



## 2019 CVEA Meet the Director Candidates

The CVEA Board of Director elections are fast approaching. Ballots will be mailed by April 4, along with candidate biographies and your official annual meeting notice.

To be counted, return ballot envelopes must have a valid signature and be received in the designated post office box by 5 p.m., Tuesday, April 23, 2019.

Candidates have been nominated via the petition process. You, as a CVEA member, will soon have the opportunity to exercise your right to vote. Please exercise this right.

Per CVEA Bylaws, a minimum of 10 percent of the district membership must return their ballots to constitute a valid election. For this reason, even though there is only one candidate for the single open seat in Valdez, the co-op still needs you to vote.

All valid ballots returned by the deadline will be entered to win a \$50 CVEA energy credit.

To learn about the candidates, they were asked to respond to three important questions. The questions are listed here and the candidate responses follow.

### Question 1

What knowledge, skills, and experience will you bring to CVEA's Board of Directors?

### Question 2

What do you feel are the co-op's biggest challenges in the next five years?

### Question 3

How will your knowledge/skills and experience contribute to overcoming the co-op's biggest challenges?



### Copper Basin District Yvette DelaQuito

Yvette is a resident of Copper Center and Lake Louise and works at Northern Adjusters, Inc as a claims adjuster. She has been a member of CVEA for 2.5 years.

#### Question 1

As an owner/operator of Lake Louise Lodge, I have learned how to operate a small business and value the importance of monitoring/managing a budget. I have been an active member of our local com-

munity board since 2009, mainly holding the Treasurer seat. While in this position, I assisted with our community grant-writing and was directly involved with interaction with the Mat-Su Borough governing body while dealing with local community issues as they arise.

#### Question 2

- How do you meet challenges as a small Co-op with the dynamic regulatory environment
- Member relationships and how the Co-op operates to include education on billing practices
- Fluctuation of diesel costs and the impact on the Cooperative
- Reduction of winter diesel generation

#### Question 3

As a self employed small business owner, I have learned how to work together as a team to reach set goals. We generate our own power at our lodge at Lake Louise. We have gained much perspective on the

importance of energy consumption and really how fuel costs effect the overall bottom line. If given the opportunity to serve on the CVEA Board, I will work hard and diligently for the Co-op.



**Copper Basin District  
George Gillman**

George is a resident of Tazlina. He works for Tazlina Department of Transportation. He has been a CVEA member for 26 years.

**Question 1**

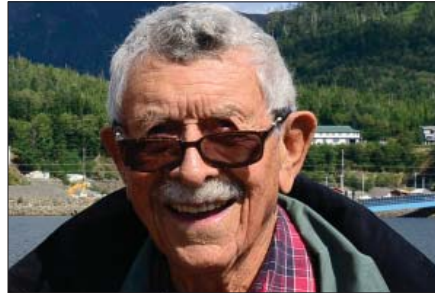
To be exact on what to say, I am not certain. I never sat on any board other than the Copper River Snowmobile Club. But, I believe I am as qualified as anyone on the Board at this time.

**Question 2**

To produce affordable power to a dwindling amount of people in the Copper River Valley. Families are moving out, more than moving in to the Valley. In the 90's, when I moved here, you couldn't find a place to rent, and if a place came up for sale, it was grabbed immediately. Now, there are more and more places for sale and rent than ever before.

**Question 3**

I've owned my own business, rented equipment when I needed, rather than buy, hired people when I knew it was cheaper than have full-time employees, so in closing, I guess I know as much as most of the Board does at this time.



**Copper Basin District  
Fred Williams \*Incumbent**

Fred is a resident of Copper Center and is retired from the Alaska Department of Fish and Game. Fred has been a member of CVEA for 48 years and a Director since 1971.

**Question 1**

During the years that I have been on the board of CVEA, I have acquired a good amount of knowledge and experience as to the responsibilities of being an effective board member. For example, when the transmission line project was being constructed, the board members were very involved. The contractor had no experience in this type of construction nor working in this type of terrain. The Board, at that time, was very helpful to the contractor because several board members had knowledge of terrain and weather conditions. During that period I served as president of the board.

**Question 2**

Our biggest challenge is to produce all our energy needs with renewables. With the Allison project online, about 65 percent of our energy is produced by renewable (hydro). The government may soon require us to produce all of our electric

power needs with renewables.

Right now the best alternative to diesel is hydro, however, we do not have the finances to pay additional construction costs for new projects at this time. A large portion of the cost of Allison was paid for with state grants; the present condition of the state finances precludes any help from the state. Help from the federal government is also unlikely. We will have to maximize our renewable sources to generate maximum electricity and reduce the use of diesel engines.

**Question 3**

Assuming that federal and/or state money will be available sometime in the future, we should continue to look for other hydro sites and investigate new technology for producing clean power. We must have all our ducks in a row for when financing may be available. I believe that the board and state will be up to the challenge. We must be able to construct new, clean power facilities without using the rate structure to pay for all of the bill. I believe that our board can do the job, and I feel I can be effective in this future planning.

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## Meet the Director Candidates

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### Valdez District Dan Stowe \*Incumbent

Dan is a resident of Valdez. He is a retired geological/petroleum engineer. Dan has been a member of CVEA for 29 years and a director since 2001 (with the exception of two terms).

#### Question 1

I am an engineer with a BS degree in Geological/Petroleum Engineering. I am recently retired after 43 years as a project engineer and project manager with various oil companies throughout the world. I am a past and current CVEA Director (2001-2004, 2010-present) as well as a Certified Cooperative Director. Having lived and worked in Valdez for over 29 years, I am well versed in what the community of Valdez needs from their electric co-op, and wish to continue working with CVEA to achieve those goals.

#### Question 2

CVEA and the board worked diligently for over five years to complete the final construction and start-up of the Allison Creek Hydro Project. I was behind this project all the way, and it is paying great dividends for us all. I believe there are other future possibilities: other potential hydro sites, a natural gas line, a tie-in to the Railbelt, and obtaining grants toward development of alternative sources

of energy. As a board member, I will encourage investigation into the economics of all potential possibilities, and I am willing to listen to all suggestions from members.

#### Question 3

As a resident of Valdez for over 29 years, I am vitally interested in the future of our community and making it more affordable for all residents. I will work diligently to assure that CVEA continues investigation into all potential sources for alternative energy, and that the board remains constantly aware of any new state and federal grants that may be available for development of alternative sources of energy.

Having served on the board for over 12 years, I am not only acquainted with all current board members, I am also knowledgeable with how the board operates. I can and will work diligently to improve reliability while at the same time providing the lowest possible rates to all of our customers. ■

#### Want Your Vote to Count?

When you vote on CVEA business, such as the board election coming up in April, you are required to sign the ballot envelope. If the signature does not match the signature on the membership card on file with CVEA, the vote cannot be counted.

For residential customers, if you have changed marital status, or names, please contact CVEA to make sure those changes are reflected on your signature card. If you receive a card in the mail, please complete and bring to your local CVEA office or mail it in.

Organizations, businesses, and associations usually have board members who are authorized to transact business for the group. The person who signs the election envelope must be an authorized signer on the account.

If your board of directors or executive officer has changed in the past year, then it is time to update your CVEA membership card.

Please update your information as soon as possible. If you have questions or are unsure what is on your residential or business signature card, please stop by either office or call 822-3211 in Glennallen or 835-4301 in Valdez.

