

## Board of Trustees

### Chase Riddle

Chairman, Prattville  
(334) 365-3648

### Jimmie Harrison, Jr.

Vice Chairman, Maplesville  
(334) 366-4338

### Ruby J. Neeley

Secretary/Treasurer, Clanton  
(205) 646-3649

### C. Milton Johnson

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(334) 412-2843

### Mark Presnell, Sr.

Wetumpka  
(334) 567-2689

### Patsy M. Holmes

Wetumpka  
(334) 567-8273

### Terry Mitchell

Stewartville  
(256) 249-3128

### David A. Kelley, Sr.

Rockford  
(256) 496-0160

### Van Smith

Billingsley  
(205) 755-6166

### Charles Byrd

Deatsville  
(334) 361-3324

## Contact Us

Toll Free: 1-800-545-5735

Outage Hotline:

1-800-619-5460

[www.caec.coop](http://www.caec.coop)

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Prattville Office:

1802 U.S. Hwy. 31 North  
Mailing: P.O. Box 681570  
Prattville, AL 36068

Clanton Office:

1601 7th St. North

Wetumpka Office:

637 Coosa River Pkwy.

# Continuous Strategic Planning

**L**ong-term strategic planning plays an important role in business, and within the electric utility industry, forecasting models and 10- or 20-year plans are essential tools because transmission and distribution lines cannot be cited and constructed on short time frames. Here at CAEC your board of trustees is involved with establishing the guidelines for the cooperative's strategic plan, a process that is important to the sustained integrity of the system's infrastructure and business continuity.



Strategic planning encompasses other aspects of the business as well. For instance, we consider plans designed to protect the investment you make in the cooperative each month when you pay your bill. This includes the process and time frame for capital credits return, equity management and cash flow management. Giving members more or better access to information, communication, and even ways to help you save energy are also a part of the process. Although we're in the business of supplying electricity to you, our cooperative model is about service; therefore, we always strive to add value to your energy dollars.

The cooperative, like many businesses, accomplishes its work through planned integration of technology. Because technology changes rapidly, our management team constantly evaluates the development and timing for incorporating updated software or new systems into the existing work practices.

This concept of thinking forward, known as continuous strategic planning, helps us address our cooperative's major objectives: *quality, value and sustainability*, but it also directs the actions needed to accomplish short-term projects. In the next few months, we plan to share more information about these three attributes of quality, value and sustainability through additional articles in *Alabama Living*.

As the overseers of the cooperative, our goal is to provide you with safe, reliable and affordable electricity and through this process of continuous strategic planning, we will be better equipped to anticipate change and achieve short-term projects that contribute to long-term goals. ■



Chase Riddle, Chairman Board of Trustees

# CAEC Member Appreciation and Annual Meeting

## Friday, August 9

Register by mail or in person and receive a  
\$5 credit on your September bill and chances at door prizes  
including a \$500 grand door prize\*

Special gift for those attending

4:00 p.m.	Registration/Activities Begin	6:30 p.m.	Business Session
4:00 p.m.	Performance by <b>Henderson Highway Bluegrass Group</b>		<input type="checkbox"/> Statement of quorum
5:00 p.m.	Performance by <b>The Men of Music</b>		<input type="checkbox"/> Audit, officer and management reports
6:30 p.m.	National Anthem		<input type="checkbox"/> Certification of Trustee Election
			<input type="checkbox"/> Unfinished Business
			<input type="checkbox"/> New Business
			<input type="checkbox"/> Adjournment

*\*You do not have to be present to win door prizes, including the grand prize. Whether attending in person or not at all, mail in the ballot in the center of this magazine. Your ballot registers you for Annual Meeting, qualifying you for a \$5 credit on your September bill. It also enters you into the prize drawings.*

Door Prizes

● Health Screenings  
and Expo

● Food

● Children's  
Activities

## Official Notice of Annual Meeting of the Members of Central Alabama Electric Cooperative

### Annual Meeting

It will be held at the cooperative headquarters, 1802 U.S. Hwy. 31 North, Prattville on Friday, Aug. 9, 2013, at 4 p.m. with the business session beginning at 6:30 p.m. for the following purposes:

- Presenting reports of trustees, management and auditors.
- Installing trustees.
- Acting upon such other business as may properly come before the meeting.

**Ruby J. Neeley**, secretary/treasurer

### Election of Trustees

At a meeting of the board of trustees on February 26, 2013, a committee was appointed to nominate candidates for trustees of the cooperative for the coming year (Article IV, Section 4.05 CAEC Bylaws). The following members were nominated by the committee and accepted the nomination as candidates for trustees:

**District 2:** Mark S. Presnell, Sr. of Wetumpka

**District 5:** David Kelley, Sr. of Rockford

**District 9:** Ruby J. Neeley of Clanton

**At Large:** Charles Byrd of Deatsville

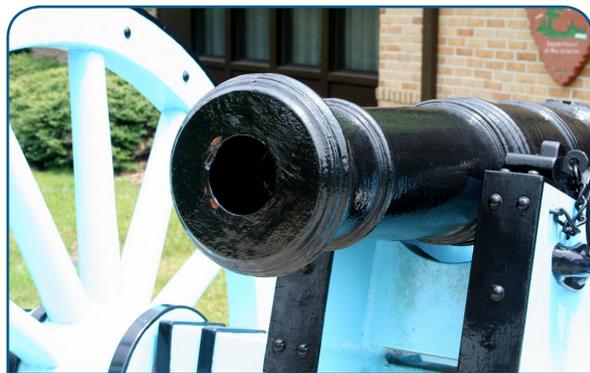


# Tallapoosa County

**A**merican history makes its mark in Tallapoosa County, home to the last battle of the Creek War, Horseshoe Bend National Military Park, as well as Lake Martin, one of the most picturesque lakes in the country.

Located in east-central Alabama, Tallapoosa County was established on Dec. 18, 1832, from land ceded by the Creek Indians in the Treaty of Cusseta on March 24, 1832. The county's name is derived from the Tallapoosa River, which is believed to mean "pulverized rock" in the Creek Indian language, verifying the rough Tallapoosa River waters that shaped the landscape. The county covers approximately 480,000 acres of land.

The amazing history and culture of this county is well preserved by places such as Horseshoe Bend National Military Park. Located between New Site and Dadeville, the park encompasses 2,040 acres to commemorate the March 27, 1814 battle where General Andrew Jackson's army defeated the Red Stick Creeks in the bloodiest combat of the Creek War during the War of 1812.



**Cannon at Horseshoe Bend NMP**  
*Photo: Courtesy of Mike McKay*

Approximately 20 million acres of land were the spoils of victory extorted from the Creeks, from which Alabama was carved in 1819. As for General Jackson, the notoriety of Horseshoe Bend helped serve as a first step to the White House when he was elected the seventh President of the United States.

Today the military park accommodates a museum with artifacts of the battle, exhibits pertaining to the Creek War, the War of 1812 and native culture. Each August the park hosts the annual Muster on the Tallapoosa, featuring a variety of activities relating to the history of Alabama in the early nineteenth century. Guests can tour an authentic Tennessee Militia camp and experience demonstrations of frontier life.

Tallapoosa County is also surrounded by the shoreline of Lake Martin, one of the most pristine lakes in the southeast according to the United States Environmental Protection Agency. Lake Martin was formed after the completion of Martin Dam on the Tallapoosa River in 1926 and is used to generate hydroelectric power. Lake Martin has 750 miles of coastline stretching across the counties of Elmore, Coosa and Tallapoosa, with the majority of its shoreline falling within Tallapoosa County. For residents and visitors alike, Lake Martin with its 44,000 acres of clear sparkling water, is an excellent source of recreation for swimming, boating, sailing, canoeing, fishing, skiing, camping and golfing.

Located on the shores of Lake Martin, Alexander City (a.k.a. Alex City) is the largest city in Tallapoosa County. Alexander City has a wide-ranging history, beginning with its Indian heritage and running through frontier roots. The city arose on a site formerly occupied by several Creek Indian villages. James Young established a trading post there in 1835, and the city was incorporated as Youngsville in 1872. After the Savannah and Memphis Railroad announced its intention to build a line through the town in 1873, the city's boundaries were redrawn and it was renamed Alexander City in honor of the railroad's president, Edward Porter Alexander. The city's economy was tied to cotton, especially textiles, from the early 1900s until the industry began relocating its manufacturing facilities overseas in the latter decades of the twentieth century. Local banker and businessman Benjamin Russell constructed Russell Mills and the Comers of Avondale Mills would become a major presence in Alexander City for decades. In addi-

tion to the mills, Russell established several businesses, built a church, a hospital in 1923 (a new facility opened in 1965 as Russell Medical Center), a waterworks facility, as well as the first telephone lines for the city. A city-owned public airport was constructed in the early 1930s and named after long-time mayor Thomas C. Russell, Benjamin's brother. Flight instruction was offered at the field, which was also used for training by pilots from Maxwell Field in Montgomery County before World War II.

Alexander City features many of Tallapoosa County's major attractions, such as the largest state-owned campground in the United States, Wind Creek State Park. Wind Creek's 1,445 scenic acres are on the shoreline of Lake Martin making the park an angler's paradise. Several fishing tournaments are held in the park each year as well. Past events include the American Bass Angler's Tour, the Airport Marine Team Trail and the Pine Level Bassmasters. The park's 626 campsites are spread over 320 acres and offer ample opportunities to enjoy a variety of outdoor activities.



**Wind Creek State Park**  
Photo: Courtesy of Mike McKay

Considered one of the south's finest, the Charles E. Bailey Sr. Sportplex in Alexander City offers five baseball fields, softball fields, an archery range, a horse-riding arena, a gymnasium, a swimming pool, an

amphitheater and a football and soccer stadium. This sportplex is nestled on a 212-acre public park on the outskirts of Lake Martin.

Incorporated in 1895, Camp Hill is home to the Lyman Ward Military Academy, established in 1898 by a New York minister, Dr. Lyman Ward, in order to bring an education to rural Alabamian boys (grades 6-12) who did not have the benefit of public education. Over the years the academy has evolved into a Military Academy and this year has cadets from 13 different states and international cadets from China and Mexico. The academy is recognized as the leading military boarding school for young men in the United States.



**Lyman Ward Military Academy**  
Photo: Courtesy of Lyman Ward MA

A small town with a big heart, Jackson's Gap, provides an Easter Seals Camp—Alabama's Special Camp for Children and Adults (ASCCA). This particular Easter Seal camp is nationally recognized as a leader in therapeutic recreation with 230 wooded acres on the shores of Lake Martin and servicing an average of 7,000 people annually.

With charming historic towns nuzzled throughout the county, Tallapoosa County offers a selection of amenities with beautiful Lake Martin, notable landscapes, family recreational opportunities, scenic state parks and tranquility as a retreat for the soul. ■

Sources: *The Heritage of Tallapoosa County/Alabama*, *Encyclopedia of Alabama*, *Alexander City Chamber of Commerce*

# 2013 Trustee Nominees

*Below are this year's candidates for trustee election. Remember, every member has the opportunity to vote for each trustee. Your ballot/registration form is included in the center of this magazine.*

## District 2: Mark S. Presnell, Sr.



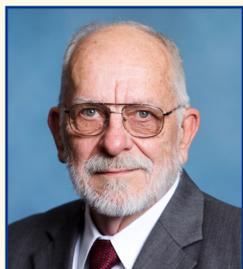
**M**ark S. Presnell, Sr., of Elmore County was elected to serve District 2 in August of 2010. He has earned his Credentialed Cooperative Director (CCD) and Board Leadership certificates from the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association.

Presnell moved from his birthplace of Panama City, Fla., to Elmore County in 1962. As an entrepreneur, he established Mark's Service Center and Body Shop, Inc. in 1985. In addition, he owns and manages a 62-unit self-storage business in Wetumpka.

He has served on multiple local boards and committees, including the Wetumpka Area Chamber of Commerce, past president; Wetumpka Lions Club, past president and current secretary; Colonial Bank, past board member; Wetumpka Planning Board, past chairman; City of Wetumpka Industrial Development Board, past board member; and Hohenburg Field Stadium Foundation Committee, past board member. For recreation, Presnell has also worked toward and attained his FAA Sport Pilot license during the last two years.

He and his wife of 35 years, Cindy, live north of Wetumpka and are members of Mulder Memorial United Methodist Church in Redland. They have one son, Mark Jr. who is married to the former Andrea Haynes of Wetumpka, and a granddaughter, Marlee Sanders Presnell.

## District 5: David Kelley, Sr.



**D**avid Kelley Sr. of Rockford has served on the Board of Trustees since November 2003. He has earned his Credentialed Cooperative Director (CCD) and Board Leadership certificates from the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association.

He was reared in the Kelley's Crossroads area of Coosa County where his family was a member of CAEC when power was first

brought to the area. Kelley rejoined CAEC in 1998 after his retirement.

Kelley is a retired civil engineer with 42 years experience, including work with the Alabama Highway Department and the U.S. Department of Transportation's Federal Highway Administration. He is a graduate of Coosa County High School and Auburn University with a Bachelor's degree in civil engineering.

He is a veteran, a former assistant scout master, a master gardener and a member of the Coosa County Historical Society.

Kelley and his wife, Lorraine, are members of Hollins Church of Christ in Hollins, Ala., and have three children and one grandchild.

## District 9: Ruby J. Neeley



**R**uby J. Neeley of Clanton has served on CAEC's board since August 1979 and is the board's secretary/treasurer. She has earned her Credentialed Cooperative Director (CCD) and Board Leadership certificates from the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association.

She began receiving electricity from the co-op in 1960. Since October 1993, Neeley has served on the Board of Trustees of the cooperative's power supplier, PowerSouth Energy Cooperative, formerly known as Alabama Electric Cooperative.

Once an owner and operator of a rural community store and employee of the USDA Farm Agency, she is retired from Food Fair in Clanton.

She and her husband, Eugene, have one daughter, two grandchildren and five great grandchildren. She is a member of Cedar Grove Methodist Church in Thorsby.

## At-Large: Charles Byrd



**C**harles Byrd of Deatsville has served in the position of At-Large Trustee since 2004. He has earned his Credentialed Cooperative Director (CCD) and Board Leadership certificates from the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association.

He is a graduate of Clemson University with a Bachelor of Textile Technology. He served as the Plant Manager at the Frontier Yarns and Coosa River Spinning Plants, a division of Russell Corporation, in Wetumpka prior to the plant's closure. Byrd was also employed as a Stafford Act Employee (SAE) with FEMA and the Department of Homeland Security. He joined Flowers Bakery in Montgomery in July 2010 as a Production Supervisor.

Byrd is a charter member of the Kiwanis Club of Wetumpka and has served as club president. He also served on the Board of Directors of the River Region United Way as one of the representatives from Elmore County. Byrd is a former President of Manufacture Alabama's Textile Council and served as an appointee to the Governor's Commission on Manufacturing Economic Stimulus and Free and Fair Trade.

He and his wife, Emma, have six children and 10 grandchildren. They are members of Christian Life Church in Montgomery.

## Derek: The Energy Sleuth

# Blower Door Testing: *Is my house leaky or tight?*



**Derek Blankenship** is CAEC's Energy Service Representative and Residential Energy Auditor

**W**hen you hear of leaks in your home, you probably think of those involving water and plumbing, but what about air leaks? Homes that experience excessive air leakage are difficult to heat and cool. Too much air flowing in and out of your house can cause several problems such as wasted energy and high cooling and heating costs, moisture

condensation, uncomfortable drafts from the outdoors and poor air quality flowing throughout your home. In fact, air leakage can account for up to 30 percent of your cooling and heating costs. The only way to know whether your home is leaky or tight is to measure its air leakage rate with a blower door test conducted by a trained professional. This test provides a highly accurate and cost-effective method for determining your home's air leakage performance.

A blower door is a powerful fan that mounts into the frame of an exterior door (see photo). The "door" comes with a built-in fan and multiple gauges that measure air pressure. The fan removes air from your house, lowering the pressure inside. In turn, higher-pressure outdoor air will work its way through cracks and unsealed openings, making the leaks easier to measure and locate.

Before a blower door test can be performed, the following preparation is required:

- Close all exterior doors and windows
- Open all interior doors
- Remove any ashes from open fireplaces or cover the ashes with damp newspapers
- Walk-through your home with the auditor to point out areas that you know are drafty or difficult to condition comfortably
- Close any fireplace dampers, doors and woodstove air inlets
- Turn off the clothes dryer and all bathroom and kitchen exhaust fans

Once the blower door is set up and operating, many leaks can be found by feeling around with your bare hands or with the use of an infrared camera. The infrared camera finds air leaks through temperature differences. To use the camera alone, the temperature outside and temperature inside have to be very different, but since it's difficult to plan an audit around the temperature outside, it is best to use the blower door and camera together. By creating a pressure difference that allows the air to move, it is not necessary for there to be a large temperature difference to be able to see the air movement through the cracks and holes allowing for a much better chance to find all the problem areas. View our video about this process at: <http://www.youtube.com/user/CentralALElecCoop>.

After the blower door test is completed and the air leakage rate for your home is determined and evaluated, the auditor will assist you in identifying improvements that will potentially save the most on your energy costs and recommendations to improve comfort and indoor air quality can then be made.

When you have a home energy audit conducted by CAEC's Energy Services Representative, a Certified Residential Energy Auditor, you can choose which level works best for you and your budget. The initial cost of either audit is reimbursed when ESR-recommended improvements are made to the home within a 12-month period of time. The Basic Audit cost is \$75 and the Advanced Audit (includes blower door test) cost is \$100. For more information, visit [www.caec.coop](http://www.caec.coop) or call (800) 545-5735 ext. 2178 or (334) 351-2178. ■



# Safety Near Electrical Substations



Darren Maddox,  
Manager Training  
& Safety

**C**hildren love to climb up and over things, particularly fences. With children on summer break from school, it is the perfect time to talk to them about electrical substations and why they must never climb the fences surrounding them.

Electrical substations are a key component of the electricity grid transmission system. When electricity is generated in power plants, it is transmitted over long distances at high voltage. An electrical substation has voltages as high as 500,000 volts running through it -- which can kill in an instant. This high voltage is reduced to distribution voltages at the substation and then sent through the distribution lines where

a transformer reduces it even further for use in homes and businesses. Because of the high voltage components in substations, it is important that safety precautions are taken by trained workers who are the only ones allowed to work in or near high voltage substations.

Central Alabama Electric Cooperative's substations are surrounded by metal fences topped with barbed wire to make them inaccessible to the public. High voltage signs are placed

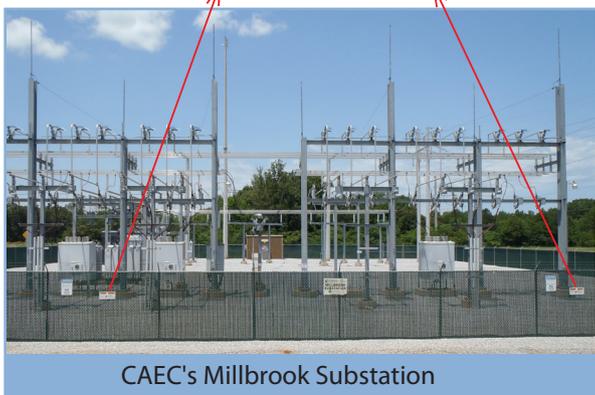
on fences and gates to warn of the potential danger of electrocution. These

warning signs are also placed on the sides of the substation and often contain text such as "Warning –keep out – hazardous voltage inside – can shock, burn or cause death" with a symbol of a person being electrocuted. If a child's kite, ball or other toy is accidentally lost in a substation area, do not retrieve it yourself. Additionally, do not attempt to rescue a pet that goes inside the substation. Call the electric company associated with the substation and ask them to help retrieve your belonging. If it's a CAEC substation, call 1-800-545-5735 and after 9 p.m., 1-800-619-5460 for assistance.

When the authorized personnel arrive, do not attempt to accompany them into the substation area, but wait outside the fence while they retrieve your property. Workers who enter the substation must follow strict safety requirements, including wearing a hard hat, safety shoes, safety glasses, arc flash clothing and special gloves designed to protect them.

Educate your children on the dangers of electrical substations and teach them to recognize the danger signs displayed on high-voltage equipment, which may be above or below the ground. And it's particularly important that children who may not understand warning signs realize the dangers of high voltage.

If you notice anything strange or out of place with a substation, such as trespassing, damage or vandalism, please contact us and report the details at 1-800-545-5735. ■



CAEC's Millbrook Substation