

A Letter to Our Members

Dear Cooperative Member:
The 73rd Annual Meeting of the Members of Volunteer Energy Cooperative will be held at Meigs County Middle School. The business meeting will begin at 10 a.m. EDT, on Saturday, October 2, 2010.
The following action is to be taken: To consider reports of officers and to transact all business which may come before a regular Annual Meeting.

Sammy Norton
Secretary-Treasurer

Volunteer Energy Cooperative Annual Meeting

Meigs County Middle School, Decatur, TN
Saturday, October 2, 8:30 a.m.

- ◆ Goody Bags & Door Prizes!
- ◆ VEC Product & Service Information
- ◆ * Free Flu Shots * ◆ Free Breakfast
- ◆ Face Painting ◆ Entertainment by Dr. Dale

Dr. Dale Henry and "Just Us"
Update on VEC by President/CEO Rody Blevins
Plenty of food, fun and
entertainment for the entire family!

If you have special needs or require specific accommodations, please contact Volunteer Energy Cooperative's Marketing & Economic Development Department at 423-334-7051 or call your local VEC Customer Service Center and enter extension 7051 when prompted. Every effort will be made to accommodate special needs.



Why Stand in Line? Fill out the registration form below and you can avoid standing in the registration line at VEC's Annual Meeting. Complete the form below, bring it with you on October 2nd, and you can breeze right past the registration lines. Just hand this form in at the special express registration table and head right for the displays, breakfast, flu shots, or entertainment. *Why stand in line if you don't have to?*

VEC Annual Meeting Registration/Door Prize Form

This will be your official registration form for the Annual Meeting door prizes. Please write your name and account number in the spaces provided below. Your account number can be found on your VEC billing statement.

Name: _____

Account Number: _____

Bring this registration form with you on October 2. You must be present to win.

'Edu-tainment' and Bluegrass to Highlight VEC Annual Meeting

Dr. Dale Henry, an inspirational humorist, teacher, and motivator, will headline the entertainment portion of VEC's Annual Meeting October 2nd at Meigs County Middle School.

The founder and president of Your Best Unlimited, Inc., Henry is a highly sought after speaker whose enlightening and entertaining programs touch every member of his audiences. His presentations are full of laughter, but he also manages to deliver a strong message packed with useful tools.

A native of East Tennessee and the foothills of the Smoky Mountains, he draws heavily on his storytelling background to hold his audiences in the palm of his hand.

After earning his B.S. and M.S. in Secondary Education, Henry completed his Ph.D. in 1991 with a concentration in the area of Adult and Continuing Education. He has been honored with numerous business and educational awards and prides himself in being a master teacher.

He has been featured on numerous television and radio talk shows around the world and has developed several best selling audio and video programs – always leaning heavily on his unique brand of "edu-tainment."



Dr. Dale Henry

"Just Us" Bluegrass Band to Kick Off the Entertainment

Just Us Bluegrass Band is a versatile and exciting based in East Tennessee that has played many venues across the Southeast. With an ability to blend contemporary, traditional, and gospel music with an added bluegrass flair, Just Us features strong vocals, tight harmonies, and solid picking.

Husband and wife Stacy and Teresa Wilson are the backbone of the band with Stacy handling guitar and vocals and Teresa on electric bass and vocals. Their son Blake Atkins sings and plays banjo. The precise-fingered Albert Whiting rounds out the lineup on mandolin.



Just Us Bluegrass Band will open up the entertainment portion of Volunteer Energy Cooperative's 2010 Annual Meeting.

You CAN Get Here From There ... Directions to VEC's Annual Meeting

Meigs County Middle School is centrally located in the Volunteer Energy Cooperative service region in Decatur, Tennessee. Once you get to Highway 58 in Decatur turn east on Z Street (at Papa's Pizza – across the street from Piggly Wiggly), left on Main Street, and right into the Meigs Middle School parking lot. Or you can just follow the signs – there will be plenty of signs pointing you in the right direction once you get into the Decatur area.

To get to Decatur from:

Kingston:

Follow Highway 58 heading south into Decatur. Turn left on Z Street, left on Main Street, and right into Meigs Middle School.

Crossville:

Take Highway 127 South out of Crossville. Follow Highway 27/68 over Watts Bar Dam. Make a right turn onto Highway 58, go nine miles, turn left on Z Street, left on Main Street, and right into Meigs Middle School.

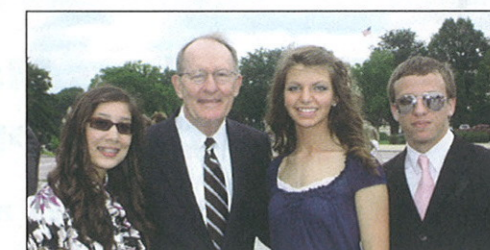
Cleveland:

Take Highway 60 to the intersection with Highway 58. Turn right onto Highway 58 and follow that into Decatur. Turn right on Z Street, left on Main Street, and right into Meigs Middle School.

Athens:

Take Highway 30 into Decatur. At the intersection with Highway 58, turn right. Turn right on Z Street, left on Main Street, and right into Meigs Middle School.

VEC Hosts Students, Teacher on 2010 Washington Youth Tour



Tiffany Williams, Samantha Tompkins, and Willie Lhota pose with U.S. Senator Lamar Alexander.

Returning for the annual event that shows the state's young leaders the vibrant activities of our nation's capital, more than 130 students from electric cooperative service areas across Tennessee boarded buses in June to travel to Washington for the Electric Cooperative Youth Tour.

Tiffany Williams of Cleveland, Jessica Broyles of Decatur, Willie Lhota of Spring City, and Samantha Tompkins of Jamestown won spots on the weeklong tour of Washington, D.C., for writing winning short stories titled "Electric Cooperatives: Energizing Our Communities," describing how locally owned, member-controlled electric cooperatives such as Volunteer Energy Cooperative (VEC) provide valuable community-building support in addition to reliable and affordable electric service.

Gwen Lane, an English Teacher at Walker Valley High School, was also awarded a spot on the trip to recognize her invaluable support of the VEC's youth programs.

The Electric Cooperative Youth Tour is a joint effort of local electric co-ops such as VEC, the Tennessee Electric Cooperative Association and the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association. Each

school year, VEC sponsors a short story contest for high school juniors. Winners are awarded expense-paid trips to our nation's capital the following June as part of the Washington Youth Tour.

This year's trip ran June 11-17 and included meetings with elected officials, visits to Washington's popular tourist stops and time to meet winners representing other co-ops across the state.

"We've been sending our leaders of tomorrow on expense-paid trips to our nation's capital as part of the Washington Youth Tour for more than 40 years," said Robert McCarty, who served as a chaperone. "This year's tour was extremely enjoyable and successful. These essay winners represent the best from our service area, and we're thrilled we were able to provide them this once-in-a-lifetime trip to see D.C. and learn more

about their member-owned electric cooperative. The students eagerly explored all the capitol city had to offer, and they served as exemplary representatives of their hometowns and VEC."

On the tour, students saw famous sites they have learned about in school, including the White House



A VIP tour of the U.S. Capitol Building and meeting U.S. Senators and U.S. Representatives were highlights on the 2010 Washington Youth Tour.

Continued on page 5

VEC Customers *Share*

VEC Members Make a Difference in their Communities

The VECustomers Share program funded \$32,700 in community service grants in June. Since the inception of the program in October 2001, more than \$3.4 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.

Organizations receiving grants in June include: Pickett County Historical and Genealogical Society - \$2,750; Fentress County Food Bank - \$2,500; Midway Quarterback Club \$2,500; Benton Lions Club - \$1,500; Rogers Creek Youth Football and Cheerleading League - \$1,433; Brown Middle School PTO, Harrison - \$1,200; Bradley County Historical Society - \$1,000; Benton Elementary School Junior Beta Club - \$1,000; Fentress County Senior Center - \$1,000; Plateau Longbeards, Crossville - \$1,000; Art Circle Public Library Summer Reading Program, Crossville - \$1,000; Meigs County Middle School Fellowship of Christian Athletes - \$1,000; Walker Valley High School Mu Alpha Theta Math Club, Cleveland - \$1,000; Creative Compassion, Inc., Crossville - \$1,000; Oak Grove Mission Team, Ocoee - \$1,000; Watts Bar Lake Association, Spring City - \$1,000; John Knox Center, Roane County - \$1,000; Friends of the Spring City Library - \$900; Bradley Initiative Credit Union - \$800, United States Coast Guard Auxiliary, Cleveland - \$800; Friends of the Cherokee, Decatur - \$750; Pickett County Babe Ruth Boosters - \$750; Spring City Elementary School PTO - \$750; North Cumberland Elementary School PTO - \$500; Shepherd's Little Flock Christian Daycare, Crossville - \$500; Polk County High School Girls Volleyball Club - \$500; Hales Chapel Community Center, Crossville - \$500; Meigs County Historical Society - \$500; Rogers Creek Youth Basketball - \$500; Bread of Life Rescue Mission, Crossville - \$500; The Exchange Club/Holland J. Stephens Center for the Prevention of Child Abuse, Livingston - \$500; Coordinated School Health Team, Crossville - \$500; Cleveland/Bradley County Public Library Summer Reading Program - \$400; and South Polk Elementary School PTO - \$167.



VECcustomers Share Board Members (from left) Jerry Stephens, Carlton Norris, Gloria Schouggins, Donald Williams, and Harold Reno present a grant to Christy Striker (third from left) of the Muscular Dystrophy Association.



Annual Meeting is an Important Day for VEC Members

Rody Blevins is President/CEO of Volunteer Energy Cooperative

As those lazy days of summer turn to fall, many of us get caught up in the hectic, back-to-school rush and returning to our more normal routines. But before your calendar gets too full, please make it a point to circle Saturday, October 2nd. That's the date for this year's Volunteer Energy Cooperative Annual Meeting. Since this year is our 75th anniversary, we hope you'll make a special effort to join us this year.

The annual meeting will be held at Meigs County Middle School in Decatur. It was in Decatur where VEC was formed and it is where our corporate offices and dispatch control center are located. We've included plenty of details about what we have planned for this year's event throughout this edition of Powerlines.

Volunteer Energy Cooperative's Annual Meeting is an excellent opportunity to learn more about your cooperative and about the

differences between being a member of an electric cooperative and being a customer of a different type of electric company.

With energy issues taking center stage these days, it is more important than ever to get involved with and get informed about your electric company and I'd like to take this opportunity to extend my personal invitation to you and your family.

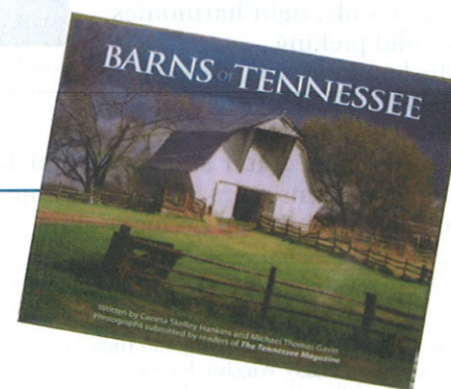
We've lined up a lot of entertainment, prizes, food, and attractions to make it an enjoyable event. We'll also present information about the different products and services VEC offers and the policies and procedures we've adopted to meet the needs of our members.

It promises to be a great day. I look forward to seeing you there.



Find The Barn Winners

June marked the last month of the www.vec.org "Find the Barn" contest. Thanks to all those who entered and keep watching for more chances to win prizes at VEC's new, user-friendly website. You can find plenty of information on how to save money, calculate energy costs, learn the basics about electricity, check your VEC account, pay your VEC bill, and find a wealth of information about all things energy-related at www.vec.org.



June's winners of the limited-edition, 8 1/2 -by-11-inch, hard-bound book, "Barns of Tennessee" were Jan Robertson of Crossville and Carl Greene of Cleveland.

Washington Youth Tour...
Continued from page 1

and memorials to past presidents Thomas Jefferson, Abraham Lincoln and Franklin Delano Roosevelt as well as monuments honoring the sacrifices of veterans of World War II and the Vietnam and Korean conflicts. Strolls through the varied museums of the Smithsonian Institution afforded the students

opportunities to learn more about science, history and art. Other fun stops included homes of former presidents — George Washington's Mount Vernon and Jefferson's Monticello — a performance of "Thurgood" at the Kennedy

Center for the Performing Arts and tours of the Washington National Cathedral, Crime and Punishment Museum and the Newseum.

The Youth Tour also included a solemn and sobering visit to Arlington National Cemetery, where the group laid a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknowns. The Tennessee group marveled at the precision and skill of the United States Marine Drum and Bugle Corps and Marine Corps Silent Drill Platoon at the Sunset Parade, performed in front of the U.S. Marine Corps War Memorial's iconic statue re-creating the flag-raising over Iwo Jima.

No trip to Washington, D.C., would be complete without a lesson or two in government and civics. The group was treated to a special after-hours, VIP guided

tour of the historic U.S. Capitol by Rep. Lincoln Davis of Pall Mall and a meeting on the Capitol steps with Tennessee's senators, Lamar Alexander and Bob Corker. Rep. Davis and Rep. John Tanner also met with VEC constituents at the Capitol.

An annual treat, Tennessee's Youth Tour delegation joined other

trip winners from across the country for Youth Day on Monday, June 14. More than 1,500 students came together to swap stories of their Washington experiences. And Mike Schlappi, a four-time Paralympic medalist and two-time

wheelchair basketball champion, returned for this year's program to share his inspiring message for every American, young or old: "Just because you can't stand up doesn't mean you can't stand out."

"This is another wonderful program our cooperative sponsors to educate our youth on their hometown electric co-op," said VEC President/CEO Rody Blevins. "Through this and similar educational opportunities made possible by VEC and our statewide and national organizations, our future member-owners experience first-hand how we energize their communities with special community-building programs as well as affordable electricity."



Youth Tour participants enjoyed a night out on the town featuring a performance of "Thurgood" starring Laurence Fishburne at the Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts.

Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA)
Residential & Outdoor Lighting Fuel Cost Adjustment
Effective August, 2010

\$.00550

For the most current FCA information, visit www.vec.org