

Supporting Us Helps You

Members' Economic Participation is the third of our Seven Cooperative Principles



MESSAGE FROM GENERAL MANAGER ALAN LESLEY

PAYING MONEY TO PARTICIPATE in a business might not seem like a privilege, but it is—when that business is an electric cooperative. The money you put in to become a member of CECA not only helps us light your homes and businesses, but it also helps to improve the quality of life for everyone in our service area.

The text below is from the International Cooperative Alliance's summary of the third cooperative principle, Members' Economic Participation:

“Members contribute equitably to, and democratically control, the capital of their cooperative. At least part of that capital is usually the common property of the cooperative. Members usually receive limited compensation, if any, on capital subscribed as a condition of membership. Members allocate surpluses for any or all of the following purposes: developing their cooperative, possibly by setting up reserves, part of which at least would be indivisible; benefiting members in proportion to their transactions with the cooperative; and supporting other activities approved by the membership.”

So what do those words mean? Let's take a closer look.

Chances are, when you joined CECA, you paid a membership fee of \$20. That fee is your part of the equity, or your share of ownership. You also do something else every month that allows your co-op to keep the lights on: You pay your bill.

As a member, your paid-in share ensures that you have a say in co-op business through your elected board of directors. The board sets the strategic direction of the cooperative, then the management and staff put that direction into action.

At the end of the fiscal year, if your co-op has received more money from members than it needed to cover expenses, a portion is set aside for reserves—which is like a savings account for the co-op. If a storm or flood comes through, the co-op will have the funds to do the needed repairs.

Any remaining amount is allocated to each member based on how much electricity they used during the year. Once the board decides the co-op is financially sound enough to release these allocated margins, members receive them as capital credits checks or credits on their bills. In September 2014, CECA returned \$710,000 for a portion of 1938 through 2013. This brings the total amount of capital credits returned since 1938 to \$6,538,602.57.

This is just one way your co-op gives back to its communities. Although the safe, reliable and affordable provision of electricity is our primary mission, the co-op also values its members and finds many other ways to enrich the quality of life in our service area.

CECA is not some large power company headquartered in a far-off state with stockholders from around the world. We are right here in your community. We were formed by neighbors and friends who came together and contributed their own money with the goal of bettering their lives with electricity. At CECA, our goal is to continue to do that—improve the quality of our members' lives—with the same neighborly approach.

Our Seven Cooperative Principles guide us. And your economic participation helps us make sure our focus is always on you, the member-owner.

For big businesses, small businesses, farms and homes, electric cooperative membership provides benefits beyond reliable electricity.

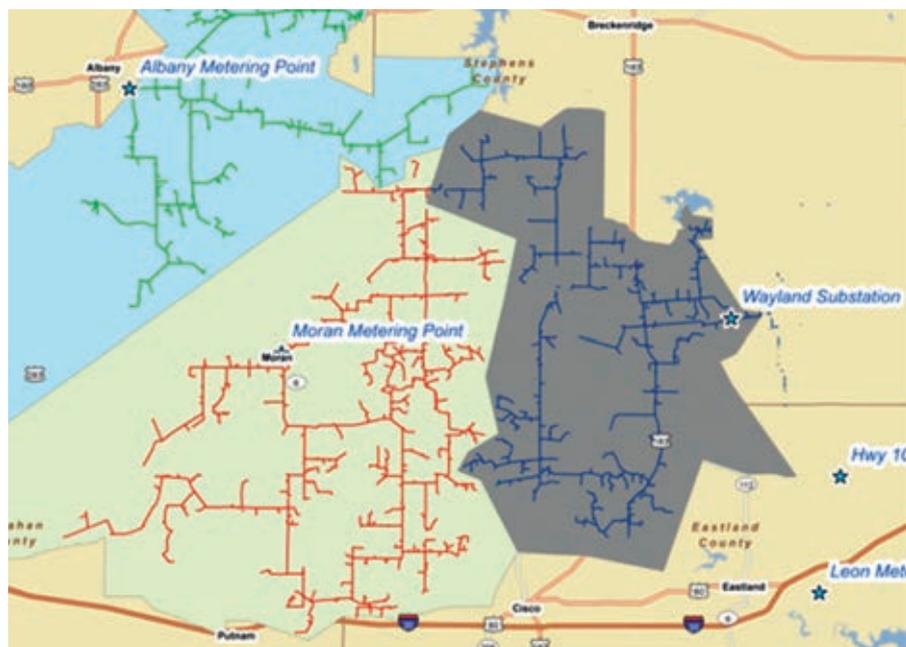


Meet Jeremy Hale

JEREMY HALE IS CECA'S NEWEST apprentice lineman. He was born in Rotan and graduated high school in Comanche. He and his wife, Samantha, live in Comanche with their daughter, Savannah. Jeremy and his family enjoy the country life where they hunt, fish and garden. Please join us in welcoming them to our co-op family.



CECA AMI Installation Update



CONTRACT CREWS WITH TEXAS METER DEVICE, an experienced electric system installation service out of Waco, will be installing new, updated electric meters in the CECA service area. Crews are or will be replacing all of the meters in areas serviced out of the Albany and Moran metering points and the Wayland substation. This area is depicted in the map above.

The installation of the new meters will cause a brief service disruption, lasting no more than a couple of minutes in most cases.

All meters on the CECA system must be changed out. Therefore, each meter location in our service territory will be visited by TMD at some time.

As this project progresses, we will continue to use our local pages of Texas Co-op Power to inform the CECA membership about where crews are or will be working.

Should you have any questions or concerns about this project, you may contact CECA's Metering Department at 1-800-915-2533 or via email at meterdata@ceca.coop.

CECA

P.O. Box 729
Comanche, TX 76442

Operating in Brown, Callahan, Comanche, Eastland, Mills, Shackelford and Stephens counties

HEADQUARTERS

201 W. Wrights Ave.
Comanche, TX 76442

EARLY OFFICE

1801 CR 338
Early, TX 76801

EASTLAND OFFICE

1311 W. Main St.
Eastland, TX 76448

OFFICE HOURS

Comanche Office: Monday through Friday 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Early Office: Monday, Wednesday and Friday 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., closed from 1 to 2 p.m.

Eastland Office: Tuesday and Thursday 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

YOUR LOCAL PAGES

This section of Texas Co-op Power is produced by CECA each month to provide you with information about current events, special programs and other activities of the cooperative. If you have any comments or suggestions, please contact Shirley at the Comanche office or at sdukes@ceca.coop.



CONTACT US

CALL US

(325) 356-2533 local or
1-800-915-2533 toll-free

FIND US ON THE WEB

www.ceca.coop

facebook.com/CECA.coop

Our Lives, Our Stories

It is, I believe, the greatest generation any society has ever produced.

—TOM BROKAW



MINNEAPOLIS STAR TRIBUNE. COLLECTION MINNESOTA HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

Marine Ricky Sorenson at the soda fountain in Anoka, Minnesota, after coming home from war, 1945

BY SHIRLEY DUKES

WHO SPEAKS FOR THE EXPERIENCES OF A GENERATION and their impact on the world around them? What experiences help to create a sense of shared identity?

The exhibition “Our Lives, Our Stories: America’s Greatest Generation” explores the life arc of the World War II generation, as told in their own words. Born in the early 1900s, these people were decisively shaped by the Depression and World War II. They went on to make the “Baby Boom” and shape the economic boom of the postwar era. Today—well into the 21st century—we are all living with their legacy. But who are these people upon whom the title of “greatest generation” has been bestowed?

“Our Lives, Our Stories” draws on memories and oral histories gathered by the Minnesota Historical Society to help us

understand who these people really were. The timeline begins with the babies of the 1910s and 1920s, and then explores the human impact of events that marked major turning points in their lives, including the Depression, the bombing of Pearl Harbor, World War II, the rising awareness of civil rights, and the growth of media-driven consumer culture during the postwar boom.

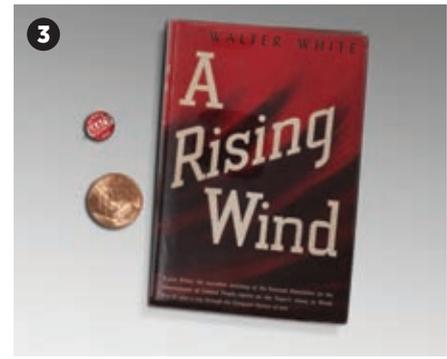
Although this generation’s identity is clearly linked to World War II, the focus of “Our Lives, Our Stories” seeks to restore a wholeness to our understanding of them by allowing people to tell their stories alongside the larger picture of their lives. In the process, their diversity of memories reveals a complex mix of real people who truly helped shape the world we live in today.



COLLECTION MINNESOTA HISTORICAL SOCIETY



MINNEAPOLIS STAR TRIBUNE, COLLECTION MINNESOTA HISTORICAL SOCIETY



IMAGES 3-5 FROM THE EXHIBITION "OUR LIVES, OUR STORIES: AMERICA'S GREATEST GENERATION," 2010. PHOTOS: E.G. SCHEMPF.

1. Farewell to Marines by the Semper Fidelis Club, St. Paul, Minnesota, 1942
2. Fathers in caps and gowns with their children, University Village, St. Paul, Minnesota, 1951
3. "A Rising Wind" (book, 1945); NAACP membership button, 1953; Tuskegee Airmen Congressional Medal, 2006
4. V-mail and other homefront materials, c. 1940s
5. Wicker baby scale and Colgate talcum powder tin, c. 1920s

OUR LIVES, OUR STORIES: AMERICA'S GREATEST GENERATION

Opening ceremonies for "Our Lives, Our Stories: America's Greatest Generation" are Saturday, February 7, at 10 a.m., at the Eastland County Museum.

The museum will be open for five consecutive days weekly, Tuesday through Saturday, during the seven-week period the exhibit is available.

The Cross Timbers Fine Arts Council, Eastland County Museum and the steering committee for the exhibit invite everyone to attend in honor of our veterans. "Our Lives, Our Stories" is a self-guided, interactive exhibit that will feature everything pre-World War II and during the war.

To schedule guided tours for large groups such as school classes and organizational meetings, contact Julie Crouch with the Cross Timbers Fine Arts Council at (254) 965-6190.

"Our Lives, Our Stories: America's Greatest Generation" has been made possible by NEH on the Road, a special initiative of the National Endowment for the Humanities. Originally developed by the Minnesota Historical Society in St. Paul, Minnesota, the exhibition was adapted and is toured by the Mid-America Arts Alliance through the National Endowment for Humanities' NEH on the Road. NEH on the Road offers an exciting opportunity for communities of all sizes to experience some of the best exhibitions funded by the NEH. The Mid-America Arts Alliance was founded in 1972 and is the oldest regional nonprofit arts organization in the United States.

For more information, visit maaa.org or nehontheroad.org.

The Cross Timbers Fine Arts Council, the Eastland County Museum and a steering committee consisting of these two groups and interested citizens have made it possible for this exquisite exhibit to be brought to Eastland County to honor and memorialize the men, women and children who lived and fought during this epic period of America's history.

The event runs January 28 through March 16. Each Saturday will feature a lecture series covering a variety of events relating to that era. The subjects are not limited to the war alone; the exhibition also depicts the women and children on the home front and how they coped with the demands of life at the time. In addition, there will be documentaries and recorded oral histories from the men and women who lived through an extremely trying time.

"I found out about ["Our Lives, Our Stories"] at a Texas Commission on the Arts conference about five years ago," said



RIGHT: Children standing outside a theater, c. 1930.

BELOW: 'How to Shop with Ration Tokens.' Poster created by the Office of Price Administration, c. 1939-1944

OFFICIAL OPA INFORMATION

HOW TO SHOP WITH RATION TOKENS

New System Saves Time, Trouble, Manpower and Paper

ALL **RED** and **BLUE** stamps in War Ration Book 4 are

WORTH 10 POINTS EACH

FIVE **BLUE** stamps become valid beginning Feb. 27: **8A, 8B, 8C, 8D and 8E**

EACH STAMP WORTH 10 POINTS FOR PROCESSED FOODS

THREE **RED** stamps become valid beginning Feb. 27: **8A, 8B and 8C**

New stamps become valid every 2 weeks

EACH STAMP WORTH 10 POINTS FOR MEAT AND FATS

Tear off **ACROSS TOP** of page

RED and **BLUE** TOKENS are WORTH **1 POINT** EACH

RED and **BLUE** TOKENS are used to make **CHANGE** for **RED** and **BLUE** stamps only when purchase is made

Use **RED** Tokens with **RED** Stamps
Use **BLUE** Tokens with **BLUE** Stamps

EXAMPLE:
TOKEN . . . 1 pt.
STAMP . . . 10 pts.
TOTAL . . . 11 pts.

TOKENS REMAIN VALID INDEFINITELY

IMPORTANT!

POINT VALUES of **BROWN** and **GREEN** STAMPS are **NOT** changed

BROWN STAMPS, Y and Z in Book No. 3 Good till Mar. 30, 1944
GREEN STAMPS, K, L and M in Book No. 4 Good till Mar. 30, 1944

RATIONING and PRICE CONTROL mean A FAIR SHARE at A FAIR PRICE



PHOTOS: THIS PAGE FROM THE EXHIBITION 'OUR LIVES, OUR STORIES, AMERICA'S GREATEST GENERATION', 2010. PHOTOS: E.G. SCHEMPF.

1. Postcards, travel map and 1956 tourist pennant
2. U.S.O. promotional pamphlets, 1941
3. Jacks, toy soldiers, and marbles, c. 1920-30s
4. Kitchen artifacts, including early Tupperware tumblers and Betty Crocker's Picture Cook Book, c. 1950-1960

Julie Crouch, executive director of the Cross Timbers Fine Arts Council. “We signed up for it and they put us in the queue. It has taken this long for us to get it. This is a national traveling exhibit, and it stops in places much bigger than Eastland, so it makes it even more special that something of this caliber can make a stop in our area.”

Preparing for the exhibition was not an easy task. The museum board chose to close the museum November 1 through January 27, and open back up January 28, the date of the opening of the exhibit. The museum, a 1920s-era bank building, required a thorough cleaning. Shelves were rearranged, and existing exhibits were moved to make room for the 2,000-square-foot exhibit.

Meetings were held with local civic organizations to plan and prepare for funding, hosts and speakers. Volunteer docents had to be located and trained. The exhibit arrived on a semitruck and had to be unloaded and put together—a monumental task in itself, which required another large group

of volunteers. An advertising committee was formed to make sure the exhibit was well-known throughout the area.

A group of high school juniors attended the CECA Student Leadership Conference in November and chose as their community action project to participate in the exhibit as docents, assisting with the grand opening and doing whatever is necessary to ensure that the exhibit runs smoothly.

Chris Ireland, a professor at Tarleton State University, and his art and digital media class produced a documentary, recording veterans’ memories of their experiences. With the assistance of CTFAC’s Crouch, and Eastland resident and member of the steering committee Jeannie Griffin, the crews covered veterans from Stephenville and Fort Worth, and Eastland and Palo Pinto counties. Commercials and a trailer have been cut from the footage and will be shown at the Majestic Theater in Eastland during the opening ceremonies February 7, and throughout the exhibit. The trailer can be viewed at [youtube.com/watch?v=jW-vgOe1Mqw&feature=youtu.be](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jW-vgOe1Mqw&feature=youtu.be).

CECA Vehicle Auction

Submit your bid now

CECA HAS THREE “RETIRED” VEHICLES that will be auctioned to members through a closed-bid process. These vehicles have a few battle scars and some chipped paint, and they are well broken-in, as you would expect from work vehicles. You may come by the office at 201 W. Wrights Ave. in Comanche to see the vehicles.

Sealed bids can be mailed to: CECA, Attn: Sealed Vehicle Bid, P.O. Box 729, Comanche, TX 76442, or dropped off in person at 201 W. Wrights Ave. in Comanche. In all correspondence, please include the vehicle number you are bidding on and a number where you can be reached.

Questions can be directed to Monty Cunningham at 1-800-915-2533 or (325) 356-2533. Deadline for bids is noon February 17. Bid winners will be notified February 18.

CECA reserves the right to reject any or all bids at the discretion of the board.



Phantom Energy Use Can Add to Your Bill

BETWEEN THE PRICE OF THE PHONE and the cost of the service, a smartphone is a pretty big investment. Don't add to the cost by wasting electricity while you charge it up.

If your phone is plugged into a charger that's plugged into the wall, it's using electricity. If the phone is fully charged and still plugged in, it's still using electricity. And if you unplug your phone but leave the charger plugged into the wall, that charger is still using electricity.

The same is true for nearly every other device that you plug into a charger. Add up the number of those devices in your home, and you'll see that's a lot of potentially wasted energy.

The U.S. Department of Energy estimates that the average home wastes about \$100 a year on “phantom energy” from electronic devices whose chargers remain plugged in when not in use.

Why waste and pay for energy that you're not using? Simply plug chargers and other digital equipment into power strips, and turn off the power strips when you're not using the devices.

ISTOCK.COM | SHARISTOCK



Vehicle No. 2099: 2008 four-wheel drive ¾-ton Chevrolet crew cab flatbed pickup, 6.0 gas engine, automatic transmission, gooseneck plate. Mileage: 142,678.* Minimum bid: \$6,000.



Vehicle No. 399: 2008 four-wheel drive ¾-ton Chevrolet crew cab flatbed pickup, 6.0 gas engine, automatic transmission, aftermarket wraparound bumper, gooseneck plate. Mileage: 151,764.* Minimum bid: \$6,000.



Vehicle No. 899: 2003 four-wheel drive Chevrolet 1500 single cab pickup, 4.3 V6 gas engine, automatic transmission. Mileage: 189,038.* Minimum bid: \$3,500.

* Mileage current as of December 18, 2014, but subject to change, as these are working vehicles



THE POWER OF MEMBERSHIP: OUR COMMITMENT THROUGH ...



Co-op Connections!

AT CECA, we know how difficult it can be when you're faced with expenses due to unexpected medical issues. That's why we offer the Co-op Connections card at no expense to you.

An exciting benefit of the program is the Prescription and Healthy Savings Discount. Using the FREE Co-op Connections card, members can save 10 to 85 percent on prescription drugs at more than 60,000 national and regional stores, including CVS, Walgreens, Walmart and Target. CECA members alone have already saved more than \$88,000 on prescription medications.

In addition, members save 20 to 40 per-

cent on most dental services, including orthodontics, periodontics, and endodontics; 20 to 60 percent on eyewear; 35 to 60 percent on hearing aid prices; 30 to 50 percent on chiropractic diagnostic services and treatments; and 10 to 60 percent on usual charges for MRI, CT and other lab procedures. Visit connections.coop for details and a list of qualified providers.

The Co-op Connections program is just one more advantage to being a member of CECA.

For more information on the program, contact the CECA Member Services Department at memberservices@ceca.coop or 1-800-915-2533.