



# Community Electric Cooperative News

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

## Community Electric Celebrates 80 Years, Elects Faulk, Edwards and Chesson to Board

Community Electric's (CEC) membership celebrated their Co-op's ongoing 80th year of operations at its Aug. 21 annual meeting in Windsor.

The membership re-elected directors Michael F. Faulk and Philip F. Edwards III and elected newcomer Douglas A. Chesson to serve three-year terms on the Cooperative board. Chesson will replace long-term director H. Garland Lowe Jr., who announced earlier this year that he would step down from the board at the conclusion of his current term.

Entering the Georgie D. Tyler Middle School, members were greeted by Co-op staff clad in green number-80 (for 80 years) football jerseys emblazoned with "TEAM CEC" on the front and the employee's name on the back.

Members enjoyed fellowship and a gymnasium full of fun and educational displays, exhibits and free gifts before the start of the business meeting.

As business began, Board Chair Jeannette Everett welcomed the packed auditorium of members and guests, noting



that, "As we celebrate an astounding 80 years of success for your Cooperative this year, let's take a glance at our 79th year, 2017."

Jessica Parr, Community's manager of communications and the Co-op's 2018 Youth Tour chaperone, introduced MaKayla Burks and Cameron Pagan, who attended this year's Youth Tour and were sponsored by Community Electric. The girls described the great educational value of the program, the many fun activities and the friendships made with other Youth Tour participants from across the country. Both girls sincerely thanked the Cooperative and the Co-op membership for the Youth Tour opportunity.

Secretary-Treasurer Diana Beale reported on the Co-op's sound financial performance during 2017, noting that the consolidated Community Electric/Tidewater Energy Services balance sheet reflected net operating margins of \$1,030,000, with cash flow adequate to handle all consolidated needs.

In her report to the membership, Board

Chair Everett discussed the Co-op's successes over the past year, including more than \$825,000 in capital credits returned to the membership and the Cooperative's commitment to serving its membership.

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CEO Steve Harmon expanded on the theme, outlining Community's achievements in safety, reliability, member satisfaction and accountability, all in keeping with the Co-op's mission statement. Harmon also noted the contributions that Tidewater Energy Services has made to Community Electric's success since its inception, and lauded retired CEO Jim Reynolds for his foresight in starting the affiliated business.

Underscoring the fifth and seventh cooperative principles, Harmon presented checks of support to Virginia, Maryland &

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comelec.coop

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*Community Electric Cooperative is an  
equal opportunity provider and employer.*



Above: "TEAM CEC" employees, parents and children who participated in the Kids' Corner pose with LED Lucy. Right, L-R: William R. Bracy, Michael V. Edwards and Robert Goode, Jr. have served on CEC's Proxy Committee for many years.



Delaware Association of Electric Cooperatives' (VMDAEC) CEO Richard Johnstone for the VMDAEC's Education Scholarship Fund; to Bob Felts and Herb DeGroft for the Paul D. Camp College Foundation; and to Keith Harkins and Mary Jane Elkins for Southside Virginia Community College's Power Line Workers Training School.

A highlight of the meeting was the surprise presentation of a framed resolution honoring the service of retiring director Garland Lowe for his 30 years on the Cooperative board. Lowe and his wife, Regina, were brought up onto the stage, where Harmon and Everett presented the framed resolution and gave Regina a bouquet of roses.

Co-op attorney Josh Pretlow conducted the director election, in which Michael Faulk, Philip Edwards and Douglas Chesson were elected to three-year terms on the board.

Following the election, board members left the auditorium to meet and reorganize, while the membership enjoyed the music of Luke Willette and the Show Me Band, featuring retired Community Electric Cooperative employee Art Forrester and his son-in-law, Luke Willette.

In the board-reorganization meeting, Jeannette Everett was elected chair, Carey Copeland was elected vice chair, Diana Beale was elected secretary-treasurer and John Stewart was elected assistant secretary-treasurer.

The meeting concluded with door prizes and an 80th-birthday cake and other refreshments served in the school cafeteria.

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