

## **Bradley H. Hicks Bio:**



Brad Hicks is Habersham Electric Membership Corporation's Chief Executive Officer. In addition to leading the electric business he also leads Trailwave Fiber, HEMC's fiber-to-the-home (FTTH) business.

Prior to joining HEMC, Brad served as Pedernales Electric Cooperative's vice president of engineering and energy innovation, leading the nation's largest electric distribution cooperative and serving one of the fastest growing regions in the United States. He also served as the executive vice president at New Horizon Electric Cooperative, a G&T located in South Carolina. He has more than 25 years of experience in the utility industry.

Brad holds a bachelor degree in electrical engineering from Tennessee Technological University and a master of business administration from Aspen University. He is a licensed professional engineer in multiple states.

## Mike Callahan Bio:



Michael Callahan serves as executive vice president and chief executive officer of the), a statewide service organization representing Mississippi's 26 electric cooperatives.

Prior to joining ECM in 2005, Callahan served as Southern District Public Service Commissioner in Mississippi. Commissioner Callahan was first elected in November of 1999, and was the youngest Commissioner ever elected to the Commission. He served as Chairman of the Commission from January of 2002 until January of 2004.

While in office, Commissioner Callahan was actively involved with two regulatory organizations; the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners, where he served on the Electricity Committee, and the Southeastern Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners, where he served as President.

Callahan attended the University of Southern Mississippi on a football scholarship and played the position of lineman. Callahan graduated from U.S.M. with a Bachelor's Degree in Criminal Justice in 1989 and proceeded to the Mississippi College School of Law, where he received a Doctorate of Jurisprudence.

After college, Callahan worked for the law firm of Lee Rowell & Associates until becoming a Criminal Investigator and Assistant District Attorney for the Twelfth Judicial District in Hattiesburg. Upon leaving the District Attorney's Office in 1995, Michael started his own law practice, Hall & Callahan. He practiced law until accepting the position of the District Director of the Southern District Public Service Commission, a position held until February of 1999.

Callahan is married to the former Melissa Hudson of Long Beach, Mississippi. They reside in Madison, with their three children, Michael Hudson, age 22, Katlyne, age 19, and Victoria, age 16. The Callahans belong to Broadmoor Baptist Church in Madison, Mississippi.

## Gary E. Wood Bio



Gary Wood has been with Central Virginia Electric Cooperative (CVEC) since 1991, serving as Planning Engineering Manager and Vice President of Engineering and Operations before being promoted to President and CEO in 2008. CVEC serves almost 37,000 accounts in a service area that covers the area from Charlottesville down to Lynchburg along the eastern slopes of the Blue Ridge Mountains and eastward to within 30 miles of downtown Richmond.

Gary is also President and CEO of Firefly Fiber Broadband, a wholly owned subsidiary of CVEC that provides broadband internet and voice over IP services over a fiber network owned by CVEC.

Gary earned a Bachelors of Science degree in Electrical Engineering from the University of Virginia and a Masters in Business Administration from Auburn University. He attended the NRECA Management Internship Program.

Gary is a director on the Virginia Maryland Delaware Association of Electric Cooperatives. He previously served as a board member on the Blue Ridge Power Agency board.

Prior to his role as CEO, Gary served two terms on the Nelson County Board of Supervisors, including serving as chair for two years. He has also served on the Nelson County School Board and the Piedmont Virginia Community College Foundation Board. He has served in many local community organizations including youth sports and educational support committees.

Gary and his wife, Deborah Harvey, have two children.

## Chris A Davis Bio



- General Manager – Cumberland Electric Membership Corporation (CEMC)
- Employed with CEMC for 35 years – served in Engineering, Operations & Administrative Divisions.
- Assistant General Manager for one year
- Assumed General Manager responsibilities in July of 2018
- Currently serves on the Executive Committee for Middle Tennessee Industrial Development Association
- Received a Bachelor of Business Administration degree from Austin Peay State University in 1988
- Native of Clarksville; currently lives in Sango community in Montgomery County

## Sean Vanslyke Bio



Sean is head coach, chief custodian and CEO/GM of SEMO Electric Cooperative and GoSEMO Fiber. He excels in building teams and change management to make people's lives better. Sean holds a bachelor's from Missouri Southern State University and a master's from the University of Illinois/Springfield. He is a graduate of the NRECA Robert I. Kabat Management Internship Program.

## Jim Bagley Bio:



Jim is currently the Chief Executive Officer at United Electric and brings more than 25 years of knowledge and experience in the electric industry, most recently serving as CEO and Executive Vice-President at Raccoon Valley Electric Cooperative in Glidden, IA. Prior to that Jim was Director of Substation Operations at Sho-Me Power Electric Cooperative in Marshfield, MO; and Substation Electrician at the Southwestern Power Administration in Springfield, MO.

Jim hails from Marshfield, MO. He received both a bachelor's and master's degree from Drury University in Springfield, MO. Jim has completed the National Rural Electric Cooperative (NRECA) Robert I. Kabat Management Internship Program (MIP) and received his Cooperative Financial Professional Certificate from NRECA and the National Rural Utilities Cooperative Finance Corporation (CFC). Jim has served on multiple cooperative boards and committees throughout his career in the electric industry.

Jim is a Veteran of the United States Navy. Stationed in Pearl Harbor Hawaii, he served on a fast attack submarine.

## David Goodspeed Bio:



David comes to OEC & OEC Fiber with over 13 years of retail experience and 10 years in the Information Technology field at the University of Oklahoma recently serving as an Assistant Vice President in the Information Technology department working out of the office of the CIO, office of the Executive Vice President and CFO.

David has previously held a position with Apple Computers in Cupertino, Ca as a regional manager in their Higher Education area covering 13 states and over 75 college campuses working closely with those Universities to expand their brand and mission.

David truly thinks outside the box and challenges his team to find creative ways to deliver exceptional experiences that our OEC members will come to expect. His expertise and knowledge in Information Technology, innovative technologies and financial management comes from working closely with the University of Oklahoma's CIO, the Office of the Executive Vice President and CFO.

When he's not working closely with the OEC Fiber team he loves to spend time with his 4 year old rescued Basset Hound Boone.

## David Girvan Bio:



David is currently the Chief Operating Officer at United Electric and has over 15 years of experience in the telecommunications industry, and has worked for United Electric Cooperative since 2011. He has been responsible for the design, build, and management of United Electric's technology assets. His primary focus during his employment revolves around the aggressive deployment of commercial and residential fiber services through their subsidiary, United Services, Inc. Prior to United Electric, he was a consultant to the Coop for internal network infrastructure for two years while working for a technology consulting firm in St Joseph, MO as their Solutions Architect.

Originally from Melbourne, Australia, David moved to the United States in 2008. During his almost two decades in the Information Technology he has worked in many different roles from systems engineering, supervisory roles, software packaging and infrastructure builds. With significant international exposure, his career has been filled with project based assignments for large companies like IBM, HP and other industry leaders.

David holds his BS in Business Technology as well as numerous industry certifications including the Management Internship Program (MIP Select).

## Loyd Rice Bio:



Loyd is the Manager-Fiber Services for the cooperative's fiber subsidiary (GoSEMO, LLC) and manages sales, marketing, drops contractors, and premises installation contractors. A former electric lineman, operations supervisor, and a sales background with a sporting goods company, offers him a unique background that has been well suited for the new fiber subsidiary. Being willing to go outside the old boundaries and co-op norms, using the sales experience outside of the co-op, but still firmly planted in cooperative principles and attitudes to community, make this a perfect project for Loyd to help lead.

GoSEMO started home installations in spring 2018, and celebrated their 2000th subscriber for services on July 15, 2019. The cooperative serves 16,000 meters in a 6-county area of Southeast Missouri, with their largest town population being approx. 1800. A legacy incumbent provider in the 3 towns they serve added a layer of competition, but take rates continue to approach their personal goal of 40%. In partnering with Conexon, GoSEMO has seen such a successful first year of the planned 5-year buildout to the entire electric plant, their board and leadership decided to shorten this plan to a 3-year build. That will double the amount of mainline fiber that is built over the next two years, while ratcheting up all phases of services offering needs accordingly.

Currently operating a beta test operation in a neighboring municipality that isn't served electrically by SEMO, GoSEMO will lease fiber and pay an added residual for operating the fiber network for the town of approx.. 16,000. The towns intent to become a "Gig City" met with GoSEMO's willingness and energy, made for a great partnership locally, one that they hope to repeat as they expand the network to their entire area where possible.

"Tireless team effort, a great culture at our co-op, and our commitment to make lives better with juice and fiber, is why we will succeed. Nobody was coming to Southeast Missouri with better services, so we're really excited to be taking up this very right and good cause for our area!! It's what we should be doing as cooperatives when the circumstances allow, and I for one am glad to be a part of this journey to bring effective broadband to my community and area."

## Barrett Ewing Bio:



Barret Ewing is the Director of Engineering and Operations at Arkansas Valley Electric Cooperative, where he is responsible for directing the engineering, construction, operations and maintenance functions of AVECC's electric distribution and fiber smart-grid communication system. Barret came to AVECC with more than 12 years of experience managing a research and development team designing innovative devices for people with severe disabilities. He has experience in project management, electronic and mechanical design, software development, and communication design. He is a graduate from the University of Arkansas with a degree in Electrical Engineering.

## **Brandon Fisher Bio:**



Brandon Fisher is the Technology and Communications Manager where he leads a team of professionals who progressively integrate new technology into the cooperative, as well as support the critical systems that are used on a daily basis. Over his 13 years at AVECC Brandon has worked as a GIS Technician in both the Engineering and IT departments, spent 3 years as the GIS Coordinator, before becoming the IT/GIS manager in 2016. He has been a part of many innovative projects that have reshaped the cooperative technologically such as the implementation of drones and mobile devices used for daily operational functions, as well as a companywide move to cloud based technologies. Brandon earned his Associate of Applied Science in Geographical Information Systems at the University of Arkansas Fort Smith.