

AUGUST 2020

Making life better, the cooperative way

Pennies for Purpose applications available

ooperatives everywhere adhere to the same set of guiding principles. One of those is "Concern for Community."

In 2018, we launched our Pennies for Purpose (PFP) program, which allows members to round up their electric bill to the next dollar. That donation goes into a fund used to support charitable causes across our service area. This program is the perfect embodiment of the Concern for Community principle.

Co-op members who participate donate an average of \$6 a year. This may not seem like a large amount, but when combined with other members, it adds up to make a significant impact. The program is voluntary, and at any time, members can change their minds about participating.

Pennies for Purpose is governed by its own committee that is separate from our board of directors.

As of June, we had 741 out of around 60,000 members enrolled. Even though our program is young, we have made one donation of \$1,000 to the Pendleton County Education Foundation to be used for the Miracle Point Playground—a facility that accommodates children and adults who use wheelchairs, orthotic braces and walkers—and we're planning to make more donations in the near future.

As this program continues to grow, we are excited for the opportunities to support our members and the needs of our communities.

Are you a member or representative of a charitable organization that is making life better for our communities? If so, consider submitting an application for a donation from Pennies for Purpose.

More information and applications are available at bgenergy.com.





Making life better, the cooperative way"

CONTACT INFORMATION

24-Hour Service: (888) 546-4243 Automated payment: (877) 934-9491 Report an outage: (888) 655-4243 bgenergy.com

HEADQUARTERS

P.O. Box 990 1201 Lexington Road Nicholasville, KY 40340-0990

LOCAL OFFICES

327 Sea Biscuit Way Cynthiana, KY 41031-0730 1200 Versailles Road Lawrenceburg, KY 40342-0150 2099 Berea Road Richmond, KY 40476-0276

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Dennis Moneyhon | Chair | Foster Gary Keller | Vice Chair | Harrodsburg Jane Smith | Secretary-Treasurer | Waddy Richard Cobb IV | Richmond Doug Fritz | Paint Lick Jody Hughes | Lawrenceburg Paul Tucker | Sadieville Lu Young | Nicholasville

PUBLISHED MONTHLY BY BLUE GRASS ENERGY AS A SERVICE TO OUR MEMBERS. Rachel Settles. Editor



This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer.



Electricity brings everyday value

hen people flip the light switch, they expect the lights to come on, myself included. Because electricity is reliable, we only think about it when the power goes out or perhaps when the monthly bill arrives.

Given how electricity powers our everyday lifestyle, it's a great value, especially when compared to other common services and expenses. For example, think back to the cost of a gallon of gasoline 20 years ago. Consider the cost of groceries from a few years back. In comparison, the cost of electricity has remained stable.

But considering what electricity does for us, it's a tremendous value for our quality of life. Many of us have been spending more time at home over these last few months and electricity has made that time more bearable. The bottom line: electricity brings everyday value. Knowing that electricity is something that we all use around the clock, our focus on providing reliable service never stops. We are continually working to improve our operations to ensure your power is there when you need it.

As I close, I want to say that we recognize the past few months have been challenging for many of our members and we're here to help. If you have questions about your account or are looking for ways to save energy at home, please give us a call.

As your trusted source for energy and information, we want to help you with finding solutions. Blue Grass Energy is your electric co-op and our sole purpose is making life better, the cooperative way. That's everyday value.

> By President/CEO Michael I. Williams

BLUE GRASS ENERGY

Scholarship winners

Blue Grass Energy is pleased to announce the winners of our 2020 scholarships. On June 4, ten graduating high school seniors were chosen by a random drawing to receive \$1,500 each.

Since beginning this program in 1991, Blue Grass Energy has awarded over \$285,000 in scholarships to

students in our area. Investing in the future of our young members is just one of the many ways we are making life better, the cooperative way.

We congratulate the following young members for being selected.







Caroline Absher

Autumn Burgan

Shawn Fugate



Jay Giannasio



Callie Haywood



Wilson Hourigan Susannah Lane Photography





Sydney Mellon Piper Clark



Cassidy Reed Lifetouch



Casey Sledd Lifetouch



Harley Tomlin

Washington Youth Tour winners

Prior to the COVID-19 pandemic, seven young members were chosen to participate in our Washington Youth Tour. For over 50 years, teens from rural America have been going to Washington, D.C., courtesy of their local electric cooperatives.

This year, because of COVID-19 and our commitment to keep our communities safe, the Washington Youth Tour was canceled. There will be a void this year without having that delegation of young leaders visiting Washington, D.C.

We would like to recognize this achievement of the following students.





Haley Abell





Jacob Alteri

Mallory Creech Jenny Meade Photography



Harrison Higgs



Brady Howard



Amber Kern Holifield Photography



Edward Woolery Holifield Photography

Blue Grass Energy has first ever virtual annual meeting

On Thursday, June 4, Blue Grass Energy hosted its first ever virtual annual meeting.

This event, unlike any other in the cooperative's history, was held in place of a traditional, in-person meeting. The change was made out of an abundance of caution, for both members and employees, during the COVID-19 pandemic health situation.

From 7:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., registration was held at all four local offices. There were 542 registered members. At 3:30 p.m., the business meeting was livestreamed.

Board Chair Dennis Moneyhon stated, "Much of our

focus lands on managing operating expenses. This has a direct correlation to what you pay for your power. Our conservative practices have allowed our financial markers to remain competitive and stable. So, once again, I'm happy to report another year of no rate increases. We have also just returned about \$2 million in capital credits to our members for the fourth year in a row."

Moneyhon's speech was followed by the installation of two directors: Lu Young, District 5, and Dennis Moneyhon, District 8, then comments were heard from President/CEO Mike Williams before the meeting was adjourned.