

## CVEA's 2011 Employee Service Awards, Look Who's Working Hard For You

Copper Valley Electric employs 41
Alaskans, all of whom live and work in the communities we serve. We are proud of our employees and the work each one does to help fulfill CVEA's mission to provide exceptional customer service through safe, reliable, cost-effective electric service as well as CVEA's vision to reduce or completely eliminate our dependence on fossil fuel for power generation. Each year, CVEA recognizes employees with extended years of loyal and dedicated service to the Cooperative. We invite you to join us in congratulating them on their accomplishment.



Zena Disney
Generation Admin
5 Years of Service

Zena Disney, CVEA's Power Generation Admin, is celebrating five years of service with CVEA. Originally from Marshall, Alaska, Zena has lived in Valdez for 11 years. She lives with her husband Donald, four children, their dogs Pepsi and Smudge and cat Mouzer.

In her spare time Zena enjoys spend-

ing time with her husband and kids cooking, hiking, camping, geocaching, fishing and berry picking.

Zena's favorite things about working at CVEA are the diversity of the job and the people she works with.

According to Aaron Remer, CVEA Manager of Power Generation, "Zena is a valuable employee and always does her job well. Zena is a pleasure to work with and approaches each day with a positive attitude and a willingness to accept new responsibilities. Zena takes her responsibilities seriously to ensure every product meets and exceeds expectations."



Barbara Eaton
Office Manager
5 Years of Service

Barb Eaton is celebrating five years of service with CVEA. Barb came to the Copper Basin five years ago after packing up her Ford Ranger and sailboat and leaving LaConner, Washington. She caught the ferry out of Bellingham and headed to Alaska opening a new chapter in her life. In the remote stillness of the area, she realized that this was where she was meant to be.

Barb is currently the Office Manager for CVEA and says her favorite thing about working at CVEA is "working with the talented, dedicated team of people I have the opportunity to work with every-day."

Barb has a son named Aaron and a daughter named Jessie, who both currently reside in Anacortes, Washington. In August 2009, Barb married Copper Center local, John Eaton.

In her spare time Barb enjoys gardening and is nearly finished with their new greenhouse that will be operational this spring. She enjoys reading and spending time at their remote cabin on Tom Lake. Barb is currently preparing to hike the Chilkoot Trail in July.

Jaime Matthews says, "As the Office Manager Barb oversees the accounting department, employee benefits, and day to day management of the office. Barb makes an individual commitment to communicate and work together as a team. Her positive attitude has made a big difference in a small working environment. I admire her commitment to learn more regardless of the effort it takes."

Barb offers the following quote by Ernest Holmes, "Declare your freedom. Know that no matter what others may say, think or do, you are a success now, and nothing can hinder you from accomplishing your good. All the power of the universe is with you. Feel it, know it, and then act as though it were true."

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## Cindy Butherus Transmission & Distribution Admin 10 Years of Service

Cindy Butherus has worked at CVEA for ten years. She is currently the Transmission and Distribution Admin. Prior to CVEA, Cindy worked as an admin at Prince William Sound Community College and at Nationwide Insurance.

When not at work, Cindy enjoys camping, fishing, and kayaking with her husband Randy. She also enjoys cooking, swimming and watching the Food Network and Home and Garden Channels.

Cindy says she "enjoys working with the wonderful group of coworkers that she is blessed to work with."

Cindy's supervisor, Chris Botulinski comments, "I have worked with Cindy going on nine years now and would say she excels at all of her duties and is always receptive to taking on new responsibilities or helping out others when needed. Cindy is a valuable asset to CVEA, and I am very happy to personally and professionally congratulate her for this ten-year milestone." When asked for a quote, Cindy provided, "Your attitude almost always determines your altitude in life."



## Terry Patrick Valdez Plant Operator 10 Years of Service

Terry Patrick, a Plant Operator in Valdez, celebrates ten years of service with CVEA. According to John Hunter, CVEA Plant Manager, "Over the years, Terry has become an excellent Operator. He does the majority of welding in the Valdez plants, and has learned a great deal since he came to work for CVEA. Terry is always helpful, and does an excellent job for the Cooperative. I look forward to many years of working with him."



Mary Ellen Bedrick
Revenue Accountant
20 Years of Service

Mary Ellen Bedrick, CVEA's Revenue Accountant, came to work for CVEA in 1991, shortly after moving to the Copper Basin 22 years ago. Mary Ellen worked as the CVEA Customer Service Representative for seven years before becoming the Revenue Accountant. Prior to CVEA, Mary Ellen worked as a Title Examiner for Fidelity Title in Winter Park, Florida, and at Gakona Lodge.

Mary Ellen and her husband Don have been building a new house for the past few years and enjoy hiking together, with their dogs Mick and Cody. She also enjoys reading and visiting with family and friends. Mary Ellen's daughter Aryn, and her husband David along with her granddaughter Melea, live in Minnesota. She has a second granddaughter on the way. When asked what her favorite thing is about working for CVEA, she responded by saying, "we have a great team at CVEA. There is always something new to learn; it's never dull or boring."

According to Mary Ellen's supervisor, Jaime Matthews, "Sam Walton once said the goal as a company is to have customer service that is not just the best, but legendary. Mary Ellen's expertise over the last 20 years has led CVEA in meeting the overall mission 'to provide exceptional customer service'. Mary Ellen does an excellent job with customers, billing, and capital credits at CVEA."

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