

JACKSON ENERGY



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Flying with honor

Jackson Energy grateful for our local heroes

Local veterans who served during the Vietnam War were scheduled to represent Jackson Energy as participants on an Honor Flight to Washington, D.C., on Aug. 23.

Garnett Gibson of Keavy and Marvin Williams of London traveled to the nation's capital with other Kentucky war veterans to experience a full day of sightseeing and see memorials built in their honor.

"Making it possible for both Garnett and Marvin and the other heroes from Kentucky to make this trip is our sincere pleasure," says Carol Wright, president and CEO of Jackson Energy. "We owe them so much for the freedoms we enjoy, and we hope all the veterans return saying it was one of the greatest days of their lives."

Gibson, 83, served in the U.S. Army and Army Reserve during the Vietnam War. Gibson spent the majority of his years of service stationed in Germany where his duties included patrolling the Berlin Wall. Once back in the states, he was assigned to the Delta Company as a mechanical instructor, providing technical training in vehicle and equipment maintenance. Gibson earned the National Defense Service Medal, in addition to the Expert Rifle badge.

Williams, 77, served in the U.S. Army with the 1st Calvary Division. His duties included serving in the weapons infantry unit, squad leader and assisting as a machine gunner. He witnessed first-hand the Battle of Angel's Wing in 1969 near the Cambodian border in Vietnam. In less than two years of service, he received the Bronze Star Medal with Valor, two Air Medals, and the Purple Heart for wounds sustained in combat.

The trip took Gibson and Williams to view memorials dedicated to those who served in World War II, the Korean War and the Vietnam War. The group also toured memorials dedicated to those who served in the Air Force and Marine Corps. The day culminated with a wreath-laying at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier in Arlington National Cemetery.

On their return flight, the veterans participated in "mail call." Each received cards and letters thanking them for their service to the nation.

Jackson Energy helped organize a



MICHELLE BELT



LISA BAKER

Vietnam War veterans Garnett Gibson, left, and Marvin Williams were on board the 2025 Honor Flight to visit their memorials on a one-day tour of Washington D.C.



PHOTO: GIBSON FAMILY



PHOTO: WILLIAMS FAMILY

special homecoming celebration for the Honor Flight participants. Families, friends and supporters lined Blue Grass Airport to cheer on the veterans as they paraded through the airport terminal building.

This is the 14th year Jackson Energy and Kentucky's Touchstone Energy Cooperatives have sponsored the all-expenses-paid trip. Co-op employees and volunteers accompany the vets to assist them as they travel.

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

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Power of preparation

With severe weather events occurring more frequently, now more than ever, it makes sense to be prepared. During a prolonged power outage or other emergency, this means having enough food, water and supplies to last at least a few days.

In honor of National Preparedness Month in September, I want to remind members of our community about the power of preparation. While you don't have to achieve a doomsday prepper level of preparedness, there are several practical steps you can take to keep you and your family safe.

We recommend starting with the basics:

- Assemble a grab-and-go disaster kit. Include items like nonperishable food, water (one gallon per person, per day), diapers, batteries, flashlights, prescription medications, first-aid kit and battery-powered radio.
- Develop a plan for communicating with family and friends (i.e., via text, social media, third party, etc.).
- Have some extra cash available; during a power outage, electronic card readers and cash machines may not work.
- Store important documents (birth certificates, property deed, etc.) in safe place away from home (for example, a bank safe deposit box).

Caring for vulnerable family members

If you have family members who are older or have special needs, make sure they have enough medication and supplies for a few days. If you have an infant or young children, be sure you have ample formula, diapers, medication and other supplies on hand to weather an outage lasting several days.

Keeping four-legged family members safe

For families with pets, having a plan in place will help reduce worry and stress during an emergency.

- Bring pets indoors at the first sign of a storm or other emergency. Pets can become disoriented and frightened during severe weather.
- Microchip your pet and ensure the contact information is up to date.
- Create an emergency kit for pets (with shelf-safe food and bottled water).

At Jackson Energy, we care about your safety. Planning now for an emergency can give you more confidence to deal with severe weather and potential outages in the future.

By President & CEO
Carol Wright



The trip of a lifetime

Kentucky electric co-op students experience D.C.

Kentucky's electric cooperatives sponsored 61 high school seniors on the trip of a lifetime in June. A delegation of rising leaders visited the nation's capital for the 2025 Washington Youth Tour, experiencing the city's rich history and nonstop energy. Students enjoyed a front-row seat to the stories, service and sacrifices that have shaped our country and cooperative communities—all while making unforgettable memories of their own.

Jackson Energy proudly sponsors the statewide youth tour program, which gives students the chance to explore our nation's history, meet elected leaders and see cooperative principles in action. "We believe in giving young people opportunities to lead," says Mallory Wafzig, manager of cooperative outreach for Kentucky Electric Cooperatives. "The youth tour helps students build confidence, expand their network and develop the leadership skills they'll carry into the future."

This year, Kristopher Gibson, Katie Gilliam, Hailey Judd and Makayleigh Ward represented Jackson Energy on the tour.

"I will always remember my time on the Washington Youth Tour," says Gibson. "Especially the random stops for shaved ice and trading pins with other



Representing Jackson Energy on the Washington Youth Tour were Katie Gilliam, left, Kristopher Gibson, Financial Accountant Jessica Hays, Beattyville Office Supervisor Renita Fox, Hailey Judd and Makayleigh Ward. Photo: April Burgess

states. I reminisce on the fun we had and how close we all became."

Trip highlights included a tour of Thomas Jefferson's Monticello, a visit to Arlington National Cemetery, where students took part in a wreath-laying ceremony at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier, the 9/11 Memorial at the Pentagon, the Marine Corps Sunset Parade and a walking tour of D.C.'s iconic memorials and monuments. Students also spent time exploring the Smithsonian museums and experienced the power of language at the Planet Word Museum.

"The Washington Youth Tour is an unforgettable experience where I made lifetime memories and new relationships," says Gilliam.

For the first time, Kentucky's delegation toured the White House, with some students catching a glimpse of President Donald Trump as he oversaw a flagpole installation on the lawn. At the Capitol, students asked questions and explored how government works. They met with Sen. Rand Paul and engaged in thoughtful conversations about the farm bill, artificial intelligence and the role of Congress in shaping national policy. Staff from the House Energy and Commerce

Committee, as well the offices of Rep. James Comer and Rep. Thomas Massie, offered a behind-the-scenes look at the legislative process.

"Youth tour not only taught me about our government and history but also taught me how to be confident," says Ward. "This trip has changed my life for the better."

"As part of our commitment to community, Jackson Energy invests in the leaders of tomorrow," says Jackson Energy CEO Carol Wright. "The Washington Youth Tour is an experience that stays with them for life."



JESSICA HAYS



RENITA FOX

Coming to your town

Member Appreciation event dates/locations

Sept. 16 – 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.

Estill County
Meade's Do-It Center Irvine

Lee County
Jackson Energy's Beattyville District Office

Rockcastle County
Kentucky Music Hall of Fame
Renfro Valley–Mount Vernon

Sept. 17 – 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.

Clay County
Jackson Energy's Manchester Office

Laurel County
Jackson Energy's London District Office

Owsley County
United Methodist Church Life Center Booneville

Sept. 18 – 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.

Jackson County
Jackson Energy's McKee District Office

Stop by and register for our member appreciation event and collect your free bucket and LED bulb. Drive-thru registration will be available. Members may only register at one location.

2025 Annual Business Meeting September 18 – Noon McKee District Office

- Drive-up business meeting
- Members stay in their vehicles
- Must be present to win cash prizes; cash prize winners will be announced at the end of the business meeting
- Register for the business meeting and collect your free bucket and LED bulb

Scholarships \$2,000 NO ESSAY

**Applications will be accepted
until November 28, 2025**

High school seniors who plan to attend an accredited college or trade school in the fall of 2026 are invited to apply – NO ESSAY REQUIRED!

Student's name:

High school:

Complete home address:

Phone number:

Email address:

Name of person
on the electric bill (and relation):

Jackson Energy account number:

Paying it forward

Operation RoundUp is a program that offers Jackson Energy members the opportunity to give back to their community a few cents at a time. The program is solely funded by co-op members who voluntarily choose to round up their electric bill to the next even dollar amount each month. Year-to-date, over \$20,000 has been given back to our communities.



Accepting the \$600 Operation RoundUp check for Clay County High School's Jobs for American Graduates Program, are student Cody Sizemore, left, Clay County Teacher and JAG Specialist Jessica Bray and student Kaylee Maxie. Photo: Brent Jackson

Candace Ward and mini-member Karson Moore accept the \$1,000 Operation RoundUp check on behalf of Owsley County Search and Rescue. Photo: Brent Jackson



SENGCHOY INT / ADDBESTOCK

For a complete set of rules and to APPLY ONLINE, visit our website at www.jacksonenergy.com/jackson-energy-essay-scholarship

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