SVEC Returns Over $5 Million in Capital Credits

Shenandoah Valley Electric Cooperative (SVEC) has rewarded member-owners and former member-owners with one of the advantages of belonging to a cooperative: Capital Credits.

Capital Credits are returned to member-owners in the form of a credit on their bill for those with active accounts, and mailed in the form of a check to former member-owners and large power accounts.

The total amount of Capital Credits to be returned to members is $5.06 million.

On the most recent bill that you received, which was in May, your Capital Credit amount is indicated on a line reading, “Capital Credit Return.”

Capital Credits are one of the elements that differentiates a cooperative from an investor-owned utility, or a municipal electric system, and just one of the reasons it pays to be a member-owner with Shenandoah Valley Electric Cooperative.

SVEC follows seven Cooperative principles, one of which is members’ economic participation. This means that as member-owners, you make an equity contribution to the Cooperative based on the billings for your electrical consumption, allowing the Cooperative to meet its financial obligations. Once all financial obligations are met, you may receive an equity allocation based on your patronage.

You also recently received separately in the mail your “Notice of Equity Allocation.” This notice has nothing to do with the Capital Credit that appears on your bill for this year. The equity allocation notice simply shows the amount of equity assigned to your account based on electric service billing patronage for the prior year. That amount (or part of it) won’t be retired — or returned to you in the form of a credit on your bill or a check — until a later date.

If you have any questions about your Capital Credit return, please contact SVEC at 1-800-234-7832.

ANNUAL MEETING
Thursday, June 14, at 7 p.m. at James Madison University’s Convocation Center

REGISTRATION: 5 to 6:30 p.m. (all members) at Entrance “B”

POUR BARBECUE DINNER: 5 to 6:45 p.m. for each member and one guest (a vegetarian option will be available)

BUSINESS MEETING: 7 p.m. on stage

GRAND PRIZES: (2) $500 gift certificates for electric service
Other Prizes: Five $200 gift certificates for electric service; Ten $100 gift certificates for electric service

Prize drawings will be held throughout the Business Meeting. You Must Be Present to Win!

Please Make Note!
• An ASL (sign language) interpreter can be provided. Please let us know if you are interested in this service.
• A Kids’ Zone, offering crafts, safety tips, conservation information and fun will be available for children ages 5-10 during the business meeting.
• The Walnut Ridge Boys will be providing entertainment for the evening.
Frederick/Clarke Counties Nominees
(in alphabetical order; vote for one at Annual Meeting):

Lisa Nerangis Limoges of Winchester

Lisa Nerangis Limoges is director of operations for Nerangis Management Corporation (NMC), a Winchester company that operates several businesses and properties in the city and Frederick County.

A native of Charleston, South Carolina, she moved around growing up as the daughter of a Naval officer. Her family moved to Winchester in 1979 where Limoges graduated from James Wood High School. She continued her traveling ways after that, attending the University of Alabama before transferring and receiving a degree in journalism from the University of Maryland. She pursued graduate studies in international relations and worked in Germany.

Limoges began her post-college employment in the United States in Washington, D.C., Denver and then Dallas before returning to Winchester 12 years ago. Limoges is the director of operations and partner for the Alamo Drafthouse Cinema, Greene Turtle Sports Bar & Grille, Country Inns & Suites, Hand and Stone Massage and Facial Spa and Nerangis Properties. She oversees design and construction for NMC and has worked extensively with Shenandoah Valley Electric Cooperative in Frederick County to develop Kernstown Commons commercial development.

The Top of Virginia Regional Chamber of Commerce has twice recognized Nerangis Management Corporation as its large business of the year and the company is also heavily involved in supporting local charitable organizations.

Limoges and her husband, Robert, live in Frederick County and have three children, Alex, Emilie and Logan. The family attends Christ Episcopal Church in Winchester.

Todd Van Horn of White Hall

G. Todd Van Horn is the fiber/copper splicer and compliance officer for Frontier Communications, a telecommunications company in Winchester.

A Winchester native, Van Horn graduated from Berkeley Springs High School in Berkeley Springs, West Virginia, before attending Fairmont State College. At Fairmont State, he studied safety engineering and completed a bachelor's degree in technology education. Among his personal accomplishments, Van Horn designed a technology lab for East Fairmont Middle School and received a grant for the construction of the lab, while also winning a state competition there.

Van Horn has been a football and softball coach, as well as ski club sponsor, at Sherando High School. He has also held the title of vice president and president of technology education students in the Frederick County Public Schools system.

In his work at Frontier Communications, Van Horn serves on a number of committees, including the safety and time motion study panels.

Van Horn and his wife, Crissy, live in White Hall and have two daughters, Emma and Lauren. The family attends White Hall United Methodist Church.

Page County Nominees
(in alphabetical order; vote for one at Annual Meeting):

Garland H. Gibbs* of Luray

Garland (Gary) H. Gibbs is a 38-year resident of Luray. He is the managing general partner of Page Associates Investment Group, LLC, and a retired U.S. Army major who served six years as a non-commissioned officer and 14 years as a commissioned officer.

Gibbs is a NRECA Credentialed Cooperative director who has served eight years on the SVEC Board of Directors. He is a former six-year board member and past president of the Luray Chamber of Commerce; a past three-year member and secretary of the Page County Planning Commission; a past 14-year member of the Page County School Board, where he served as chairman four times; and a 32-year member of the Luray Masonic Lodge where he served as treasurer for five years.

He has also served on the Egypt Bend Lot Owners Association board for six years, and four years as a volunteer manager. He is a 38-year member of the Luray Comer Jones VFW Post 621 and served as commander for two years.

He graduated with a bachelor of science degree from the University of Nebraska and is a graduate of the JFK Center for Special Warfare; the Infantry Officer Candidate School; the Military Intelligence Officer Advanced Course; the U.S. Marine Corps Command and Staff College; and the National Senior Cryptologic School.

He has been awarded the Legion of Merit; the Bronze Star with Oak Leaf Cluster; the Air Medal; the Meritorious Service Medal with Oak Leaf Cluster; the Joint Service Commendation Medal; the Army Commendation Medal; the Combat Infantryman Badge; and the Parachutist Badge.

In 2008, he received the 7th Congressional District Commendation Award for Outstanding Military and Community Service.

Gary and his wife, Cheryl, have two sons and three grandsons.

Brian K. Plum of Luray

Brian K. Plum is president of Blue Ridge Bank and president and CEO of its parent company, Blue Ridge Bankshares Inc., both in Luray.

Born in Harrisonburg, Plum graduated from Page County High School and received a bachelor’s degree in economics and accounting from Eastern Mennonite University. He then earned a master’s degree in accounting from James Madison University and a master’s of business administration from the Darden Business School at the University of Virginia.

Plum is a certified public accountant licensed in the Commonwealth of Virginia, selected three times as a Super CPA by the Virginia Society of Certified Public Accountants and Virginia Business magazine. Before joining Blue Ridge Bank, Plum was a public accountant for a firm in Harrisonburg, a job that once led him to count ballots at SVEC’s Annual Meeting.

In the community, Plum’s service includes a trustee and former treasurer of the Shenandoah Valley Battlefields Foundation; treasurer and director of the Choices Council in Domestic Violence; member of the Luray Rotary Club; and past director and treasurer of the Luray-Page County Chamber of Commerce.

Plum and his wife, Jennifer, live in Luray and have two children, Briana, 10, and William, 8. The family attends Bethlehem Christian Church in Stanley.

* Indicates Present Director  Rockingham County nominees on pg. 20

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Rockingham County Nominees
(in alphabetical order; vote for one at Annual Meeting):

Brent H. Arbogast of Lacey Spring
Brent H. Arbogast is a self-employed farmer, farrier and agriculture fence contractor who lives in Lacey Spring.
Born in Harrisonburg, Arbogast graduated from Broadway High School before attending Virginia Tech, where he earned an associate degree in animal science. He has since garnered numerous awards in the agriculture industry, including being tapped, along with his wife, Margaret, with the Virginia Farm Bureau Young Farmers Achievement Award in 2014. The annual designation honors people between 18 and 35 years old who are successful in production agriculture and provide leadership on and away from the farm.
Arbogast was also named the Young Farmer of Virginia Farmer of the Year in 2017 and included on the Daily News-Record’s list of “Top 10 Under 40” in 2016. The list features young entrepreneurs who are rising names in their respective fields.
Arbogast serves on both boards of directors for the Rockingham County Farm Bureau and Broadway/Timberville Young Farmers. He is also on the board of directors for the Rockingham County Feeder Cattle Association. From 2014-16, Arbogast was also a member of the Virginia Farm Bureau Young Farmers State Committee.
Arbogast and his wife have three children, Taylor, Gracyn and Easton. The family attends Harrisonburg First Church of the Nazarene.

Gerald A. Heatwole* of McGaheysville
Gerald A. Heatwole is a lifetime resident of Rockingham County, born in the Dayton/Hinton area. Heatwole and his wife, Anita, have three grown, married children with 10 grandchildren. Heatwole is completing his ninth term (28 years) as a member of Shenandoah Valley Electric Cooperative’s Board of Directors.
He currently serves as the Board chair and as such serves as a member of all committees of the Cooperative’s Board of Directors. He has served as secretary/treasurer, vice chair, as a member and chair of the Annual Meeting Committee, Executive Committee, Compensation and Benefits Committee, and Strategic Planning Committee. Heatwole is a Credentialed Certified Director and is working on his Board Leadership Certificate.
Heatwole’s life occupation is farming. He is in partnership with his eldest son, Monte, at Cub Run Dairy near McGaheysville. Cub Run Dairy is a diversified operation raising turkeys, milking 575 cows, and raising corn, soybeans and wheat on 1,200 acres of cropland. In addition to farming he is one of three owners of Rockingham New Holland, a farm equipment dealership in Harrisonburg.
Heatwole is a member of the Dayton Mennonite Church. He has served as deacon of the church.
Heatwole presently serves as a director on the Southeast Council of Dairy Farmers of America. Statewide he serves on the Virginia State Dairymen’s Association, and is a past member of Virginia SUDIA board of directors.
In 2007, the Heatwoles received the Virginia Distinguished Dairymen of the Year Award.

* Indicates Present Director

Summer Energy-Saving Tips
Costs associated with cooling your home can make up a large portion of your summer electric bills. Stay cool and save money with these energy efficiency tips!

NO-COST TIPS
Close blinds and drapes during the day to keep heat out.
Set your thermostat to 78 degrees when you are home. Set it to a higher temperature when you’re away.
Turn off lights and ceiling fans when you leave a room.

LOW-COST TIPS
Plant trees and shrubs to shade the exterior of your home.
Replace disposable air filters (or clean permanent filters) once a month to maximize efficiency.
Use solar lighting to brighten up your outdoor space. Solar lights are easy to install, low maintenance and provide free electricity.

SVEC March Major Outages
3/2-5 Entire service area impacted by wind storm
3/20 Deerfield area
700 members out for 2 hours
Equipment failure
 Shenandoah Valley Electric Cooperative’s Operation Round Up Committee has awarded its second set of grants for 2018, contributing more than $9,000 toward community projects in the Co-op’s service territory.

Operation Round Up (ORU) is a voluntary program that launched in late 2017. SVEC member-owners sign up to have their monthly bills “rounded up” to the nearest even dollar, and that additional money is set aside for charitable giving. On average, a member-owner will contribute only $6 per year toward the program. Larger, one-time contributions are also accepted.

A committee of nine member-owners and one Cooperative employee review grant applications from area nonprofit organizations, civic clubs and others. As the pool of rounded-up funds grows, SVEC is hopeful that a combination of member-owner contributions and corporate allocations will lead to a major opportunity to address crucial needs in the communities it serves.

For the latest round of grants, which was determined in April, the ORU Committee selected the following recipients:

**The Laurel Center (Winchester/Frederick County)** to provide funding for its new emergency shelter and outreach center to expand its domestic and sexual violence shelter and support services. The agency currently serves between 3,500 and 4,000 women and children each year in the city of Winchester and Frederick, Clarke and Warren counties.

**United Way of Greater Augusta** for Imagination Library, an early literacy program that provides children ages 0 to 5 with a new, free, high-quality and age-appropriate book each month by mail.

**Family Promise of Shenandoah County** to help with contributions toward medications, hotel stays and gas vouchers for families in crisis. Family Promise opened in January 2016 and works with a network of local congregations to provide shelter, food and support services to those in need.

**Page One (Page County)** for rent, electricity, fuel and food to help make a difference in the lives of many struggling families trying to meet basic needs when they have a major emergency, such as sickness, job loss, car repair or special needs.

**Elkton Area United Services (Rockingham County)** for direct financial aid for clients for programs related to emergency assistance, food pantry, traveler's aid, holiday cheer, senior citizens, free reading books, GED classes and school supplies.

**AbbaCare Inc. (Winchester/Frederick County)** to purchase 10 car seats for new mothers and fathers to allow them safe transportation for their new family member. Clients receive a new car seat as a gift for completing four parenting classes.

**Warren County Community Health Coalition for EASE** (Easing Anxiety and Stress Everyday), a program for students in 6th through 12th grades that will take cognitive behavioral therapy in a seven-lesson curriculum to help teens learn to manage their anxiety and stress and help alleviate depressive symptoms.

**Crossroads to Brain Injury Recovery (Rockingham County)** to focus on presentations and outreach in rural communities to reach more people. Based in Harrisonburg, Crossroads combines public and private resources to provide specialized services for persons affected by brain injury in the Central Shenandoah Valley.

**Rotary Club of Harrisonburg Charitable Foundation (Rockingham County)** for construction of a playground at the Rockingham Park at the Crossroads, an athletics-oriented park that is expected to open this summer or fall east of Harrisonburg. The goal is to have the playground ready by the spring of 2019, and children will be heavily involved in its design.

Please sign up today for Operation Round Up by visiting any SVEC office, calling SVEC at 1-800-234-7832, or clicking on the Operation Round Up page under “Account” through the e-Business portal at www.svec-online.coop.

For more information on the program and to download an application for funding, please visit www.svec.coop/ORU.

The next deadline for grant applications is July 11. This is expected to be the last grant allocation cycle for 2018.
Shenandoah Valley Electric Cooperative (SVEC) is excited to announce the 10 recipients of this year’s scholarships, valued at $1,000 each. For 27 years, SVEC has supported communities throughout its service territory by offering scholarships to high school seniors whose parents or guardians are members-owners. Since 1992, the Cooperative has given back more than $110,000 to area youth.

This year, SVEC’s Operation Round Up Committee selected the 10 scholarship recipients from a pool of 59 highly qualified applicants. Operation Round Up is SVEC’s new charitable giving program, as detailed on page 21 of the magazine.

The Committee consists of nine member-owners from around the Co-op’s service territory, plus one SVEC employee. They are: Chris Runion, chairman, from Rockingham County; Bill Fisher, vice chairman, from Page County; Kyle O’Brien, from Rockingham County; Anthony Manzione, from Frederick County; Doug Rinker, from Winchester; Chris Strecky, SVEC employee.

This year’s recipients have earned the scholarships with excellence in the classroom, extracurricular activities and contributions to the community.

Congratulations to all of the winners and please join SVEC in wishing them luck in their future endeavors!

Meet the 10 students who received $1,000 SVEC scholarships for 2018:

**Name:** Isaac Alderfer  
**High School:** Broadway  
**Parents:** Doug and Kathy Alderfer  
**Hometown:** Broadway  
**Extracurricular Activities:** President, National Honor Society; Co-president, ACES Leadership Club; President, Science Club.  
**Community Involvement:** Lifeguard/counselor assistant at Highland Summer Camp; Active in youth group; Assisted in planning for a Young Leaders Conference for fifth-grade students.  
**Desired Field of Study:** Environmental science and engineering  
**College:** Eastern Mennonite University  
**Quote:** “People are starting to see we are on an unsustainable path towards an unpleasant future for our children and grandchildren and are beginning to make changes. This invigoration and the need for people to lead the movement are largely responsible for my choice to pursue a path in environmental science. Attending college and getting a degree to initiate change could give me an opportunity to make a difference instead of being just a bystander.”

**Name:** Morgan Biggs  
**High School:** James Wood  
**Parents:** Bryan and Karen Biggs  
**Hometown:** Stephenson  
**Extracurricular Activities:** Member, National Honor Society; Social media coordinator, Health Occupations Students of America; President, Varsity Club.  
**Community Involvement:** Volunteer for SPCA, American Red Cross, and Highland Food Pantry.  
**Desired Field of Study:** Biochemistry and molecular biology  
**College:** Dickenson College  
**Quote:** “I hope to do research regarding genetic mutations in oncology. Also, I want to make it a priority to shake the stigma that the STEM field is not fit for women. Helping and encouraging girls to persevere and do whatever they put their minds to is almost as important to me as finding a cure for cancer.”

**Name:** Alica Campbell  
**High School:** Page County  
**Parents:** Arthur and Rhonda Campbell  
**Hometown:** Luray  
**Extracurricular Activities:** Captain, competition cheer; Member, All District Choir in 2016 and 2018; Historian officer, National Honor Society.  
**Community Involvement:** Volunteer, Toys for Tots; Service project removing invasive species at Shenandoah National Park; Organized 5K race through the honor society.  
**Desired Field of Study:** Pre-med  
**College:** The College of William & Mary  
**Quote:** “Helping people has always been something I love to do, which is why I wish to pursue a degree in the medical field. … I want to make a difference in the community, giving back to the very place that raised me. I want to know that the job I do each and every day is saving lives and making the world a better place.”

**Name:** Elizabeth Hoover  
**High School:** Broadway  
**Parents:** Tom and Amy Hoover  
**Hometown:** Broadway  
**Extracurricular Activities:** Secretary, Community Involvement Club, Technology Student Association, and ACES Leadership Club; Member, National Honor Society.  
**Community Involvement:** Member, Harrisonburg Police Department Explorers program; Member, Sunset Drive United Methodist Church youth group.  
**Desired Field of Study:** Communication sciences and disorders  
**College:** James Madison University  
**Quote:** “Students can struggle to communicate with their classmates and teachers if they lack the necessary skills in any of these areas, which can lead to them feeling left out and wondering, ‘What’s wrong with me?’ As a speech-language pathologist, I can respond to their worries by assuring them that everything is perfectly normal and that everyone is different in the way they talk, listen and behave.”
legislators in Richmond while in FFA; Organized county-wide hurricane-donation drive.  
Desired Field of Study: Agricultural sciences  
College: Virginia Tech  
Quote: "As a future agricultural education teacher, one personal goal of mine is to break the misunderstanding that you have to be a farmer in order to become involved in the agriculture industry; through this, I hope to be a catalyst and inspire young minds."

Name: Kendall Knicely  
High School: Turner Ashby  
Parents: Randy and LaDawn Knicely  
Hometown: Bridgewater  
Extracurricular Activities: President, FFA; Vice president, 4H; Member, National Honor Society.  
Community Involvement: Participated in mission trip to Roanoke; Visited with state legislators in Richmond while in FFA; Organized county-wide hurricane-donation drive.  
Desired Field of Study: Agricultural sciences  
College: Virginia Tech  
Quote: "As a future agricultural education teacher, one personal goal of mine is to break the misunderstanding that you have to be a farmer in order to become involved in the agriculture industry; through this, I hope to be a catalyst and inspire young minds."

Name: Mia Kyler  
High School: Riverheads  
Parents: Peter and Cristi Kyler  
Hometown: Steelies Tavern  
Extracurricular Activities: Secretary, National Honor Society; Vice president, Foreign Language Honor Society; Vice president, Key Club.  
Community Involvement: Community theater; Student and volunteer dance teacher at Old Dominion Performance Arts Studio; Volunteer, Augusta Health.  
Desired Field of Study: Theater  
College: Barnard College, of Columbia University  
Quote: "While social media can be an extremely powerful agent of change, lasting change is not made by keyboard warriors, it is made by those willing to go out into the world and fight for their beliefs. I plan to use theater as a medium to give the young people in my community the power and confidence to do just that: revolutionize the world as we know it."

Name: Daniel Ludwig  
High School: Millbrook  
Parents: Josh and Rani Ludwig  
Hometown: Winchester  
Extracurricular Activities: Captain and founder, Debate Club; Member, National Honor Society; Vice president, senior class.  
Community Involvement: Volunteer, area food banks; Founder, local running club for children.  
Desired Field of Study: Political science  
College: University of Virginia  
Quote: "My goal is to become a policy lawyer and help fight the injustices that were bestowed upon our poorest citizens by policymakers and politicians who have consistently claimed to fight for the rights of American citizens but continue to abide by their own financial interests."

Name: Joyner Miller  
High School: Fort Defiance  
Parents: Kevin and Suzanne Miller  
Hometown: Verona  
Extracurricular Activities: President and captain, academic team, junior and senior years; Drum major, Marching Indians.  
Community Involvement: Eagle Scout, constructed outdoor facility for handicapped employees at Vector Industries in Waynesboro.  
Desired Field of Study: Public health and/or biology  
College: The College of William & Mary  
Quote: "I aim to be a public health practitioner, whose ultimate goal is to prevent illness in communities around the world, whether that be ensuring that they have potable water or have been vaccinated. For generations, public health officials have acted to reduce the occurrence of disease. … It is my hope that one day I can serve in a similar capacity, enabling my neighbors to lead healthier, happier lives."

Name: Aubree Morris  
High School: Broadway  
Parents: Jerry and Sandy Morris  
Hometown: Rockingham  
Extracurricular Activities: Team captain, varsity competition cheer, varsity swimming, and varsity tennis; Member, Diversity Club, National Honor Society, and Model General Assembly.  
Community Involvement: Member, Virginia Gators swim team and Broadway Sharks swim team; Active in youth group and 4H.  
Desired Field of Study: Nursing  
College: Frostburg State University  
Quote: "If a child or adult comes in, I want to inspire them to become whatever they want and know that just because life has setbacks, it does not mean you can’t achieve and overcome anything in the world. A job in nursing is not set up to just help hurt people … you also help families. Families are a unit, and when one member is not in their best physical or mental state, the other members feel it. Nurses of course put the person in need first, but they also make the family a priority."

Name: Benjamin Winn  
High School: Sherando  
Parents: John and Anne Winn  
Hometown: Winchester  
Extracurricular Activities: Member, National Honor Society; Senior officer, Young Democrats Club.  
Community Involvement: Attendee, Shenandoah University’s Leadership by Design program; Intern/volunteer, Our Health; Intern, Shenandoah Discovery Museum, as part of a gifted independent study class.  
Desired Field of Study: Psychology  
College: James Madison University  
Quote (from essay to scholarship committee): “By achieving an education in psychology, it would be my life’s mission to help others through the underrated medicine of human interaction. … I believe that if I could just provide my community with human interaction and the power of listening, I could go beyond just helping others with external problems and get down to the root of any personal issues that may be holding them back.”
Shenandoah Valley Electric Cooperative (SVEC) will begin moving furniture and other pieces this month to the Rockingham Complex in anticipation of a July opening for the new headquarters and Rockingham District office.

Additional information on exact opening dates for the new building will be shared in the July magazine as well as over SVEC’s social media channels. In the meantime, this month is expected to mark a major milestone — the Co-op’s last full month in its current Mount Crawford and Dayton buildings after many decades.

In the case of the Dayton facility, SVEC started there when it was the first electric cooperative chartered in Virginia in 1936. It had formerly been a school and will be occupied by Eddie Edwards Signs once SVEC’s move is complete. The Cooperative sold the building, and a detached warehouse/garage, to the sign company.

Ironically, the Co-op’s current headquarters will have a school as part of its history, too. Blue Ridge Christian School purchased the Mount Crawford building and will move from Bridgewater once SVEC is in its new facility.

SVEC occupied the existing headquarters since the early 1990s. The Cooperative’s Board of Directors’ decision to build a new facility came only after considerable deliberation and exploration of all options. The Board considered the significant growth to SVEC throughout recent years, including the acquisition of Allegheny Power’s Virginia territory in June 2010. The Cooperative grew by more than 130 percent in that single transaction.

Open House Planned

SVEC’s Rockingham Complex will be a state-of-the-art facility that meets the need of member-owners today and well into the future. An open house at this new facility is set for Saturday, Sept. 8, and we welcome member-owners to attend.

More information about this event will be shared through all of the Cooperative’s communication channels in the coming weeks.

The Rockingham Complex is at the corner of U.S. 11 and Oakwood Drive in Rockingham County. The address is 180 Oakwood Drive, Rockingham, VA.