



ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC

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OFFICE HOURS
Monday–Friday 8 a.m.–5 p.m.

DRIVE-THRU
Monday–Friday, 7:30 a.m.–5 p.m.

FOR INFORMATION, CALL
1-866 OUR COOP (687-2667)

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FOR OUTAGES, CALL
1-866 COOP OUT (266-7688)

BOARD OF TRUSTEES
Norris R. Fowler Jr., *Chairman, Union County*
Anita Whitney, *Vice Chairman, Union County*
DeCole P. Gallman, *Secretary, Union County*
Bobby L. Foster, *Spartanburg County*
E. Dewitt McCraw, *Cherokee County*
Kevin Moss, *Spartanburg County*
Mark Patterson, *Cherokee County*
Bill Peeler, *Cherokee County*
R. Wayne West, *Spartanburg County*

PRESIDENT & CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER
Terry W. Mallard

Your cooperative is committed to the provision of safe, reliable, and reasonably priced electricity and other energy related services while improving the communities we serve.

CO-OP NEWS EDITOR
Kasey Carnley



A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative

Foster has his eyes on the horizon

BOBBY FOSTER, one of the BREC board members from Spartanburg, only has one focus for his service on the board. He believes a board’s purpose—and his—is to look to the future for the cooperative.

Elected in July 2012, Foster is just shy of his ten-year service mark, which is still the shortest time of service of the elected members. In these years, he has used his time wisely, putting all his efforts on where the cooperative is going in the years ahead.

“The most pivotal decisions have been the toughest, but they involved the direction of the cooperative,” Foster says.

“The first was the challenge to find the correct leader for getting us where we want to be,” he says, referring to the hiring of Terry Mallard as CEO, who came aboard in 2016. “The second was making the decision to build one central place that would help us do what we do more efficiently and effectively.” BREC is building a new logistical and operations center on Webber Road in Cowpens.

“Those were the most difficult, but by far most sound,” he says. “They are fantastic decisions.”

Foster may have the shortest tenure, but he has had a long experience with Broad River Electric.



Bobby Foster has served as a BREC board member for almost 10 years.

“My parents were on the line,” he says, “and I became a member in 1994. My experience of the co-op has changed since becoming a member of the Board of Trustees. Before I became a board member, utilities were something I thought I understood, but really didn’t,” he says, adding, “It’s learning where it all comes from and how it works together.”

Knowledge aside, Foster takes his seat seriously, saying, “I always keep in my mind that I work for members—the owners—and I have a responsibility to guide this cooperative as we acquire power and distribute that to member’s homes and businesses.”

SAVE THE DATE

Broad River Electric Cooperative 2022 Annual Meeting

April 28

Drive-thru registration and voting April 26–27
BREC Operations Center
811 Hamrick Street, Gaffney

Broad River Electric employees will guide you to the registration lanes where you will present your registration card and ID, receive a ballot and cast your vote.

Trustees will be elected from the following districts:

- ▶ Union District
- ▶ Spartanburg District
- ▶ Cherokee District

Look for more details in upcoming issues of *South Carolina Living*.



KASEY CARNLEY

BREC receives award for charitable work

DEAN WYATT (above, left) of the Marine Corps League Detachment 1194, the Broad River Leathernecks, presents Broad River Electric a distinguished award for the cooperative's charitable work in the past year supporting the Toys 4 Tots and Lt. Cpl. Christopher S. Fowlkes Scholarship programs. John Fowler, vice president of member services (right), accepts the award on behalf of the cooperative.

The Leathernecks have been recipients of funds from Broad River Electric's Operation Round Up for several years. The organization has collected toys for the Toys 4 Tots drive in Cherokee County for more than a decade.



KASEY CARNLEY

Mary Fowler

Fowler wins \$100 gift card

Sign up for Beat The Peak

CONGRATULATIONS TO member BREC member Mary Fowler of Union! She is the winner of the \$100 VISA gift card for registering for Beat The Peak in the fourth quarter of 2021.

Members who enroll in Beat The Peak receive alerts that let them know when demand for electricity is high. By lowering your energy use during peak times, you can help prevent a heavy load on our system and save the cooperative—and members—money.

When you sign up, you can choose to receive alerts by phone, text or email. Visit our website to sign up and help us Beat The Peak. You'll also be entered into our next Beat The Peak gift card contest.

EMPLOYEE SNAPSHOT

Steve Adams

NUMBER OF YEARS ON THE JOB: 9

HOW HE STARTED: A Class Lineman

WHAT HE DOES NOW: Steve is a foreman of one of our construction crews, meaning, he supervises other linemen about the job they will undertake for that workday. He is responsible for materials, work duration and safety of the crew he supervises. Our construction side of operations is responsible for building the infrastructure, such as erecting a utility pole or placing underground utilities in subdivisions. Adams, like everyone else, also works repair of utility infrastructure when it's needed.

MOST DIFFICULT THING ABOUT YOUR JOB: Starting and training a new crew. "When I've

been working with crewmembers for a while, we just know each other so well. They know our procedures and what we have to do. But when a new member comes in, it's just difficult for me to go back to the training part."

ADVICE TO THE NEXT GENERATION: "Take pride in your work, the quality of your work is like your signature."



KASEY CARNLEY

