

EnergyUnited
YOUR LOCAL CONNECTION

Foundation

25
years

IN THIS ISSUE

SMART ENERGY GRID

THE SERVICE BOARD AND
BOARD OF DIRECTORS

NEW CHARGING STATIONS

This year marks the 25th anniversary of our EnergyUnited Foundation. Since its inception we've provided countless opportunities for underserved communities and donations across our service area.

JULY 2021

CONNECT

ENERGYUNITED'S MONTHLY MEMBER NEWSLETTER

A LETTER FROM OUR CEO

H. WAYNE WILKINS




DRIVING INNOVATION FORWARD **BY ADVOCATING FOR YOU**

EnergyUnited is committed to delivering a brighter energy future for our members and communities, in part by focusing on our goal to reduce carbon emissions. How will we do this? Two words come to mind: innovation and advocacy.

Innovation will ultimately help us implement more low-carbon and carbon-free resources economically into our energy mix. It will also spark the research and development of new technologies that will be needed to stay ahead of the curve as our electric grid changes.

To drive energy innovation forward, we must also advocate for energy policy that reflects the needs of electric cooperative members. Recently, we met with members of our state's congressional delegation. Our message was simple: As we consider our nation's energy infrastructure needs, we must ensure co-op members have equitable access to new and emerging technologies that will help us meet these needs.



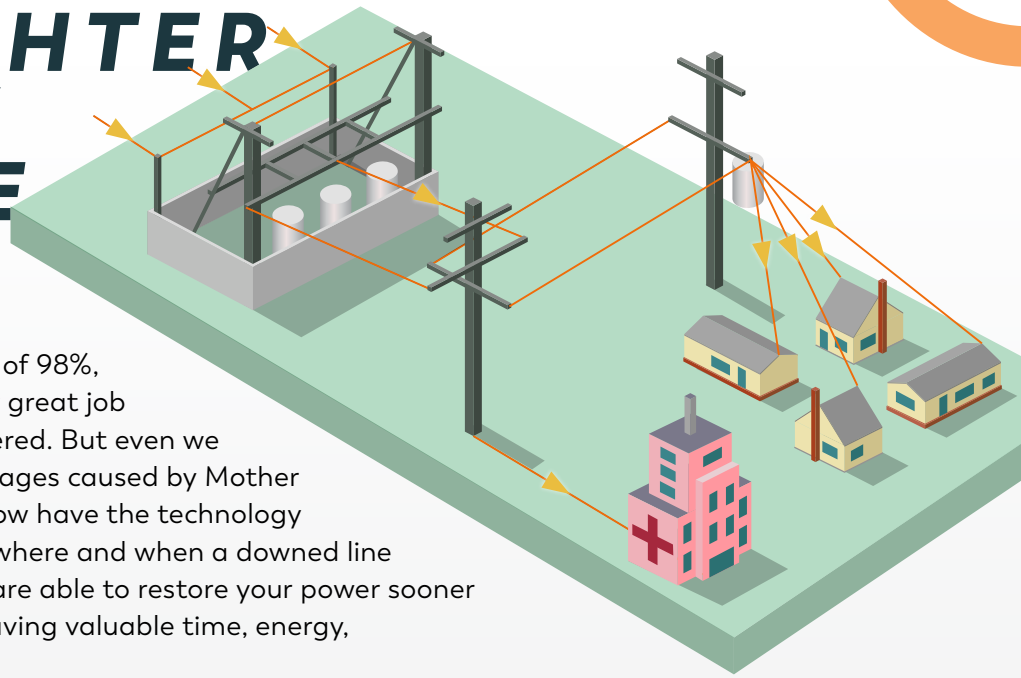
We can't afford to leave cooperative members at a disadvantage in national energy policy discussions, because co-ops power more than 56% of the nation's landmass and 42% (2.7 million miles) of the country's electric distribution lines. This fact underscores the important reminder that electric co-op members are not just energy consumers, they are also crucial investors in our infrastructure.

So, while we continue to make necessary upgrades to our infrastructure today with your support, we understand that new challenges lie ahead in our mission to deliver a brighter energy future tomorrow. However, we are committed to advocating for solutions that work for you. After all, it's your future. We're just here to empower it.

Sincerely,

H. Wayne Wilkins

A SMART GRID FOR A BRIGHTER ENERGY FUTURE



With a reliability rating of 98%, it's clear we do a pretty great job of keeping you empowered. But even we can't prevent many outages caused by Mother Nature. However, we now have the technology to understand exactly where and when a downed line occurs. The result? We are able to restore your power sooner while simultaneously saving valuable time, energy, and resources.

In today's modern grid, power no longer moves in a linear path from power plants to homes and businesses, but rather includes a wide variety of resources and tools spread throughout the grid like a web. Things like smart thermostats, backup generators, solar panels, and even electric vehicles all empower our members to take more control of their energy and therefore require an even more sophisticated energy management system, which we are proud to provide.

In updating these technologies to a smart grid, we're also managing more data about electric grid performance, enabling quick and accurate reporting related to outages and restoration, and taking advantage of many other features made possible by today's improvements.

Our proactive maintenance programs also help ensure the system's equipment is in good working order, while our right-of-way initiatives allow us to mitigate risk to our power lines. All of these efforts are part of our ongoing commitment to being your local connection and providing a brighter energy future for all.

**HAPPY
FOURTH
OF JULY!**

From the EnergyUnited team
to you, we are wishing all a
healthy, safe, and fun July 4th.

A SPECIAL
ANNOUNCEMENT
**FROM OUR
SERVICES
BOARD**

This month we're taking a moment to recognize two valuable members of our EnergyUnited Services Board, Kenny Meredith and Bill Pope. Both served on our Services Board of Directors and are stepping back after a combined 40+ years of service with EnergyUnited, due to the sale of our propane division. We're thankful for the service they've provided and wish them well in future endeavors.

BILL POPE



How did you get involved with the EnergyUnited community?

I served from shortly after the inception. R.B. Sloan was the manager of EnergyUnited EMC at the time, and I had known him to be a man of integrity. He knew I had grown up on a farm and was familiar with electric and telephone cooperatives. I was excited when he approached me regarding my interest in serving on the board of a wholly owned subsidiary, operated on a for-profit basis. I saw it as an exciting opportunity to do some innovative things that could enhance the standard of living for the members of the co-op.

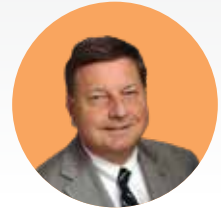
What have been some of the challenges you've overcome in the past 20+ years?

Looking back over these 20 years I see that in some senses we were all naive. We were all jumping into rapidly evolving technologies about which we knew too little. We, however, all shared the belief that EU members deserved the same access to those technologies as those who lived in the more densely populated urban areas and felt we could figure out how to provide for them at a profit. It turned out to be harder than we thought but the members and the board stuck with us and in the end we were able to deliver them quite a good return on their investment.

What are you most proud of over your tenure with EU?

I am very proud of what we were able to accomplish. It was an incredible learning experience. More than anything, I am honored that I had the opportunity to work with some of the classiest people in the state. I never saw an instance in which any of the board or managers placed his or her own interests ahead of that of the members. This co-op is as well managed as any in the country. Serving with them has been one of the highlights of my professional career.

KENNY MEREDITH



You have served EnergyUnited members as a member of the Services Board of Directors for over 20 years. Looking back, what was the most rewarding aspect of your role on the board?

Being able to rub elbows with folks of high integrity and being involved with a company with high moral values are some of the highlights of my adult life! I have been an active member of the co-op for many years and being able to be involved successfully at this level has been extremely satisfying and beneficial to me personally as well as professionally.

What was your most memorable accomplishment?

I think the Services Board as a group was charged with birthing the for-profit business with anticipation of the state deregulating the utility industry, and each board member brought unique skillset to the table and worked very well with the others. Ultimately, the sale of the propane business I think put an exclamation mark on the 20 years of the Services board; however, being a small part of growing the propane business over those 20 years was extremely satisfying.

Tell us about your future plans and what you believe the future holds for EnergyUnited.

I plan to stay involved with the co-op at whatever level whereby I can contribute. I truly believe the co-op's future is bright given their focus on membership and dedication to providing services to the rural (and now also urban) areas in which we serve.

A SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT
**FROM OUR
BOARD OF DIRECTORS**



Each year, EnergyUnited's members elect three directors, each representing one of the cooperative's three districts and the entire cooperative's membership.

Jeanette Overby has served on the EnergyUnited Board of Directors since 1998 as Secretary. Overby is a retired educator who taught for 27 years in the Stokes County school system. She is a member of the Lawsonville Ruritan Club and has served as president on two occasions. She is also very active at the Snow Hill UMC and has held many offices there.

Jeanette, married to Willis, graduated from Waynesville High School in Waynesville, N.C, and received a B.A. degree from Meredith College and also attended UNC-Greensboro. She grows hybrid tea roses as a hobby and also enjoys cooking—especially baking. We wish Jeanette all the best moving forward and extend a very deep thank you for all the time, talents, and energy she's contributed to our co-op and member-base.

THANK YOU, JEANETTE

WELCOME OUR NEWEST BOARD MEMBER,
CHERYL WRIGHT



Cheryl was recently appointed to the board following the resignation of longtime board member Jeanette Overby. Below, she shares her excitement and plans for what's to come.

What motivated you to join the Board of Directors?

I wanted to serve on the EnergyUnited Board of Directors to best help my fellow members of the co-op. The world is changing rapidly, and it is an exciting time to be a part of bringing technology and innovation forward.

I served on the Member Advisory Committee (MAC) for three years, 2017–2019. I was President of the committee during my second year. Serving on the MAC taught me about the roots and history of electric co-ops and EnergyUnited.

I learned about a variety of topics including solar power during my tenure. It was great to see firsthand how dedicated the employees of EnergyUnited are and see the ways in which the co-op is focused on its members.

My goal for the first 90 days of my term is to learn as much as possible through available training classes, learning from my fellow board members, and gaining knowledge from our regular meetings.

COMMUNITY



CONNECTIONS

INTRODUCING **NEW CHARGING STATIONS**

Looking for even more options to charge your electric vehicle? You're in luck! In continued efforts to expand our EV charging infrastructure, we've added two new EV charging stations at the McDonalds in Mocksville and The Greenbriar Grill in Statesville. These new chargers are DC fast chargers and can reenergize a battery completely in just 60 minutes!



STAYING SAFE DURING AN OUTAGE

EnergyUnited's Triple Surge Guard Service is a revolutionary system that offers complete protection against high-voltage power surges. Our system protects hardwired and plug-in equipment and is the only total protection of appliances available.

learn more by visiting our products and services page at [EnergyUnited.com](https://www.energyunited.com) or call 1-800-522-3793 to speak to an expert!

When weather gets rough, will you be prepared? No matter how you fuel your heating or cooling unit, your thermostat still needs electricity to call for heat or cool air. A backup generator from Generac can make all the difference.

NOW ENROLLING
ECOBEE SMART
THERMOSTATS IN

**PEAK
TIME
PERKS!**

**CONGRATS
TO THESE WINNERS!**

Last month we gave away eight \$100 VISA Gift Cards to randomly selected members that enrolled in our Peak Time Perks program!

Do you have, or are you planning to purchase, a Google Nest, Honeywell Home, or Ecobee smart thermostat? If so, we encourage you to enroll in **Peak Time Perks**. When you sign up, you'll be credited \$50 on your electric bill. And for each year after that, an additional \$20 will be credited to your account.

Visit [energyunited.com/demand-response/](https://www.energyunited.com/demand-response/) for more information.

- **Josh Richter from Huntersville**
- **Benjamin Igo from Mooresville**
- **Gregory Powell from Midway**
- **Brian Horan from Mooresville**
- **Loretta Estes from Lexington**
- **Brian and Shelly Baker from Thomasville**
- **Al Postell from Huntersville**
- **Daniel Lantzy from Huntersville**

PEAK TIME
PERKS

\$100

We're giving away more \$100 VISA gift cards this month! Register your smart thermostat in our Peak Time Perks program by July 15 and be automatically entered for a chance to win!

2021 CREDENTIALS AND ELECTION COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

DISTRICT 1

Kenneth Mason
Mocksville

Pricilla Holmes
Harmony

Danny Cook
Statesville

DISTRICT 2

James Grogan
Walnut Cove

Jane Everhart
Linwood

Kenneth Meredith
Winston-Salem

DISTRICT 3

Arlene Arciero
Cornelius

Tracy Palmesano
Huntersville

Robert Gates
 Mooresville

SHARE YOUR SUMMERTIME SALADS!

With warmer weather in full swing and lighter recipes on the mind, we're calling for your favorite summertime Salad Recipes!

Please submit your salad recipes no later than the 25th of the month by emailing

EU-communications@energyunited.com.

If you don't have access to email, please send a typed version of your recipe with your first and last name to:

EnergyUnited: Cookbook Collection

P.O. Box 1831

Statesville, NC 28687

**Please submit your
recipes no later
than July 25.**

NON- DISCRIMINATION STATEMENT

In accordance with Federal civil rights law and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and policies, the USDA, its Agencies, offices, and employees, and institutions participating in or administering USDA programs are prohibited from discriminating based on race, color, national origin, religion, sex, gender identity (including gender expression), sexual orientation, disability, age, marital status, family/parental status, income derived from a public assistance program, political beliefs, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity, in any program or activity conducted or funded by USDA (not all bases apply to all programs). Remedies and complaint filing deadlines vary by program or incident.

Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication for program information (e.g., Braille, large print, audiotape, American Sign Language, etc.) should contact the responsible Agency or USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TTY) or contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339. Additionally, program information may be made available in languages other than English.

To file a program discrimination complaint, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form, AD-3027, found online at http://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint_filing_cust.html and at any USDA office or write a letter addressed to USDA and provide in the letter all of the information requested in the form. To request a copy of the complaint form, call (866) 652-9992. Submit your completed form or letter to USDA by:

mail: U.S. Department of Agriculture Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights 1400 Independence Avenue, SW Washington, D.C. 20250-9410, fax: (202) 690-7442; or email: program.intake@usda.gov.

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