One of the “best days ever:” New GM Randy Grove celebrates his daughter Lindsey’s graduation with a doctorate in physical therapy from Elon University. (left to right) Randy’s mom Patty, Randy, Lindsey, wife Darla, and dad Gary.

It’s All About Family: Introducing Randy Grove

Our new General Manager Randy Grove lights up when he talks about his family, and the influence his parents have been on his life. “I was molded by my parents. My dad is a hard-working, proud man; firm, but fair. He expected a lot out of my siblings and me. The values he instilled in us are the values I bring with me every day to Central Lincoln. I’m driven to get results and I take pride in the work we do for our customers.”

Our records don’t indicate where general managers throughout our history grew up, but we believe Randy is our first ‘homegrown’ GM. Before he graduated from Toledo High School in 1981, he dreamed of being a builder someday: “Our construction class built two houses in Toledo. I helped build and wire the houses, and even installed a solar energy system,” he smiles with pride. “That’s why I went to college to study energy management – renewable energy, conservation, and energy efficiency.” After graduation, Randy came back to the Central Coast to work at Central Lincoln, analyzing customers’ homes and buildings, and finding efficient ways for them to save energy.

After working in energy services, “I wanted a new challenge,” he says. “And thanks to some great mentorship, and my skills in math, particularly trigonometry, I became a distribution and transmission line designer. I’ve designed everything from a service to a single home to a high voltage transmission line that serves thousands of our customers.”

In 1999, Randy was given the opportunity to become an operations manager. "It's official; I retired March 1st after working nearly 34 years for Central Lincoln. It's an excellent place to work! I will miss interacting with the dedicated board members and staff who constantly strive to exceed customer expectations and to keep rates as low as possible. However, I'm looking forward to retirement as I love spending time with my beautiful wife, Karen, my family and especially our amazing grandsons. Catching up with old friends will also be a priority. Karen and I love traveling, hiking, camping, spending time in Bend and now, I can fish any day of the week!"
supervisor. The lessons he learned from his dad echoed: “It was a challenge, supervising a diverse group of people, but rewarding as well. I really value the time I spent in Operations. It was truly an education in supervision and leadership. Not to mention, I learned how to operate the electrical system that I helped design!”

In 2014 Randy was promoted to Operations Manager of the entire District and in 2016 became the Director of Engineering and Operations. “It was exciting to once again be closely involved with Engineering. Being in charge of both Engineering and Operations was a great opportunity to break down some barriers and really come together as a team.”

In January, after a wide search, and interviewing multiple candidates, Central Lincoln’s Board unanimously and enthusiastically chose Randy Grove to be Central Lincoln’s new GM. “I’d like to thank the Board for this opportunity, and my coworkers who encouraged and supported me.” he says. “This is truly an honor.”

When temperatures drop to the low 30’s or even colder, heating systems run almost constantly to keep up. That could mean an electric bill that’s a bit of a shock this month or next. If you’d like to know how your electricity use is tallying, go to SmartHub from our website clpud.org, or use the SmartHub app (available from the App Store or Google Play) and click on “MyUsage.” (If you haven’t yet signed up for SmartHub, you’ll need your account number – it’s on your bill – and computer or smart phone access.)

As part of the first ever national Drive Electric Earth Day event, Toyota of Newport is graciously hosting a wide variety of electric vehicles (EVs), including Chevy, Ford, Honda, Kia, Nissan, Solo, Tesla, Toyota and more – 100% electric cars, as well as plug-in electric-gasoline hybrids, for anyone who’s interested in an electric experience – from those who are just curious, to drivers considering leasing or buying.

Join us Sunday, April 14, from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at Toyota of Newport at 3234 Highway 101 in South Beach. EV owners and salespeople will be there to answer questions and provide walk-throughs and test drives in a fun, no-pressure environment. Food will be served, and Central Lincoln will be giving away complementary copies of Electric Car Insider’s EV Buyers Guide to those taking a test drive. Come see, drive, and learn about the biggest trend in transportation—driving electric!