

Contents

Youth Tour Edition

- Three Generations.....1-2
- 2019 Youth Tour Winners.....2
- Head East on Youth Tour...3-4

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Mission Statement

To safely provide our member-owners with reliable electric service, superior customer service, and practical energy solutions, all at reasonable prices.

Three Generations of Youth Tours

In 1967, Woodlawn High School Junior, Becky Eubank, daughter of Carwin and Lura Eubank, participated in the Tri-County Electric Cooperative Youth Tour Essay Contest, offering students a free trip to Washington D.C.

Eubank was chosen along with over 1,000 other students around the country that visited the Nation's Capitol that year.

Eubank recalled, "The Youth Tour trip was well-planned. We were busy from the moment we left until the time that we returned home. We were able to meet President Lyndon B. Johnson, and he let his dogs out on the White House lawn for us to play with."

The students were also addressed by Billy Graham while they were on the tour.

Young Becky Eubank, now Becky Willoughby, laid the foundation for three generations of Youth Tour participants that would follow in her footsteps.

Tisha Willoughby, daughter of Ken and Becky (Eubank) Willoughby of Woodlawn, IL, grew up hearing about her mother's Youth Tour experience. She said, "Mom had shared her

Youth Tour stories with me all my life, and I knew that I wanted to go on the trip too." In 1989, Tisha was one of Tri-County Electric Cooperative's Youth Tour winners.

Tisha reflected upon the awe she felt when the Youth Tour bus let them off at Gettysburg.

Tisha is now a local Kindergarten teacher. Her Youth Tour experience inspired her to create an annual Presidential program that her students present to the school and their community. She enjoys sharing her trip memories of visiting the Lincoln and Washington Memorials, George Washington's Home Mount Vernon, and the White House. *Continued Page 2*

Woodlawn Girl Wins Essay Contest, Washington Trip



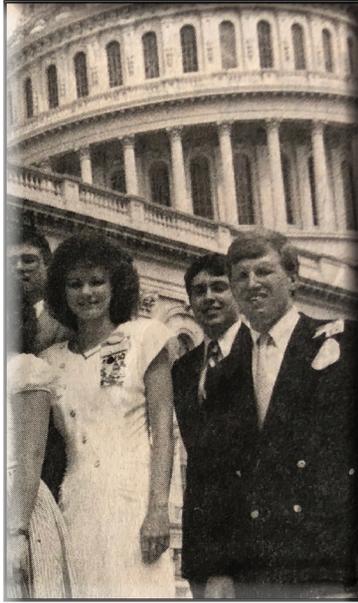
1967 Youth Tour Winner Becky Eubank (center) pictured with parents Lura (left) and Carwin (right) Eubank.

Continued from Page 1

After spending a week with their peers on Youth Tour, students return with a better understanding of our government and cooperatives. They also come home with newly gained leadership skills and friendships.

Tisha stated, "Youth Tour was a life-changing experience. I made an abundance of life-long friendships on the trip. One of them was even a bridesmaid in my wedding."

After hearing the stories of his grandmother and mother, Rhett Ellis, son of Rob and Tisha (Willoughby) Ellis of Woodlawn, IL, knew he wanted to carry on the tradition. Rhett has been chosen as one of Tri-County Electric Cooperative's 2019 Youth



Tisha (Willoughby) Ellis (left) 1989 Youth Tour Winner



Front Left: 1967 Youth Tour Winner Becky (Eubank) Willoughby; Front Right: 1989 Youth Tour Winner Tisha (Willoughby) Ellis, and (back) 2019 Youth Tour Winner Rhett Ellis

to Washington winners, making him the third generation in his family to participate.

Rhett is a High Honor Roll student at Woodlawn High School, FFA (Future Farmers of America) President and Class Treasurer. He holds memberships in the National Honor Society Expeditions Club, FCA (Fellowship of Christian Athletes), FBLA (Future Business Leaders of America) and Youth and Government.

Salem Community High School Student Dusk Donoho, daughter of Matt & Kendra Donoho, has also been chosen as one of the 2019 Youth to Washington winners. Dusk is a member of the National Honor Society, Peer Helpers, Student Council, Yearbook and Theatre.

We know that Rhett, just as his family before, and Dusk will represent your cooperative well in Springfield, IL and Washington D.C.

2019 Youth Tour Winners

On April 3rd, 2019, Youth Tour Winners Rhett Ellis, Dusk Donoho, and (alternate) Brittany Phillips will attend Youth Day in Springfield, IL, where they will visit the Capitol and meet their legislators. In June, your cooperative's Youth Tour Winners will travel to Washington D.C.



Rhett Ellis
Woodlawn High School

*Parents:
Rob & Tisha Ellis*



Dusk Donoho
Salem Community High School

*Parents:
Matt & Kendra Donoho*

Cooperative offices will be closed on Friday, April 19th in observance of Good Friday.



Head East on “Youth” Tour

Rock music fans alike remember *Head East*, famous for their chart topping hits, “Never Been Any Reason” and “Love Me Tonight”, but few know that before they toured the nation, they headed East to tour Washington D.C. on the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NRECA) Youth Tour.

In 1966, a bright gentleman from Woodlawn High School named Steve Huston was selected as the Youth to Washington Trip winner to represent Tri-County Electric Cooperative. That June, Huston joined 50 other students on a road trip from Southern Illinois to Washington D.C. for the experience of a lifetime.

During the twelve hour bus ride, Huston made friends with Clinton County Electric Cooperative’s Youth Tour student, Roger Boyd. On the trip, Boyd and Huston talked about their passion for playing music and their mutual dream of one day being signed by their favorite recording label, A&M Records, which had signed artists such as .38 Special, Cat Stevens, The Carpenters, and Peter Frampton.

The two remained friends and started a band originally known as TimeAtions, now *Head East*. After high school, the band moved to Champaign, IL, which embodied a vibrant music scene, ideal for a thriving band. At the time, band members consisted of brothers Roger and Larry Boyd, Steve Huston, John Schlitt, and Dan Piper.

Larry Boyd also attended Youth Tour in 1968 for Clinton County Electric Cooperative, making a total of three *Head East*, Youth Tour students. Larry played for the band in their earlier years, and later returned as Road Manager.

In Huston’s recently released book *Head East: A Labor of Love*, he stated, “Roger and I have both said many times that *Head East* was basically born under the cherry blossoms

in Washington D.C., that night on a hill by the river,” referring to their time on the Youth Tour trip.

A must-read for *Head East* fans, *Head East: A Labor of Love* is a collection of stories that highlight life as a member of a successful American rock band in the 1970s, life on the road, and the love of music that drove local musicians to success. His book can be purchased at bookstores

1966 Tri-County Electric Cooperative Winner



Steve Huston,
*Original drummer/
vocals for Head East
(left) pictured with
TCEC Director of
Member Services
Andy Bird*

1966 Clinton Co. Electric Cooperative Winner



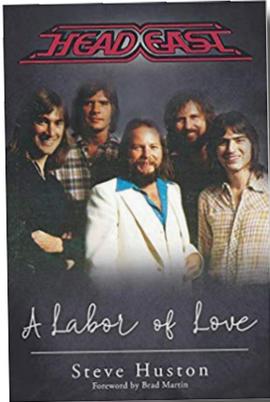
Roger Boyd,
*Original keyboard/
vocals for Head East
(right) pictured
with Tom Moore,
Association of Illinois
Electric Cooperatives*

1967 Clinton Co. Electric Cooperative Winner



Larry Boyd,
*Road Manager for
Head East (right)
pictured with Jerry
L. Campbell from the
Association of Illinois
Electric Cooperatives*

everywhere, or online at the Apple iBooks Store, Amazon, or Barnes and Noble. More information about Huston and his latest release can be found online at:
www.head-east-stevehuston.com.



In 1974, *Head East* released their first album “Flat As A Pancake” on their own label, Pyramid Records. Their music gained traction across radio stations and sold enough albums to catch the attention of - you guessed it - A&M Records. A&M Records rereleased “Flat As a Pancake” on their label in 1975.

During Huston’s time as an original member of *Head East*, they were signed to A&M Records of Los Angeles, awarded gold records, toured across North America, and played for sold out Major League Baseball and NFL Football stadiums.

After retiring from the band in the 80’s, Huston worked in a recording studio owned by a good friend, and was later named Chief Engineer.

Huston finished his undergraduate degree at Thomas Edison State University in Trenton, New Jersey. He further continued his education and completed his graduate degree at the University of London in England.

While working as Chief Engineer in a recording studio in Houston, Texas where he relocated and now resides, he was offered and accepted a position in a highly respected private college known as the Art Institute of Houston, where he taught Audio Production in their



Summer Jam ‘77 at Busch Stadium - Being the “favorite sons of St. Louis” they were allowed to use the Cardinals locker room for a dressing room.

state of the art recording studio for over 20 years.

Huston returned to school once more to acquire a Master’s Degree in Audio Production from Goddard College in Vermont.

Huston is a captivating storyteller with a humble, yet humorous personality. As genuine as they come, he tips his hat to the Midwest stating, “I grew up out in the country in Southern Illinois and am grateful that I did; living among good people taught me how to be a good person.”



L to R: Mike Somerville, John Schlitt, Roger Boyd. Steve Huston, and Dan Birney

Roger Boyd is the sole remaining original band member still playing for Head East. The band’s official website states that, “he will continue to rock as long as he can lift his synthesizer over his head and play.” Roger Boyd lives on a farm outside of Sparta, IL, and Larry Boyd resides in Carlyle, IL.

To celebrate their 50th Anniversary, *Head East* fans will have the opportunity to see original band members John Schlitt, Steve Huston, Mike Somerville, and Roger Boyd, who are performing together for the first time since 1980. For a list of tour dates, visit:

www.head-east.com.