

Another successful annual meeting Photos: Tim Webb

On Thursday, June 6, Blue Grass Energy welcomed a crowd of approximately 1,500 to the cooperative's annual meeting, held at the Keeneland Entertainment Barn in Lexington, Kentucky.

Attendees were treated to a meeting geared toward families—with several children's activities, which varied from bounce houses to video games.

Entertainment included bingo for everyone—with members winning over \$1,000 in prizes. A meal of barbecue and hot dogs with all the trimmings was provided to all in attendance prior to the business meeting.

Multiple exhibits were on hand. They represented wide-ranging topics from Cooperative Solar to information on Kentucky State Parks.

Just before the business meeting began, John Chamberland of Faith Baptist Church in Cynthiana gave the invocation, and the group 4Ways from Lawrenceburg performed the national anthem following the presentation of colors by the Frankfort Composite Squadron of the Kentucky Wing Civil Air Patrol.

During the business meeting, Dennis Moneyhon, chairman of Blue Grass Energy's board of directors, spoke to the crowd. He reminded members that not

only is Blue Grass Energy a service-driven cooperative, but also a cost-conscious one.

"One of the many benefits of being a Blue Grass Energy member is that we are service-driven, not profit-driven. As a board, we want all members to receive the quality of service they expect and deserve. We do this while being good stewards of

the money you are investing in your co-op. This has allowed us another year of no rate increases."

Director and Board Secretary-Treasurer Jane Smith presented the treasurer's report then entertained and accepted a motion to dispense with the reading of the 2018 minutes.

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These youngsters are sporting their new Blue Grass Energy hard hats given out at the annual meeting.



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Cooperative Attorney David Roysse performed the installation of the re-elected directors. They were:

- Richard Cobb–District 2
- Jody Hughes–District 6

President and CEO Mike Williams addressed the membership. Williams gave a report that focused on looking at the future of the cooperative.

“While we are focused on future goals, we keep you at the center of our decisions and plans. As we continue to move forward, you can rest assured we will remain local while keeping our focus on powering your life with safe, reliable, affordable around-the-clock energy, and providing you with the outstanding service you deserve.”

He was followed by Chris Perry, president and CEO of Kentucky Electric Cooperatives. Perry recognized Blue Grass Energy

as a leader not only locally, but nationally as well. Perry applauded employees for working more than 600,000 hours without a loss time incident by the end of 2018.

Blue Grass Energy also awarded \$15,000 in scholarships at the event. Following the business meeting, 10 high school graduates, served by Blue Grass Energy, were selected during a random draw. They each received a \$1,500 scholarship from the co-op.

The 2019 scholarship winners are:

- Marcus Alzner–Lexington
- Abigail Ambrose–Berea
- Lauren Chadwell–Berea
- Leah Hatton–Nicholasville
- Michaelina D. Livolsi–Nicholasville
- Parker Ridings–Frankfort
- Christen Smith–Cynthiana
- Hunter Sparks–Cynthiana
- Madeline Sparks–Cynthiana
- Travis Sparks–Cynthiana

Seven additional students were also recognized for being selected to attend the cooperative’s Washington Youth Tour.

The 2019 Washington Youth Tour recipients are:

- Fielden Bechanan
- Alyssa Crum
- Hallie Harrison
- Raegan Long
- Regan Moore
- Anna Ortiz
- Abbey Rodgers

The cooperative also had the sixth-annual silent auction benefiting their 2019 charity, Kentucky Wounded Heroes. There were 50 items that raised nearly \$2,500.

At the conclusion of the meeting, names were drawn for a variety of prizes for all ages.

Scholarship winners whose names were drawn are pictured below. From front left, Lauren Chadwell, Madeline Sparks, Parker Ridings, Abigail Ambrose and Michaelina Livolsi; from back left, Marcus Alzner, Hunter Sparks, Travis Sparks, Christen Smith and Leah Hatton.

Washington Youth Tour participants from front left are Alyssa Crum, Raegan Long, Fielden Bechanan; from back left, Regan Moore, Anna Ortiz, Abbey Rodgers and Hallie Harrison.



