

Electric vehicle use gaining momentum

The appeal of electric vehicles is gaining momentum. The push for greater mileage in terms of miles per gallon (mpg) has been joined by the push for greater miles per charge (mpc). But before getting too far into this transportation evolution, a quick history lesson about electric vehicles (EVs) is in order.

The first known electric car was developed in 1837 in Aberdeen, Scotland. Early variants were powered by galvanic cells rather than rechargeable batteries. The lead-acid battery was invented in France in 1859 with further French development leading to the manufacturing of these batteries on an industrial scale in the early 1880s. This allowed a rechargeable battery to be installed on vehicles.

Soon manufacturers were selling a wide array of EVs ranging from trams to trolleys, to cars, and even locomotives. Interest in electric cars blossomed in the late 1890s and early 1900s. As roads improved and became more extensive, demand for greater range emerged. A variety of solutions were put forth including the first battery exchanges by an electric utility in Connecticut in 1910 and the first hybrid automobile in 1911. It would not be long until America led the world in number of EVs on the roads.

But the rapid expansion of the country and the limitation of electricity to major cities and towns spelled the end of the electric car. The world wanted to be mobile and EVs simply did not have the range required. Enter Henry Ford and the mass-produced, affordable internal combustion engine, and the EV's fate was sealed.

Fast forward to modern times and EVs are dominating the automotive news. Thanks to the electric cooperative movement, electricity is available everywhere in the U.S. and the majority of roads are paved.

While many drawbacks of EVs are gone, there is still a major

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DENISE MYERS

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Rachel Settles, Editor



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MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

We're ready to make a play

Kentucky may be nicknamed the Bluegrass State, but sports fans around the nation know us as the Basketball State. Our roundball roots run deep. Whether it's tuning in for a Wildcats score or cheering on a local team, many of us love the game.

That's why Bluegrass basketball fans respect University of Kentucky men's basketball coach John Calipari. In addition to guiding six teams to the NCAA Final Four, Coach Cal won the 2012 national championship at UK, was named Naismith College Coach of the Year three times, was inducted into the Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame and was recently named College Basketball Coach of the Decade.

When a game is on the line in the closing seconds, Coach Cal stresses that you cannot be afraid to take the game-winning shot. He also often talks about the importance of working as a team and serving others.

At Blue Grass Energy, we think like Coach Cal. Our entire team is ready to make a play when any type of storm hits. Our employees work night and day to restore power as safely and quickly as possible.

Our game plan includes being connected to the world's largest centrally dispatched power grid, called PJM Interconnection. By being part of a large regional power grid, Blue Grass Energy has a ready supply of power available—even when electric demand spikes on the coldest or hottest days of the year.

Another play in our playbook is investing and serving in our communities. We know supporting our friends and neighbors is important in making life better, the cooperative way.

So just remember, no matter when Mother Nature makes her way through our service area, your Blue Grass Energy team is ready. No matter the hour or the temperature, we're ready to make a play to keep your home comfortable and the game on.

By President/CEO
Michael I. Williams





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concern limiting EV growth dubbed “range anxiety”—the fear of running out of power. Our Bolt gets a maximum of 238 mpc. While the miles per charge is improving, EVs still get less mileage than most internal combustion vehicles. And, the lack of a rapid charging infrastructure is an ongoing challenge. Recently, we took a long-distance trip in our Bolt and locating chargers along the route took careful planning. When we found a bank of chargers, many of them were inoperative.

Just like their 20th century predecessors, pure EVs are great “city cars.”

Fortunately, advances in battery technology are improving the range issue. Range is steadily expanding and battery management systems are squeezing out more miles. At the same time, more companies are installing efficient charging stations at their places of business and there are a growing number of chargers in popular public locations.

Range anxiety aside, EVs have a bright future. Prices are dropping and range is expanding so owners can travel with a little bit of planning.

Further, if you’ve never driven an electric vehicle, you are in for a treat. While an internal combustion engine must rev up to speed, an EV has full power at its disposal instantly. They are quiet, well-appointed inside and allow you to bypass the lines at the gas station.

If you plan to install a charging system at home, be sure to consult an electrician.

To learn more about EVs, the types of chargers they require and more about our first-hand experiences, visit our EV page at bgenergy.com.



Kentucky already is a driving force in American car manufacturing with more than 85,000 citizens employed in the automotive industry in the state.

With car manufacturers dramatically expanding available models of electric vehicles (EVs), we are preparing now for the electrifying future.

There are already 94 public charging stations in the commonwealth, with even more planned.

DENISE MYERS

OUR 2020 CHARITY PARTNER

PARKINSON'S FOUNDATION

Join us for the Lexington MOVING DAY WALK to raise money and awareness for Parkinson's.

Saturday, April 18, 2020

Frederick Douglass High School | 200 Winchester Road, Lexington, KY
Activities Begin: 8:30 a.m. | We Move Ceremony & Walk: 10 a.m.

Form your team today at MovingDayLexington.org.

For more information, contact Amy Hickman: (502) 242-7168 or ahickman@parkinson.org.



**We Care.
We Fight.
We Move.
TO BEAT
PARKINSON'S**

AT MOVING DAY WALKS ACROSS THE COUNTRY, Parkinson's Foundation is raising funds, fighting Parkinson's disease and celebrating movement — proven to help manage Parkinson's symptoms. Whether you take part on a team, as a sponsor or volunteer, join us and move with thousands of supporters who share a common goal—to beat Parkinson's.

From Blue Grass Energy's bylaws

Members will elect one director from Districts 5 and 8. Each director serves a four-year term. The following, from Article IV, Section 5, of Blue Grass Energy's bylaws, outlines the nomination process.

Article IV, Section 5—Nominations. It shall be the duty of the Board of Directors to appoint, not less than fifty (50) days and not more than one hundred twenty (120) days before the date of a meeting the members at which a report of the election of directors is to be made a committee on nominations consisting of not less than five (5) nor more than ten (10) members who shall be selected so as to give equitable representation on the committee to the geographical areas served or to be served by the Cooperative. No officer or member of the Board of Directors shall be appointed a member of such committee. The committee shall prepare and post at the principal office of the Cooperative at least forty-five (45) days before the meeting, a list of nominations for Board of Directors.

One-half percent (1/2%) or more of the total number of consumers shown

on the Financial and Statistical Report of RUS Form 7 as of December 31 of the calendar year preceding the election may make other nominations in writing over their original dated signatures, signed within 120 days prior to the annual meeting, together with printed names, telephone numbers, and addresses by filing such nominations not more than ninety (90) days and not less than fifty (50) days prior to the meeting and the Secretary shall post the same at the same place where the list of nominations made by the committee is posted, if, after examination of the Provost, it is determined by said Provost that said petitions meet the requirements of the Bylaws, Articles of Consolidation, and the laws of the Commonwealth of Kentucky. In no event shall a member sign more than one petition for the nomination of a director from a district. All nominating petitions shall be submitted on the form of "Nomination Petition" provided by the cooperative. All nominees shall certify their qualifications by signing a "Certification of Candidate for Director" and completing

the "Application for Candidate for Director" form provided by cooperative and file same with the cooperative not less than 50 days before the date of the meeting of the members.

The date of the first working day not less than forty-five (45) days prior to the Annual Meeting shall be established as the certificate date which determines whether a member is in good standing and qualified for the purpose of signing a nominating petition and/or voting. A member in good standing is any active member who is in compliance with the Bylaws, Rules and Regulations of the Cooperative, and Rules and Regulations of the Public Service Commission as of forty-five (45) days prior to the Annual Membership Meeting. The Secretary shall deliver a list of members in good standing on the certification date to the Provost.

Any member, whose service is disconnected for any reason, will automatically become a nonvoting member until said member is reconnected and receiving electrical current.