



BARC Offices Closed for Holiday

BARC's offices will be closed Friday, July 4, in observance of Independence Day. If you should experience a power outage or broadband outage, we will have staff available to respond. Outages can be reported by contacting our after-hours number: 800-846-2272.

BARC wishes everyone a safe and happy July Fourth holiday!

Digital Delivery of August Edition

Please Note: For the month of August, *Cooperative Living* will be delivered electronically due to rising postage and printing costs. Check your inboxes in early August for the latest news about BARC.

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Office Hours: M-F, 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m.
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Come join us on Facebook
facebook.com/BARCElectricCooperative



Chief Executive Officer
Bill Buchanan

Local Page Editor
Amanda Cunningham

BARC Electric Cooperative is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

Electric Cooperatives Announce Scholarship Recipients

The Virginia, Maryland & Delaware Association of Electric Cooperatives and its Education Scholarship Foundation are proud to announce that \$124,500 in college scholarships were recently awarded to 64 deserving high school students for the 2024-25 school year. Recipients' parents must live in areas served by electric cooperatives in the three-state region. Students receiving scholarships in BARC Electric Cooperative's service area are: Haylie Hite, Hannah Meyerhoeffer and Grace Fleshman.

"Electric cooperatives are guided by the 7 Cooperative Principles," says BARC CEO Bill Buchanan. "The fifth principle is Education, Training and Information. These scholarships are evidence of our commitment to support, train, educate and empower the next generation of electric cooperative leaders. Assisting well-deserving students pursue higher education or learn a skill or trade helps strengthen our communities."

Scholarship recipients are selected through a competitive screening process considering financial need (40%), academic achievement (20%), and community involvement and personal history (20%). Applicants must be graduating high school or homeschooled seniors during the year in which they apply. They must also provide proof of their acceptance into a postsecondary education institution or program. Scholarships may be used to pay for tuition, fees and books.

Haylie Hite

High School: Rockbridge County High School
College: Bridgewater College

"I'm so grateful for this scholarship. It will help to relieve the financial burden of college and allow me to focus on learning more about my passion, environmental science, at Bridgewater College."



Hannah Meyerhoeffer

High School: Highland County High School
College: Averett University

"I am honored to be a recipient of the Worth M. Hudson Scholarship. I will be attending Averett University this fall to be a part of the equestrian program. This scholarship will help me achieve my goals in college and graduate with a degree in the field of Equine Business Management. I plan on making a difference in this world, and this scholarship will help me achieve my college goals and earn my degree. After completing college, I hope to continue to share this ambition with many more. With the goal of one day opening up my own stables, I hope to use my talents by working with others on a broader spectrum."



Grace Fleshman

High School: Rockbridge County High School
College: James Madison University

"I am honored to receive the VMDAEC Bill Sherrod Scholarship. Earning this scholarship will allow me to concentrate on my studies during college, by providing me with additional funds so I am able to get involved at James Madison University in the fall. Participating in activities related to my Media Arts and Design major will help me gain experience in the journalism field, and this scholarship will enable me to focus on extracurriculars instead of my college tuition financial burden."



BARC Electric Cooperative Annual Meeting July 16

As we announced in the June 2025 *Cooperative Living* magazine, BARC will hold its 2025

Annual Meeting on Wednesday, July 16 at 2 p.m. The meeting will take place at the Lexington office located at 1972 Big Spring, Lexington, Va., in the solar classroom.

If you are unable to attend the Annual Meeting, you may return a signed proxy, found on the back cover of this issue of *Cooperative Living* magazine. Members returning a signed proxy prior to the meeting will be eligible to participate in a prize drawing for \$150 in free electricity.

On May 19, 2025, a district meeting was held in District 1. On May 23, 2025, a district meeting was held in District 5. The purpose of these meetings was to select nominees to serve on the board of directors for a period of three years.

Listed below are the names of the nominees from their respective districts whose names will appear on the official ballot. Members may make additional nominations from the floor at the Annual Meeting.

District 1 – Michael Sandridge
District 5 – Kae Zulager

An additional agenda item: Approve a bylaw amendment that designates broadband services as a patronage-based service for BARC Electric Cooperative members.

Bylaws Pertaining to Election of Directors

Article IV, Section 4.5: Director Elections.

Not less than seven days before an Annual Member Meeting or a Special Member Meeting at which Directors are to be elected, the Secretary of the Cooperative shall be responsible for mailing to each Member a list of the candidates selected at all District Meetings, the names to be arranged by districts. This list may be included with the notice of the meeting. At the meeting the Secretary of the Cooperative shall place in nomination the names of the official candidates of each district.

Additional nominations for Director for a particular district may be made from the floor. Election of the Directors shall be by printed or mimeographed ballot. The ballots shall list the candidates selected at the District Meetings, the names to be arranged by districts. A candidate nominated from the floor of the

meeting may be voted for by writing in the name of the official candidate of the particular district. Each Member of the Cooperative present at the meeting in person or by proxy shall be entitled to vote for one candidate from each district. The candidate from each district receiving the highest number of votes at the meeting shall be considered elected as Director.

Article IV, Section 4.6: Director Terms. A Director's term is three (3) years ("Director Term"). The Cooperative shall stagger Director Terms by dividing the total number of authorized Directors into groups of approximately equal number and members will annually elect an approximately equal number of Directors. Decreasing the number of Directors or length of Director Terms may not shorten an incumbent Director's Director Term. Despite the expiration of a Director Term, the Director continues to serve until a new Director is elected, or until the number of Directors is decreased. Unless otherwise provided in these Bylaws, the Director Term of a Director filling a vacant Director's position is the remaining unexpired Director Term of the vacant Director's position.

In a recent NPS Customer Survey BARC CONNECTS

SCORED A 98 IN CUSTOMER SATISFACTION!

"excellent service and dependability"

"great company, nice people"



GET CONNECTED TODAY!

800-846-2272 • BARCCONNECTS.NET

BARC Connects
FIBER BROADBAND

BARC Communities

Ford to Serve BARC Members

Jeff Ford has been appointed to serve on the BARC Electric Cooperative Board of Directors and will represent District 6, located in Bath County.

Born and raised in Bath County, Ford served in the hospitality industry for 35 years and the past eight years in development with the University of Virginia Athletic Foundation.

“I am honored to serve on the board of directors to represent the members and communities of District 6 and BARC Electric Cooperative,” says Ford on his newly elected position.

For the past 17 years, Ford and his wife, Christie, have owned Valley Supermarket IGA in Mitchelltown. This is where he spends most of his “retirement” time. Currently chairman of the Bath County Airport Authority, Ford has served on several boards in Bath County, including the Economic Development Authority and Planning Commission. He enjoys the outdoors, traveling whenever possible, and spending time with his three children and four grandchildren.



Congratulations to BARC Connects' Billy Reid: Manager of the Year

BARC Connects is thrilled to continue its celebration of outstanding customer service recognition. Broadband Director Billy Reid was recently named Manager of the Year by the Bath County Chamber of Commerce.

Throughout the year, Reid has led by example and consistently goes above and beyond to ensure that customers and their broadband experience are prioritized.

Please join us in congratulating Billy Reid and the BARC Connects team on this outstanding achievement!

Set-up your business broadband account with Billy today: 1-800-846-2272.

BARC Linemen Compete in 21st Gaff-n-Go Rodeo

BARC celebrated the 21st anniversary of the Gaff-n-Go Rodeo by showcasing safety skills and the hard work of utility linemen. This event is hosted by the Virginia, Maryland & Delaware Association of Electric Cooperatives and was the largest ever with more than 350 competitors registered to compete from 12 states as far away as Hawaii.

BARC sent a team of apprentices to compete: Quinton Gamble, Tanner

Buchanan and Derek Smith. This was Tanner Buchanan's first competition, and he noted how this opportunity was beneficial to lineworkers.

“Not only was having the opportunity to compete fun, but we also got to practice the cooperative value of education and training. As apprentices, we got to make new connections, learn from those people, and practice our skills in the meantime,” Buchanan says. “I'd say that was the biggest win of the rodeo — getting to grow our network of people well educated in the industry and have them as a resource to learn from both now and in the future.”

BARC also provided several journeymen to help serve as judges for the competition. Cody O'Neill, a journeyman for BARC, has competed in years prior, but this was his first year volunteering his time as a judge. “Serving as a judge at



the Gaff-n-Go Rodeo was more than just evaluating others — it reaffirmed the high standards we all work toward,” O'Neill says. “It brings awareness to the safety practices that protect our lives every day and is a good reminder that I hold myself to the same level every day on the line.”

BARC Electric Cooperative CEO Bill Buchanan says, “Our line crews persevere through dangerous conditions every day safely to serve our communities. The Gaff-n-Go Rodeo helps celebrate and honor these safety skills and the importance of teamwork, dedication and hard work.”



Consolidated Balance Sheets – BARC Electric Cooperative and Subsidiaries

ASSETS

Plant

Utility plant	\$188,034,321
Less accumulated provision for depreciation and amortization	(44,492,552)
	143,541,769

Other property and investments

Nonutility property, net	10,616,646
Investments in associated organizations	11,013,451
	21,630,097

Current Assets

Cash and cash equivalents	407,204
Accounts receivable, net	5,779,029
Current portion of notes receivable	172,778
Materials and supplies	5,999,516
Other current assets	335,812
	12,694,339

Noncurrent Assets

Notes receivable	1,805,551
Deferred charges and regulatory assets	1,042,823
Deferred income taxes	1,494,224
	4,342,598
	<u>\$182,208,803</u>

EQUITIES AND LIABILITIES

Equities

Patronage capital	\$34,543,355
Other equities	2,235,875
Memberships	49,000
	36,828,230

Long-term Debt	116,605,942
Long-term Lines of Credit	7,422,500
Long-term Portion of Finance Leases	1,854,414
	\$125,882,856

Current Liabilities

Accounts payable	2,958,683
Other current and accrued liabilities	2,075,966
Current portion of long-term debt	4,748,983
Current portion of finance leases	480,694
Lines of credit	7,423,500
Consumer deposits	879,897
	18,567,723

Deferred Credits and Regulatory Liabilities	929,994
	<u>\$182,208,803</u>

Consolidated Statement of Operations

Operating revenues	\$35,999,150
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Operating Expenses

Cost of power	15,250,827
Cost of sales	681,204
Transmission	60,937
Distribution - operation	1,946,631
Distribution - maintenance	3,537,280
Consumer accounts	303,431
Customer service and informational	49,779
Administrative and general	5,147,481
Depreciation and amortization	6,044,732
Interest on long-term debt	3,545,797
Interest - other	1,140,698
Other	3,893
	37,712,690

Operating Loss Before Patronage Allocations	(1,713,540)
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Patronage Allocations

Generation and transmission	123,304
Other	153,643
	276,947

Net Operating Margins (Loss)	(1,436,593)
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Nonoperating Income (Expense)

Gain on sale of assets, net	7,497
Interest and dividend income	101,790
Other	14,347
Income taxes - deferred	407,000
	530,634

Net Margins	<u>(\$905,959)</u>
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Committed to Safety and Reliability

Some member services between the Warm Springs and Hot Springs substations were recently exposed to overvoltage events in the last year. Both instances occurred when a tree outside of the BARC Electric-maintained right-of-way toppled onto the 46-kV transmission line, also affecting the 12.5-kV distribution line used to deliver power to members in the area.

The first event was caused by a dead ash tree from well outside the right-of-way that fell due to high winds. The second event involved a live oak tree outside the right-of-way that fell during heavy rain. When the 46-kV line made contact with the 12.5-kV line, a higher-than-normal voltage briefly occurred on the distribution system, long enough to likely cause electronic equipment and circuit boards to fail. BARC's overvoltage-protection devices are designed for short overvoltage events, such as lightning strikes or switching surges that last less than one hundred milliseconds (0.1 seconds).

When the system voltage exceeds a pre-determined value, the protective equipment closes a path to ground in the attempt to divert the energy to ground and lower the system voltage to near zero. During an event like this, the fault current exceeds the equipment's capabilities. That causes the BARC equipment to fail in the open position, as designed, so a fault to ground does not persist; this is why you may see a blink during a lightning storm instead of an outage. This equipment is designed for short-term events.

The BARC Engineering and Operations team consulted with other utilities and consultant firms to identify a solution designed to mitigate the high-voltage event utilizing equipment normally found in an electric substation. Unfortunately, this type of equipment is not readily available off-the-shelf, and there will be a significant delay before these components are received and installed by BARC.

In the meantime, BARC has identified a temporarily solution to prevent contact between the energized transmission and distribution lines.

Year Ending December 31, 2024