

# JACKSON ENERGY



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## Honor Flight 2023 veterans

Johnny Bailey and Robert “Bob” Reams, both of Laurel County, are representing Jackson Energy as participants in the upcoming Honor Flight set for Sept. 16. These two are among the contingent of Kentucky war-era veterans who will fly from Lexington’s Blue Grass Airport to Reagan National Airport in Washington, D.C., to enjoy a full day of honors and sightseeing.

Bailey, 74, was drafted into the U.S. Army during the Vietnam War. He served as a helicopter crew chief during his two years of service from 1969 to 1970.

Reams, 74, served in the U.S. Navy from 1969 to 1971 and served two tours in Vietnam. On his second tour, he worked for the construction branch building and repairing roads in Vietnam.

Bailey and Reams will join other veterans in visiting memorials dedicated to those who served in World War II, the Korean War and the Vietnam War. The group will also tour memorials dedicated to those who served in the Air Force and Marine Corps. The day culminates with viewing the changing of the guard ceremony at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier in Arlington National Cemetery.

This is the 12th year Jackson Energy and Kentucky’s Touchstone Energy Cooperatives have sponsored the all-expense-paid Honor Flight. Volunteers representing Jackson Energy and



Vietnam War veterans Johnny Bailey, above left, and Bob Reams will be on board the 2023 Honor Flight to visit their memorials on a one-day tour of Washington, D.C. Photo: Lisa Baker. Below left, Bailey served in the U.S. Army and Reams served in the U.S. Navy—both serving tours in Vietnam.



the other co-ops will accompany the vets to assist them as they travel. The trip is organized in partnership with Honor Flight Kentucky.

“It’s an honor for us to sponsor both Johnny and Bob and the other heroes from Kentucky,” says Carol Wright, president and CEO. “We owe them so much for the freedoms we enjoy, and we hope all the veterans return saying

it was one of the most memorable days of their lives.”

To further honor this year’s Honor Flight participants, Jackson Energy is helping to organize a special welcome for their return. Families, friends and supporters are invited to arrive at Blue Grass Airport by 8:15 p.m. on Sept. 16 to greet the veterans when their flight returns from Washington, D.C.



**Lisa Baker, Editor**

Published by Jackson Energy

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**REGULAR OFFICE HOURS**

Monday-Friday, 7:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

**OFFICES**

KY HWY 290, McKee  
KY HWY 229, London  
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**MEMBER SERVICES**

Headquarters - (606) 364-1000  
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**PAYMENT KIOSK**

Peg's Food Mart, Mt. Vernon  
Quickie Market, Manchester  
E.C. Porter's IGA, London  
Jackson Energy District Office,  
London  
Jack's IGA, Beattyville  
Town & Country, Annville  
Rite Kwik Market, Burning Springs  
Fill-Ups Gas & Grocery,  
Clover Bottom

**WORKING FOR YOU**

# Better than you found it

*Voting isn't a chore—it's a privilege*

**A**s election season draws closer, there's a piece of advice that returns to my mind: "Always leave something better than you found it." I bet you heard this advice, too. Maybe an older relative taught you to clean up borrowed tools before returning them to their owners. Maybe you had a parent who insisted that you clear your own dishes after dinner. For many of us, the idea is deeply ingrained: We have a responsibility to solve our own problems, clean up our own messes and, yes, leave things better than we found them.

Election season brings its own set of responsibilities. For ordinary citizens like you and me, going to the ballot box and casting a vote for our state leaders may feel like a chore, but really, it's a privilege. It's one of many important ways we can leave our state better than we found it—not only for ourselves, but for those who come after us.

Here at Jackson Energy, we are firm believers in democratic government. Jackson Energy is owned by you, the member. It is governed by a board of directors that you elect, who also live in your communities. As a cooperative, we see the importance of your input and involvement every day—and we want your voice to be heard all across the state.

In recent years, communities like ours have seen a troubling downward trend in voter turnout. In the 2022 general election, for example, only 41.9% of registered voters in Kentucky cast a ballot. It was the state's lowest mid-term turnout in nearly 30 years. This year, Kentucky's electric cooperatives, including Jackson Energy, once again partnered with Kentucky Secretary of State Michael Adams to launch Co-ops Vote, a nonpartisan initiative that aims to help co-op voters make their voices heard at the ballot box.

I encourage you to visit the Co-ops Vote website at [vote.coop](http://vote.coop) to check your voter registration status or register to vote, browse election resources, learn more about elected officials and candidates and stay up-to-date on the issues that matter to Kentucky's electric cooperatives. The last day to register to vote in this general election is Tuesday, October 10.

While the national media keeps its eyes on 2024, we know that Kentucky's election matters just as much as any other. So, get registered, get informed and plan to vote this November. It's one more way to leave our state better than we found it.

By President & CEO  
Carol Wright



# Supporting young leaders

*Jackson Energy sponsors students on Washington Youth Tour*

When you hear about Jackson Energy investing in the communities we serve, it's not just in electrical infrastructure, economic development or the local events we support. We also have a national reach, sponsoring local students each year on the Washington Youth Tour.

In June, four local rising seniors joined 55 other electric co-op students from across the commonwealth for a weeklong, all-expenses-paid trip to Washington, D.C. The trip gives Kentucky's next generation of leaders the chance to meet with their senators and representatives and to participate in civic engagement activities with students from across the country. "This trip has opened up so many relationships that I'll remember forever. Being able to view our beautiful nation in-person will never compare to what we read in textbooks," says Hannah Barnard from North Laurel High School.

Students were joined in Washington, D.C., by more than 1,800 delegates representing electric co-ops from across the country. Marking its 58th year, the Washington Youth Tour educates students about the issues facing co-ops, encouraging them to come home to Kentucky and help lead the co-ops in the future. "I enjoyed being able to form relationships and network with people from all over the country," says Katie Lucas from Owsley County High School.

The busy itinerary included stops at national memorials, Smithsonian museums, the Holocaust Museum and International Spy Museum, Arlington National Cemetery and Thomas Jefferson's Monticello. At the U.S. Capitol, Jackson Energy students interacted with Kentucky's congressional delegation, including Sen. Rand Paul and representatives Brett Guthrie, Thomas Massie, James Comer, Andy Barr and Morgan McGarvey. Students also heard from staff members representing Sen. Mitch McConnell and Rep. Hal Rogers.



Representing Jackson Energy on the Washington Youth Tour were Member Service Representative Lynne House, left; Kinley Jones, Jackson County; Katie Lucas, Owsley County; Hannah Barnard, Laurel County; Jabe Fredrick, Clay County; and Beattyville Office Supervisor Renita Fox. Photos: Tim Webb

"The Washington Youth Tour was a great experience," says Jabe Fredrick, a student at Clay County High School. "It's a great opportunity for those who don't know what they want to do in life yet. It showed me jobs that I didn't know existed."

Coordinated by Kentucky Electric Cooperatives, the Washington Youth Tour gives students the unique opportunity to witness our government in action. This trip is designed to give students a personal understanding of American history and their role as citizens by meeting their representatives and senators.

"The Washington Youth Tour is an amazing and beneficial experience for high school students to explore the capital of our great nation," says Kinley Jones, a student at Jackson County High School. "This trip has also opened the possibilities of networking with other students across the state. I am hopeful to use these connections in my future."

Kentucky's co-ops have sent rising high school seniors on the Washington Youth Tour since 1972. "We are investing in our local students because we



believe it is important for young leaders to see our nation's capital and gain a better understanding of the responsibilities of our elected members of congress and state representatives and what it means to be a citizen of this great nation," says Carol Wright, Jackson Energy CEO.

# 2023 ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING OFFICIAL NOTICE

PHOTOS: TIM WEBB



**DISTRICT 1**  
Gordon Phillips



**DISTRICT 3**  
Dr. Brian Cooke



**DISTRICT 5**  
Phil Thompson

Members:

The Annual Business Meeting of the members of the Jackson Energy Cooperative will be held at the Co-op Farm, 6.5 miles south of McKee, Kentucky, on Sept. 28, 2023, at noon.

You are cordially invited to attend and participate in the activities of your cooperative. The agenda of the business session will be as follows:

1. Report on the number of members present in person in order to determine the existence of a quorum.
2. Appoint a Secretary for the meeting.
3. Reading of the notice of the meeting and proof of the due publication or mailing thereof, or the waiver or waivers of notice of the meeting, as the case may be.
4. Reading or waiver of reading, and approval of the unapproved minutes of the previous meeting(s) of the members and the taking of necessary action thereon.
5. Presentation and consideration of, and action upon, reports of officers, directors and committees.
6. Report on the nomination of directors by committee or petition.
7. Election of Directors.
8. Unfinished business.
9. New business.
10. Adjournment.

In connection with the election of directors scheduled for this meeting, the following members, whose names shall be placed on the official ballot, have been nominated for director by the Committee on Nominations appointed by the Board of Directors pursuant to the official bylaws: District 1—Gordon Phillips, 2567 Hwy 421 South, McKee, KY 40447; District 3—Dr. Brian Cooke, 106 Pinewood Court, London, KY 40744; District 5—Phil Thompson, 896 East Level Green Road, Brodhead, KY 40409.

*Teresa Dawes*

Teresa Dawes, Secretary, Jackson Energy Cooperative

## Scholarships \$2,000 NO ESSAY

Applications will be accepted  
Sept. 1–Nov. 30, 2023

High school seniors who plan to attend an accredited college or trade school in the fall of 2024 are invited to apply—**NO ESSAY REQUIRED!**

**Student's Name:**

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**High School:**

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**Complete Home Address:**

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**Phone Number:**

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**Email Address:**

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**Name of Person  
(and relation) on the electric bill:**

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**Jackson Energy Account Number:**

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For a complete set of rules and to **APPLY ONLINE**, visit our website at [www.jacksonenergy.com/jackson-energy-essay-scholarship](http://www.jacksonenergy.com/jackson-energy-essay-scholarship).

Applicants may also complete this form and return to: Jackson Energy Cooperative, Attn: Scholarships, 115 Jackson Energy Lane, McKee, KY 40447.