

Meet Your Cooperative Directors

We are continuing the series that invites you to learn more about each of the nine members who serve on the Woodruff Electric Cooperative Board of Directors. This month, we feature the Board member that represents District 7, W. Wayne Beadles.

MEET YOUR DIRECTOR

In 1974, W. Wayne Beadles began representing District 7 as a member of the Board of Directors for the Cooperative. While serving as a director, he has held positions as Woodruff Electric's board secretary-treasurer and vice-chairman and currently serves as the chairman. He has also served as a member of the Electric Research and Manufacturing Cooperative, Inc. Board of Directors, Federated Rural Electric Insurance Exchange Board of Directors, Tri-County Farmers Association Board of Directors and is actively serving on Today's Power, Inc. Board of Directors.

Wayne resides in a small town in Monroe County with his wife, Margaret. They have a son, a daughter and one grandchild. Wayne and Margaret are active members of the Church of Christ in Clarendon. Wayne is a retired rice and soybean farmer in Monroe County. He continues to have interests in the farming industry today. He is also a retired schoolteacher from the Clarendon School District. Wayne was inducted into the Arkansas Track and Field Hall of Fame in 2013 for his outstanding athletic achievements in the sport.

Wayne has completed all levels of the NRECA Credential Cooperative Director program that requires attendance and demonstrated understanding of the basic competencies in five core courses. He has obtained the Credentialed Cooperative Director Certificate, Board Leadership Certificate and Director Gold Credential.



Guy Davis retires after 32 years with Woodruff Electric



In 1988, Guy Davis began a long time career as a member of the Woodruff Electric family. He was hired as a dispatcher, then transferred to a groundman position after three short months. Guy had previously worked in the iron construction industry traveling the United States working on phone towers and welcomed the opportunity to work closer to home.

Little did he know at the time he began working outside, it was the start of a long-lived career with the Cooperative. Guy worked primarily out of District II in Lee, St. Francis and Cross counties. When needed, however, Guy was always ready and willing to assist crews in other districts— especially with storm restoration efforts.

Recalling his experiences the past 32 years, Guy said, "I've enjoyed the guys I have worked with, especially the young people." He continued, "Employees always learn something from each other's experiences whether they have just started or had been at the Cooperative for many years." Guy spoke about having dedication in his career, "It takes dedication to be a good employee here – dedicated to what you do and being proud of what you do."

Guy stated, "I have enjoyed working for the co-op. You learn to work in different ►

circumstances – hot weather, freezing cold weather and rough storms.” He said working for a co-op requires always being ready to work. “You may be cooking a hamburger and spending time with your family and then work calls – you go,” as he describes always being on call to restore power.

When questioned about plans for retirement, Guy replied, “I don’t want to mention spending more time outdoors because I work outside every day, but doing more

of the fun things outside.” He and his wife, Laurel, plan to travel out west and take the Louis and Clark Expedition route to the northwestern part of the country, but then return home down the Pacific Coast. “I haven’t seen that part of the country in a long time and plan to visit some distant relatives in Arizona and California,” he mentioned. Then, sitting with his arms folded with a big smile and a head nod, Guy concluded “Woodruff has been good to me.”

Annual Meeting Report

The 2020 Annual Meeting of Woodruff Electric was held on July 21st. Re-elected to the cooperative’s board was J. Byron Ponder representing District 5. Other members of the board are: W. Wayne Beadles, J.N. Bickerstaff, Chris Burrow, Jack Caperton III, Jerry Brown, Joe W. Whittenton III, A. B. Thompson Jr. and J.A. Wampler. Michael Swan is the cooperative’s chief executive officer.

The cooperative’s business session was led by the Cooperative Attorney, J. Harmon Smith, who delivered the results of the director’s election. Following the election results, Woodruff Electric’s CEO, Michael Swan, delivered his annual report to the membership. The CEO’s report to the membership included a review of the financial condition of the Cooperative, project highlights in the past year, scholarships awarded to high school students and he emphasized the culture of safety that employees had demonstrated this past year.

Woodruff Electric is a member-owned electric utility. The cooperative is headquartered in Forrest City and serves more than 19,000 homes, farms, businesses and industries in

parts of Cross, Lee, Monroe, Phillips, Prairie, St. Francis and Woodruff counties. The district offices are located in Augusta, Moro, and Barton.

2020 Annual Meeting Prize Winners Announced

Each member who responded to the mail-in balloting was eligible for the prize drawing. The names of 12 winners were drawn, with the first three names drawn being for an electric Masterbuilt® Smoker. Those winners were Patricia King of Forrest City, John Latham of Colt and Frank Wortsell of Lexa. The remaining prizes were energy efficiency gift box sets.

Those winners were:

Gary Hill of Helena

Ashley Hill of Forrest City

Vernon Haycraft of Indian Bay

Michael Creasey of McCrory

Archie Dew of McCrory

O B Fields of Des Arc

Jerry Howton of Palestine

Kirk Martin of Wynne

Deloris Mangold of Wynne



Patricia King



John Latham



Frank Wortsell



Vernon Haycraft and his buddy, Walker



Gary Hill



Jerry Howton



Kirk and Vickie Martin



Archie Dew

Woodruff Electric Holiday Greeting Card Contest

Woodruff Electric is looking for elementary students (K through Fifth grade) to submit a holiday card design.

The winning design will be used for the Official 2020 Woodruff Electric Holiday card! These cards are mailed to friends of Woodruff Electric, Legislators, and businesses across the country! 2019 Winner by Bradley P.

In addition to having his / her artwork featured on this year's Woodruff Electric holiday card, the winning artist will receive a certificate commemorating their achievement as well as a \$50 gift card.

The winning design will also be featured on our website and in the Arkansas Living magazine.

Get your entry form at our website (www.woodruffelectric.com) or pick up one at any of our office locations.

Hurry! The deadline to enter is October 31st, 2020



Woodruff Electric Cooperative Holiday Card Design Contest Rules:

1. All students from K through 5th grade is eligible to participate.
2. Students must attend a private, public or home school in the counties of Woodruff, Cross, Monroe, St. Francis, Lee or Phillips or in the town of Des Arc.
3. Any medium or combination of medium may be used including drawing, crayons, watercolor, oil, acrylic paint, pastel, chalk, etc. Do not use glitter please!
4. Submissions should be on an 8 1/2" x 11" in size in a horizontal (landscape) format.
5. One entry per student. A signed entry form is required.
6. Artwork must be an original creation. Submissions can be in color or in black and white.
7. Greetings may also be included with cover designs, but WECC maintains the right to select the final greeting.
8. Each entry must clearly indicate the student's name, age, grade, teacher and school on the reverse side of the artwork.
9. The winning student's name will appear on the card.
10. Deadline for entries is October 31st, 2020.

Send entry forms and artwork to:

Woodruff Electric Cooperative

Attn: Holiday Greeting Card

P.O. 1619 Forrest City, AR 72336-1619



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