

# Celebrating 70 Years of Making Your Voice Heard



For the last 70 years, Central Alabama Electric Cooperative has participated in a unique event in the utility industry—we hold an annual election allowing our members to have direct influence on the way your electric company conducts its business.

Unlike investor owned utilities, cooperatives are governed by those who use the service. As a core value derived from the seven Cooperative Principles, democratic member control makes you not just a member, but also an owner of CAEC — and one who has a voice in the cooperative’s business decisions. Your voice is exercised at Annual Meeting every time you register and vote for those individuals who will serve on the 10-member board of trustees.

Each year, members are asked to cast their votes for trustees who serve on the board, regardless of the district represented, as well as any proposed Bylaws changes from time to time. Members who register for Annual Meeting, either by mailing in their registration/ballot or bringing it in person, are counted toward the required quorum. It is quorum that gives you the chance to harness the power of equal voting for all members — one member, one vote.

For the last two years our mail-in ballot system of registration and voting has been a great success, with more than 3,800 members participating during the two-year time frame. This process and these ballots have been vital in ensuring all members have a chance to vote — regardless of your circumstances for attendance or for what

Mother Nature has in store on that day (summer storms or extreme heat). While we hope no such event will occur during this year’s Annual Meeting, sending in your ballot by mail helps ensure that your participation and vote get counted.

As with the last couple of years, if you choose to register for Annual Meeting by mailing in your ballot, you will receive \$5 off your September bill and be included in the prize drawings held at the meeting. For those who choose to attend the meeting in person, entertainment, food and vendors will all be there for your enjoyment.

No matter how you choose to participate in your cooperative’s annual business, your ballot is the means by which you are registered so it is important that you either mail it or bring it in person. As we celebrate the past 70 years of democratic member control and enter a future with energy issues taking center stage, your unceasing support and participation are more vital than ever for the sustainability of your cooperative. ☘

Chase Riddle, Chairman/Board of Trustees

*\*For your convenience, the 2008 Annual Meeting ballot is enclosed in this issue of Alabama Living. Please take a few minutes to fill out the ballot and return it in the self addressed, postage-paid envelope so you will be registered. Ballots that are mailed must be post-marked by Aug. 1.*

YOUR BOARD		LOCATIONS
Chairman Chase Riddle, Prattville	Patsy M. Holmes, Wetumpka	Prattville Headquarters 1802 U.S. Hwy. 31 North (334) 365-6762/(800) 545-5735 Outage Hotline: (800) 619-5460
Vice Chairman Jimmie Harrison, Jr., Maplesville	Terry Mitchell, Stewartville	Clanton Office 1601 7th St. North
Secretary/Treasurer Ruby Neeley, Jemison	David A. Kelley, Sr., Rockford	Rockford Office U.S. Highway 231
C. Milton Johnson, Statesville	Van Smith, Billingsley	Wetumpka Office 637 Coosa River Pkwy.
Don Whorton, Wetumpka	Charles Byrd, Deatsville	CAEC Mailing Address: P.O. Box 681570 Prattville, AL 36068

# CAEC Member Appreciation and Annual Meeting

## Friday, August 8

Celebrating our past, taking action today and planning for tomorrow

Door Prizes!

Safety Magic Show!

Entertainment!

Products and Services Expo!

Healthy Lifestyles Expo!

Face Painting!

Bounce Houses!

Food and Drinks!

Register and receive a \$5 credit on your September bill  
Special gift for those present – \$500 cash grand prize! \*

4 p.m. Registration/Activities Begin

5 p.m. Performance by  
**Next Chapter Quartet**

6 p.m. Performance by  
**Trinity Lane**

7 p.m. National Anthem  
**Ashlee Lassiter**

7 p.m. Business Session:

- Statement of quorum
- Audit, officer and management reports
- Certification of Trustee Election
- Unfinished Business
- New Business
- Adjournment

*\*You do not have to be present to win door prizes, including the grand prize.*

# Celebrating 70 Years of Annual Meetings

*For the last seven decades, Central Alabama Electric Cooperative members have made their voices heard through the power of voting. Each year, the co-op holds an Annual Meeting to allow members to gather, vote and partake in fellowship. The following photos depict some of the many memories formed during the years.*



*Prize drawings have always been an integral part of Annual Meeting. This photo of a prize drawing was from the 1953 Annual Meeting.*



*Entertainment has varied from beauty pageants to lamp making contests. Singing groups have taken center stage over the years.*



*During the first Annual Meetings, attendees learned about appliances through demonstrations.*

*New appliances, such as refrigerators and electric ovens, were not common place in most CAEC members' homes.*



*Members arrive for Annual Meeting.*



*Food choices have ranged from BBQ to hamburgers and hotdogs.*





*Annual Meeting has been held in a variety of places, including schools and civic buildings.*

*Moving the meeting outdoors with the use of tents not only gave members more space, but allowed CAEC to have expos and demonstrations set-up around the meeting area.*

*Demonstrations and member education have been a crowd favorite over the years.*



*Members register at Annual Meeting*



*Youth entertainment, ranging from electrical safety shows to games, ensures Annual Meeting is a fun-filled event for all ages.*

# 2008 TRUSTEE NOMINEES

*Below are this year's candidates for trustee election. Your ballot/registration form is included in the center of this magazine.*

## DISTRICT 1

**C**Milton Johnson of Statesville became a member of the cooperative in 1968 and has been a member of CAEC's Board of Trustees since May 1990. Johnson has earned both his Credentialed Cooperative Director and Board Leadership certificates from the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NRECA). He served as CAEC's Board Chairman from 1995-2002, choosing to not seek the chairmanship in order to allow a rotation into the position.

Johnson held memberships in numerous organizations such as the Autauga-Dallas Farmers Co-op, Central Alabama Farmers Co-op, Autauga County Farmers Federation, Autauga County Cattlemen's Association, Autaugaville Lions Club and the Autauga Farm Service Agency.

He and his wife, Jeannie, of 44 years have three sons and have five grandchildren. The Johnsons are members of Ivy Creek United Methodist Church in Autaugaville.



## DISTRICT 4

**T**erry Mitchell of Stewartville has served as a CAEC Trustee since Feb. 1999. A member of the co-op since 1978, he and his wife, Diane, represented CAEC at the 1996 Alabama Council of Cooperative's Annual Co-op Couples Conference. Mitchell has earned his Credentialed Cooperative Director and Board Leadership certificates from NRECA.

A native of Coosa County, he currently serves as the county's Probate Judge and participates in numerous community and civic organizations. As a founding member of the Coosa County Chamber of Commerce, he continues to be active with the Chamber while serving as a member of the Coosa County Industrial Development Board and Coosa Action Network.

The Mitchells are members of Bethany United Methodist Church in Stewartville, and they are the owners and operators of an apparel and tailor shop in Alexander City. They have two sons and are the proud grandparents of two grandchildren.



## DISTRICT 6

**J**immie Harrison Jr. of Maplesville has served on the cooperative's Board of Trustees since Aug. 1999 and is currently serving as Vice Chairman. Harrison has earned his Credentialed Cooperative Director and Board Leadership certificates from NRECA. He became a member of the cooperative in 1961.

A farmer since 1957, he also served as Senior Vice President of Peachtree Bank in Maplesville from 1981-2001. He served as the President of the Chilton County Farmers Federation and currently serves as a board member on the Chilton County Industrial Development Board, Chilton County Chamber of Commerce, Peachtree Bank and the Chilton Education Foundation.

He and his wife, Alice Faye, are members of Hillcrest Baptist Church in Maplesville. They have four children and eight grandchildren. In 2002, they were recognized as the Chilton County Farm Family of the Year.



## OFFICIAL NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING OF THE MEMBERS OF CENTRAL ALABAMA ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE

### ANNUAL MEETING

*It will be held at the cooperative headquarters, U.S. Hwy. 31 North, Prattville on Friday, Aug. 8, 2008, at 4 p.m. with the business session beginning at 7 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 April 3, 2008, 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 1:**  
*C. Milton Johnson of Statesville*

**District 4:**  
*Terry Mitchell of Stewartville*

**District 6:**  
*Jimmie Harrison Jr. of Maplesville*

## Energy from CAEC: *A Powerful Value*



### Morning Latte Powers Home for 24 Hours

For the cost of a morning latte, CAEC provides power to your home for 24 hours. Electricity is one of today's greatest values.

**Fact:** the national cost of electricity today, when adjusted for inflation, is less than it was in 1980.



Central Alabama  
Electric Cooperative

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

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

# IT'S TIME TO COME TOGETHER AND CHANGE OUR FUTURE.

A photograph of two orange pickup trucks parked on a dirt road. A person wearing a hat and a plaid shirt stands between the two trucks. The background shows a blue sky with white clouds and some greenery.

## We have an energy challenge, America.

When it comes to finding solutions, we must meet climate change goals while keeping costs down and electricity available. America needs a plan. Immediately. Because we all know that our energy needs keep on growing—every day.

Now is the time to have a candid conversation with your elected officials. Together, we can find answers and take action.

Start the conversation today at [www.ourenergy.coop](http://www.ourenergy.coop).



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**Our Energy, Our Future**  
A Dialogue With America