



# Powell Valley Electric Cooperative News

A message from your General Manager:



Randell Meyers  
General Manager  
& CEO

## POWELL VALLEY ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE

420 Straight Creek Road  
P.O. Box 1528  
New Tazewell, TN 37824

Office Hours: M-F 8 a.m.–5 p.m.

### Tazewell Office:

Service Requests: (423) 626-0707  
Billing Inquiries: (423) 626-0706  
Outages/Trouble: (423) 626-5204  
Other Inquiries: (423) 626-5204

### Jonesville Office:

Service Requests: (276) 346-6003  
Billing Inquiries: (276) 346-6003  
Outages: (276) 346-6065  
Other Inquiries: (276) 346-6016

### Sneedville Office:

All Inquiries: (423) 733-2207

Calls to all PVEC locations will be answered by emergency operators after office hours, on weekends & holidays.

Visit us at [pve.coop](http://pve.coop)

You may also contact us at [info@pve.coop](mailto:info@pve.coop)

Randell Meyers  
General Manager & CEO

Ronnie Williams  
Tazewell Area Supervisor

Jason Stapleton  
Jonesville Area Supervisor

Joey Southern  
Sneedville Area Supervisor

*Powell Valley Electric Cooperative is an equal opportunity provider and employer.*

## Power in Resilience

Many of us may remember the movie, *Unbroken*, the remarkable story of Louis Zamperini, a young Air Force lieutenant who served during World War II. Zamperini's story is one of survival, redemption and incredible resilience.

After surviving a crash into the Pacific, Zamperini drifted in a tiny life raft for weeks before he was taken prisoner by the Japanese. His struggle was only the beginning. He went on to endure two years of brutal captivity until he was finally freed at the end of the war.

Resilience is a valuable characteristic. It is something we want to instill in our kids. Athletes, business leaders, politicians and others are often described as “resilient.”

Resiliency also matters to your electric utility, and it is something we frequently discuss.

Resiliency is many things. It's the reliability of your electric service; it's our ability to efficiently restore your power; it's being able to meet the demands of new technology; and it's how we serve you with various generation sources without skipping a beat.

Ultimately, resilience is how we deliver on our promise to provide power and opportunity for our consumers and the communities we serve.

When it comes to having a resilient electric grid, it begins with a system that is designed and built to withstand high winds, powerful storms, cybersecurity threats and other disruptions that could

result in outages. A resilient grid is also flexible and adaptable by allowing different types of generation — such as wind, solar, coal and hydro — to seamlessly work together to provide you with safe and reliable power. The way our systems react to advancements in technology — from demand-response investments to serving the needs of electric vehicles — all factor into the resilience of our grid.

Resiliency is a 24/7, 365-days-a-year task. Whether it's the power lines, substations or other equipment on our grid, it takes proactive maintenance and investment to keep them running smoothly.

Similar to how we maintain our vehicles with regular oil changes, inspections and tire rotations, our grid must also be properly maintained. Throughout the year, we regularly conduct pole and line inspections. Our goal is to find a problem before it becomes major. Doing so ensures that our system is as strong — as resilient — as it can be.

We know that significant power outages can occur, especially as winter approaches. From ice storms to tornados, we are confident in the resiliency of our system to recover from the situation with as little disruption as possible.

In the dictionary, resilience is defined as “the ability to bounce back, recover quickly and go back into shape or position after being stretched.” When it comes to providing our consumers with resilient service, this is our goal — day in and day out.

— Randell W. Meyers



### Holiday Closing Notice

Powell Valley Electric Cooperative offices will be closed Monday, Sept. 2, in observance of Labor Day.

As always, cooperative dispatchers will be on duty to answer your emergency calls.

Have a happy and safe holiday!

# Annual Meeting – Saturday, Sept. 21

As the long days of summer come to a close and the fall season approaches with its vibrant show of color, preparation for our annual meeting is currently underway. Each year, we look forward to sharing this special day with you. Just two days before autumn officially arrives, this year's annual meeting will be held on Saturday, Sept. 21, 2019, at Thomas Walker High School, 126 Blue Gray Road, in Ewing, Virginia. Registration will open at 9 a.m., and entertainment featuring a talented bluegrass group, Dark Ridge, will begin at 10 a.m.

There will be something for everyone at this year's annual meeting. A health fair with lots of free services will be available during the day, reports about the operations of your cooperative will be given, and the annual business session will be conducted. There will be activities for the children and a delicious lunch for your family to enjoy. Cooperative members will have a chance to take home a great door prize!

On behalf of the directors, management and employees of Powell Valley Electric, we invite you to join us at your cooperative's 2019 annual meeting. We look forward to seeing you there!

## Annual Meeting Order of Business

1. Report on number of members present.
2. Reading of the notice of the meeting and proof of the due publication or mailing thereof, or the waivers of notice of the meeting, as the case may be.
3. Reading of unapproved minutes of previous meetings of the members and the taking of necessary action thereon.
4. Presentation and consideration of, and acting upon, reports of officers, directors and committees.
5. Election of directors.
  - a. Report of Committee on Nominations.  
Pursuant to the Bylaws, the Board of Directors has appointed a Committee on Nominations. This Committee has met and nominated the following members for your consideration:  
  
 District 4 — Allen Parkey  
 District 5 — Dr. John Short  
 District 9 — Gary Russell
  - b. Report on nomination by petition.  
No nominations made by petition.
6. Unfinished business.
7. New business.  
Proposed change in Powell Valley Electric Cooperative's Bylaws, Article V, on motion made by cooperative member-owner Patrick Hurley and seconded by member-owner James (Jera) Anderson.  
  
Existing language:  
None.  
  
Proposed language:  
Article V, Section 6. Open Meetings.  
  
All meetings of the board of directors, including committee meetings, shall be open to attendance by any member(s) except for executive sessions as allowed by law or written policy. Attendance shall not require request or notice. Meetings shall include a period for statements by members. Any final action, decision or vote on a matter shall be made in an open meeting.  
  
Notwithstanding other provisions for notice in this Article V, members shall be provided written notice of the date, hour and place of all board meetings. The notice of a board meeting shall be posted in places readily accessible to members for at least 72 hours before the scheduled time of the meeting. Such notice shall be posted in a place convenient to the members at each of PVEC's principal offices and shall be posted prominently on PVEC's

website. PVEC shall provide a copy of a meeting notice at no cost to a member upon request.

Minutes of board meetings, except for executive sessions as allowed by law or written policy, shall be available to members promptly following meetings, but not later than five (5) business days following each such meeting. PVEC shall post minutes on its website and maintain such postings for a period of at least two years. PVEC shall provide a copy of minutes of any meeting at no cost to a member upon request.

PVEC shall allow audio and video recording, and live streaming of board meetings, except for executive sessions as allowed by law or written policy.

8. Prizes.

9. Adjournment.

/s/ Judith Robertson, Secretary

\*Any customer with special needs, i.e., ramp for access by wheelchair, etc., at the annual meeting location, please notify the cooperative at 423-626-5204.

### OFFICIAL NOTICE

#### ANNUAL MEETING ORDER OF BUSINESS POWELL VALLEY ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE ANNUAL MEETING – SEPT. 21, 2019

#### THOMAS WALKER HIGH SCHOOL EWING, VIRGINIA

- |                 |  |
|-----------------|--|
| 9 a.m. – 1 p.m. | Registration   |
| 10 a.m.         | Entertainment by Dark Ridge  |
| 11 a.m.         | Call to Order — Roger Ball, President<br>Invocation<br>Reports<br>Introduction of Guests |
| 11:45 a.m.      | Lunch<br>Entertainment by Dark Ridge   |
| 1 p.m.          | Business Session — Roger Ball, President   |

# Billing Corner

It's football time in Virginia! Fall is a time of change for sports, leaves and weather. The weather transition from fall to winter makes it hard to plan if we need to wear a jacket or shorts to a football game or if we need a cold drink instead of hot chocolate in the evening time.

As the outside temperature changes, cooling and heating needs in our homes change as well. On average, lower utility bills are seen during the fall since there is a transition between summer and winter ... not too hot ... not too cold.

As the temperatures get colder, heating sources are being utilized more and more. If there is an issue with that heating source, then fall is one of the times that symptoms can appear. One symptom that identifies a problem with the heat source is a high utility bill. Avoiding that high utility bill can be helped by having an annual maintenance performed on your heating source to identify issues in a timelier manner. Taking preventative steps such as changing the filter each month and keeping debris cleaned off an outside unit can help as well.

We hope your favorite football team wins, you enjoy the beautiful display of color as the leaves change, and the weather is glorious for all!

## What's a-Cooking?

Jessie Cupp shares his wife LeAnn's recipe for Chocolate Chip Cheesecake Bites. Jessie has worked with the cooperative since 2017.

### Ingredients:

- 1 package chocolate chip cookie dough
- 2 8-oz. packages cream cheese
- 2 teaspoons vanilla
- 1 can sweetened condensed milk
- 2 large eggs
- ½ cup chocolate fudge topping
- 2 tablespoons chocolate chips

### Directions:

Preheat oven to 325 degrees. Line cupcake pan with cupcake liners. Place chocolate chip cookie dough in each liner and bake 10-12 minutes or until cookie has spread to edges of the cups. Mix cream cheese, vanilla and sweetened condensed milk. Add one egg at a time, mixing after each. Pour in each cupcake liner, bake 15-18 minutes and cool for one hour before refrigerating. After cooling, drizzle with chocolate fudge and sprinkle chocolate chips.

## Care for HVAC systems in between tune-ups



It's almost time to call your heating technician for your system's annual check-up. But just because you're between service calls doesn't mean you should ignore your equipment.

Your role in maintaining your air-conditioning or heating system is just as important as the job of the service technician who performs your annual maintenance inspection. Keep tune-ups quick and costly repairs to a minimum with these simple tips for year-round maintenance.

### Between Visits:

- Change your furnace and air-conditioning filters often. This is especially important during the summer when dust and allergens circulate.
- Remove plants, fallen branches and debris from your outdoor HVAC equipment. Objects that are too close can prevent adequate air flow.
- Indoors, vacuum registers and air vents regularly. Heating contractors say simple dust and dirt cause almost half of their service calls.
- Move furniture and drapes away from registers.
- If something seems off about your HVAC equipment, call for service early. Odd sounds and smells could be warning you of a bigger problem.

## Important information from your co-op:

### PVEC's Website

Have you explored our website lately? PVEC's website is a beneficial tool for our members. Just a few years ago, a large number of our members did not have internet access and we depended on other means of communication to keep members up to date with information about the services and operations of the co-op. Internet service is becoming commonplace but internet speeds are still slow in many areas. Now that high-speed internet is becoming more accessible, our website will become more important. The co-op is committed to expanding broadband services in all of our service territory and in doing so will be able to communicate even more quickly with our members. Updated and new information is continually being added to our website. Members can find current information on services, such as connecting and disconnecting service; payment options; member and board information, such as the board meeting monthly schedule; and programs offered by the cooperative, such as heat pump financing. Please take a look around at [pve.coop](http://pve.coop).

### What to do if you don't receive a bill

Not often, but occasionally, consumers report that they did not receive their electric bill or they have misplaced it. If this happens to you, please contact our office and request the amount of your bill. Failure to receive a bill does not relieve one of the responsibility of paying on time.

### Mobile App

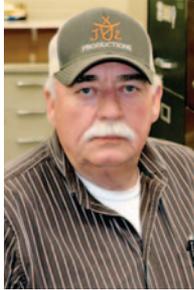
Looking for an easier way to manage your account? Look no further — use PVEC's smart app to access your electric account. Look for Powell Valley Electric Cooperative (PVEC) in the Google Play Store or in the Apple App Store. The app is free to download and install.

As a customer you can view your bill, sign up for alerts and reminders, view account payment history, pay a bill, and more using PVEC's Mobile App. To view addresses, maps or phone numbers to our offices, simply open the app and use the "Locations" link.

For more assistance with the mobile app, visit [pve.coop](http://pve.coop) and check out the Mobile App Support page, or contact your local PVEC office.

# Sneedville Area Supervisor Joey Southern shares safety tips

Those who live on a farm know that not only is it hard work, but it can be dangerous, too. Each year, farmers are electrocuted when large farm machinery comes into contact with overhead power lines.



Often, the situation occurs because a newer, bigger piece of equipment no longer clears a line the way a smaller one did. In addition, shifting soil may also affect whether machinery avoids power lines from year to year.

The following tips will help keep everyone on a farm safe:

- Look over work areas carefully for overhead power lines and utility poles.
- Make sure you have ample clearance when moving large machinery such as combines, grain augers, pickers, bailers and front-end loaders. Do this every year as equipment sizes or soil conditions may change.
- Store large equipment properly if near or under power lines. When planning new construction, factor in existing power lines.
- Be extra careful when working around trees and brush; they often make it difficult to see power lines.
- Train all farm workers to keep an eye out for overhead power lines.



## HARVEST SAFETY TIPS FOR FARMWORKERS

- **Maintain a 10-foot clearance** around all utility equipment in all directions.
- **Use a spotter and deploy flags** to maintain safe distances from power lines and other equipment when doing field work.
- **If your equipment makes contact with an energized or downed power line, contact us immediately** by phone and remain inside the vehicle until the power line is de-energized. In case of smoke or fire, exit the cab by making a solid jump out of the cab, without touching it at the same time, and hop away to safety.
- **Consider equipment and cargo extensions of your vehicle.** Lumber, hay, tree limbs, irrigation pipe and even bulk materials can conduct electricity, so keep them out of contact with electrical equipment.

Source: Safe Electricity

