mix. Resources like wind, solar power, and methane gas produce energy for today and renew themselves for tomorrow—like a growing plant.

Now you can help add renewable energy to the Valley's power sources and improve regional air and water quality. Making the Green Power Switch® is as easy as flipping a light switch. You can buy green power in 150-kilowatt-hour blocks (about 12 percent of a typical household's monthly use). Each block you buy will add \$4 to your monthly power bill, and you can buy just one block or as many as you like. The green power you pay for will be added to TVA's electric system as part of the Valley's total power mix.

The environmental effects of traditional energy sources like coal, natural gas, oil, and nuclear power can be significant. Although no source of energy is impact-free, renewable resources create less waste and pollution. In fact, an investment of an additional \$8 per month on your power bill buys enough Green Power Switch® to equal the environmental benefits of planting an acre of trees in the Tennessee Valley.

Although renewable sources like sunlight and wind are free, the technology used to capture the energy they produce is still more expensive than traditional power generation methods. Increased demand may lead to expanded power production capacity and eventually to lower costs. By choosing to pay a little more for Green Power Switch®, you help advance the technology and increase the amount of electricity generated from cleaner sources. The dollars from every block of green power you buy go directly back into Green Power Switch®.

For more information on how you can help preserve the environment for future generations or to sign up for the Green Power Switch®, contact your local VEC service center.

[www.vec.org](http://www.vec.org)

[vec@vec.org](mailto:vec@vec.org)

Powerlines is produced by the Volunteer Energy Cooperative's Member Services Department as a service to customers. Comments and suggestions can be e-mailed to [vec@vec.org](mailto:vec@vec.org) or mailed to VEC Member Services Department, P.O. Box 277, Decatur, TN 37322.



Top left: From left, Whitney Lee, Kari Jones, Cathy Shaver and Ashley Thomas visit the FDR Memorial during their tour of Washington, D.C.

Right: Back from left, Cathy Shaver, Ashley Thomas, Whitney Lee and front, Kari Jones visit the U.S. Capitol in Washington, D.C.

Bottom Left: From left, Whitney Lee and Cathy Shaver visit with U.S. Rep Zach Wamp as VEC chaperone Robert McCarty looks on.

# VEC hosts students on tour of Washington, DC

Top finishers in Volunteer Energy Cooperative's annual short story writing competition spent an all-expense-paid week in our nation's capital June 13 - 19.

Kari Jones of Clarkrange High School, Whitney Lee of Walker Valley High School, Ashley Thomas of McMinn County High School and Cathy Shaver of Rhea County High School met with Senator Lamar Alexander, had breakfast with their respective congressmen, and soaked in the sights and sounds of Washington, D.C. as part of the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association's (NRECA) 2003 Washington Youth Tour.

About 1,500 high school juniors, sponsored by rural electric cooperatives from around the nation converged on Washington for the annual event. Tennessee's delegation of more than 150 students, teachers and chaperones was larger than any other state's.

The highlights of the week included a rare nighttime tour of the U.S. Capitol Building hosted by congressmen Zack Wamp, Jim Cooper and Lincoln Davis, a meeting with Sen. Lamar Alexander on the steps of the Capitol Building, breakfast with their congressional representative, as well as tours of the Smithsonian and Holocaust Memorial museums, Mount Vernon and Monticello, Arlington National Cemetery, the Washington National Cathedral, and the Library of Congress.

Students also attended a performance at the Kennedy Center, enjoyed a sunset cruise along the Potomac and visited several other memorials and points of interest.

Kari, Whitney, Ashley and Cathy earned their spot on this year's youth tour, co-sponsored by the Tennessee Electric Cooperative Association, NRECA and Volunteer Energy Cooperative, by excelling in a short story writing competition. The theme of this year's short story was "Electric Cooperatives - Your Hometown Power."

Some students who earned their place on the Washington trip were unable to attend due to scheduling conflicts. Those students include Tyler Lane of Rhea County High School, Kelly Monteen of McMinn County High School and Jackie Taylor of Walker Valley High School.

# POWERLINES

## The Best Trips May be Those Close to Home

by Bill Buchanan, President/CEO



How time flies! It seems like only yesterday that we were welcoming the New Year and now 2003 is more than halfway over.

And what a year it has been. January's record cold temperatures are a faint memory now. Most of the Volunteer Energy Cooperative service area was soaked by continuous rains this spring and violent storms in the early summer. The weather certainly has kept VEC employees very busy lately.

Yes, time flies. Before we know it, school will be starting with football games and cooler weather.

Before summer gets away this year, I would like to invite you to take in some of the sights and sounds of the VEC service area. There are so many things to see and do here in the Tennessee Valley - many are low cost or free and are within a half-day's drive.

Visit the home of a war hero at the Alvin C. York State Historic Park in Pall Mall or tour the birthplace of public servant and Nobel Prize winner Cordell Hull in Pickett County. Ride the whitewater on the Ocoee River or choose calmer waters on the Hiwassee. See a play at the Cumberland County Playhouse, play some golf in Crossville, or take a hike on the Cumberland Trail. Get in some fishing or boating at Dale Hollow Lake in Pickett County or Watts Bar Lake on the Rhea/Meigs County line. Camp, swim or golf at Harrison Bay State Park on beautiful Chickamauga Lake in Hamilton County.

See a horse show in any one of a number of our communities, visit one of the area fairs, or buy some trees, shrubs, or daylilies in Riceville. Choose to pack a picnic lunch and enjoy the natural beauty of our area. Go antique shopping just about anywhere. Plan a visit to the 127 Yard Sale this year. Learn about Indian history, including the Trail of Tears, at places like Red Clay State Park in Bradley County or the Nancy Ward gravesite in Polk County.

There certainly are lots of entertaining and educational things to see and do right here in our own backyard. Happy traveling!



# VECcustomers Share

Grants totaling \$27,900 were awarded by the VECcustomers Share board of directors in May 2003. Since the beginning of the fiscal year in October the board has awarded \$258,135.25 in grants and since the program's inception in October of 2001, \$664,350.25 has been awarded to non-profit community service organizations.

VECcustomers Share is a non-profit, tax exempt charitable organization covering VEC's 17-county service area. The foundation's funds are derived from Volunteer Energy Cooperative members who allow their electric bills to be rounded up to the nearest \$1. The additional amount goes into the VECcustomers Share fund, which is administered by the foundation's board of directors whose 12 members serve as volunteers.

VECcustomers Share contributions average 50 cents per month or \$6 per year for each participating residential customer. Approximately 80 percent of VEC's customers are donating to the program. The deadline for grant applications is the last day of each month. For additional information, contact Patty Hurley, manager of member services, at 423-334-7050.

Organizations receiving grants in May include:

Decatur Dizzy Dean Baseball	\$300.00
Meigs County Citizens for Arts and Crafts	550.00
Meigs County Red Heat Girls Softball	550.00
Meigs County Volunteer Leaders Organizations	1,500.00
Southern Impact - Meigs County Youth Girls Softball	250.00
Athens Area Council for the Arts	137.00
Boy Scout Troop 616	138.00
Claxton Homemakers FCE	138.00
Keep McMinn Beautiful	137.00
McMinn County Living Heritage Museum	137.00
Mid-East Tennessee Regional Fair	138.00
Morning Star Ministries	137.00
Southeast Tennessee Dairy Festival	138.00
Good Faith Clinic	1,500.00
Fellowship of Christian Students	550.00
North Rhea County Ministerial Association	2,050.00
Bradley Central Girls Soccer Booster Club	1,500.00
Cleveland High Girls Volleyball Booster Club	550.00
Camp Lookout - Holston Conference	550.00
Family and Community Education Clubs	550.00
The Samaritan Center	1,500.00
Chilhowee Middle School PTO	550.00
Dixie Youth Baseball	1,500.00
Polk County High Student Council	550.00
Kids on the Block of Knoxville, Inc.	550.00
Midway Youth League	1,500.00
CC Drug Alliance - TAD Center	1,500.00
Hilltoppers, Inc.	550.00
On the Rise	550.00
Pleasant Hill Child Enrichment Center	1,500.00
South Pentress Community Center / SAV	1,500.00
Joseph's Storehouse Food Storage	500.00
Monterey Youth Baseball	300.00
Reading is Fundamental	500.00
Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 6277	300.00
Wilson Elementary PTO	1,000.00
Christian Community Action Group	1,500.00
The Borderlands Foundation	550.00

*VECcustomers Share Board  
Member Bill Sparkman,  
left, presents a grant check  
to, from left, Chrissy  
McKinney, coach, and  
Shellie Stevison, president  
of the Bradley County  
High School  
Girls Soccer  
Booster  
Club.*



Leigh Anne Morgan, center, winner of VEC's 2003 Lillard-Shadow Scholarship from the Cleveland Service Area, is congratulated by VEC Board Member Marvin Stinnett, right, and her mother Donna Garrett, left.



Bridget Arnett, second from right, winner of VEC's Lillard-Shadow Scholarship for the Decatur Service Area, is congratulated by VEC Board Chairman Gene Carmichael, right, her mother Gail Arnett, far left, and her father Larry Arnett, second from left.

## Lillard-Shadow Scholarships Awarded

Volunteer Energy Cooperative (VEC) recently announced the winners of the 2003 Lillard-Shadow Scholarships. Four winners were selected - one from each of VEC's service areas.

Angela Davidson of Pickett County High School was the winner in VEC's Jamestown Service Area. Daniel Garrett of Monterey High School won in the Crossville Service Area. Bridget Arnett was the winner in the Decatur Service Area and Leigh Anne Morgan was the winner in the Cleveland Service Area.

VEC President and CEO Bill Buchanan praised this year's recipients for their community service and high academic standards during presentation ceremonies at VEC's corporate headquarters in Decatur.

"You all have set high standards and are true assets to the community," Buchanan said. "We appreciate all your hard work and hope these scholarships will help you achieve your future goals."

Buchanan also congratulated the parents of this year's scholarship winners saying they have every right to be proud.

The four students were each awarded \$2,000 scholarships by an independent panel of judges based on community service, academic performance, financial need and an essay each applicant was required to write. The scholarships were named in honor of Willis A. Shadow, the University of Tennessee Agricultural Extension Agent for Meigs County in 1933 and J.W. Lillard, a Decatur attorney. The two joined forces to bring electricity to the area and form the organization that eventually became Volunteer Energy Cooperative.

Angela Davidson, the daughter of Robert and Johnnye Davidson of Byrdstown, is a 2003 graduate of Pickett County High School. In addition to her high academic standing at the school, Davidson has been active in youth mentoring programs, youth leadership activities, 4-H Club, student exchange programs and also spent time visiting nursing home residents and going on mission trips.

Davidson will attend Union University in the fall where she plans to major in pre-med.

Angela Davidson, second from right, winner of VEC's Lillard-Shadow Scholarship for the Jamestown Service Area, is congratulated by VEC Board Member Larry Storie, far right, her mother Johnnye Davidson, far left, and her father Robert Davidson, second from left.

Daniel Garrett, second from right, winner of VEC's 2003 Lillard-Shadow Scholarship for the Crossville Service Area, accepts congratulations from VEC Board Member Kenneth Vaden, far right, his sister Sarah Garrett, far left, and his mother Donna Garrett, second from left.



Daniel Garrett, the son of Rocky and Donna Garrett of Monterey, is a 2003 graduate of Monterey High School. Garrett earned top grades during high school and still found time to work on restoration projects at a community park, collect money and food for the needy, assist with blood drives and participate in youth mission projects through his church.

Garrett will be attending Tennessee Tech in the fall where he plans to major in engineering.

Bridget Arnett, the daughter of Larry and Gail Arnett, graduated from McMinn County High School with outstanding marks. She also participated in activities to honor local veterans, helped raise money for United Way, helped provide food and clothes for the needy, participated in Cancer Society events, helped with youth activities and visited with residents in a local nursing home.

Arnett will be attending the University of Tennessee at Knoxville this fall where she plans to major in elementary education.

Leigh Anne Morgan, daughter of Roger and Sandra Morgan of Benton, graduated at the top of her class at Polk County High School. She served as a trainer/motivator for the Special Olympics, and she helped raise money for the Empty Stocking Fund, St. Jude's Children's Research Hospital, the American Cancer Society and the Multiple Sclerosis Society. She also participated in school safety programs, helped with blood drives and has been active in youth activities and missionary support programs at her church.

Morgan will attend the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga in the fall and plans to enter the school's nursing program.

Students throughout VEC's 17-county service area are eligible for the Lillard-Shadow Scholarship program. One winner from each of VEC's major service areas is selected by an independent panel of judges each spring.

## PROJECT DESERVE AIDS NEIGHBORS IN NEED

Project Deserve is a great opportunity for Volunteer Energy Cooperative (VEC) customers to help their elderly, handicapped, low-income and unemployed neighbors with their electric bills in emergency situations. You can do this by pledging a specific amount of money to be added to your monthly electric bill.

All funds collected through project deserve go directly to an emergency fund. No pledges are used to administer the fund. The emergency relief will go only to those qualified by Human Resource Agencies and/or community relief groups in Volunteer Energy Cooperative's 17-county service area.

You can cancel your pledge at any time or choose to make a one-time donation.

Project Deserve is a separate program from VECcustomers Share. Project Deserve funds go directly to individuals suffering from emergency situations who are qualified through independent community relief groups and Human Resource Agencies. Funds allocated through Project Deserve go only toward electric bills.

In contrast VECcustomers Share funds are raised through customers who have agreed to allow their electric bills to be rounded up to the nearest dollar. These funds are administered by the VECcustomers Share Board and go to non-profit community organizations to fund a variety of worthwhile community improvement activities. VECcustomers Share funds are not used for electricity bills.

To participate in Project Deserve simply fill out the pledge card below and return it to VEC. You can mail your one-time donation to:

Project Deserve  
Volunteer Energy Cooperative  
P.O. Box 277  
Decatur, TN 37322



Yes, I want to help. Here is my pledge.

I authorize Volunteer Energy Cooperative to add \$1 \$2 \$5 (Circle one or designate an amount) \$\_\_\_\_\_ to my monthly electric bill for Project Deserve. I understand my entire contribution will be used to help needy persons with their electric bills.

VEC Account Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_