

# JEMCOnews

*Together,*

WE'RE A COOPERATIVE

JULY 2019 | IN THIS ISSUE

WIN \$3,000 IN ENERGY EFFICIENT APPLIANCES AT ANNUAL MEETING  
VIEW YOUR ENERGY USE WITH MYJACKSONEMC  
COMMUNITY IMPACT: BANKS COUNTY SENIOR LIFE CENTER





# WHAT'S A CO-OP?

Have you ever met a new person and one of the first things they ask you is, "What do you do?" I meet a lot of new people, so it's a question that pops up on a regular basis. I'll tell folks I work at my local electric cooperative and if they're not familiar with Jackson EMC – or another electric co-op – I'm often asked, "What's a co-op?"

Cooperatives are different. Electric co-ops – including Jackson EMC – were built by the communities they serve. Our cooperative started more than 80 years ago when residents and business leaders came together to bring electricity to our area. Working together, those neighbors helped lay the foundation for how we continue to operate – serving our members and community.

You know what else makes a co-op different? We give back excess revenue to our members each year. As a not-for-profit organization, our members receive these funds – called margin refunds – as a check in the mail. Over the lifetime of our co-op, Jackson EMC has returned \$135 million in margin refunds to its members. That's pretty incredible!

If you've been a Jackson EMC member for a while, you know about our Annual Meeting. For newer co-op members or those unfamiliar with Annual Meeting, I like to describe it as a family reunion. There's plenty of food, entertainment, and fellowship, but there are also members participating in the business affairs of their cooperative. As a co-op, we're led by our members – which gives us a unique understanding of the needs of our local community. Annual Meeting is an opportunity to enjoy the festivities and participate in your co-op.

Even though we're locally owned and operated, as a co-op, we cooperate with other electric cooperatives in Georgia and around the country. This benefits members because we work together to develop new technologies and infrastructure that help multiple co-ops provide reliable and affordable electricity to their communities.

When asked, we help other co-ops restore power to their communities after major storms, as they've done for us. It's these types of collaborations that allow co-ops to

address challenges together while remaining focused on their members.

I've been part of a co-op family for most of my life. My dad, who's now retired, had a long career in electric cooperatives. So, I've been blessed to see what's often called the "spirit of cooperation" at co-ops for many years. We're here to serve our members with reliable, low-cost electricity delivered with personal service. And I can say it really is the most rewarding and fulfilling place to be!

**Have an idea on how your electric cooperative can better serve members? Email me at [chip@jacksonemc.com](mailto:chip@jacksonemc.com).**



**Chip Jakins,  
President/CEO**

## NEED TO KNOW: ANNUAL MEETING NOTICE TO MEMBERS

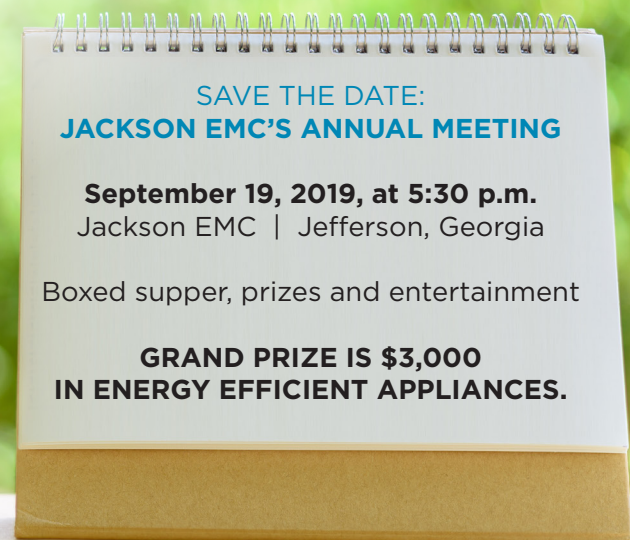
Dear Member:

Official notice is hereby given that the 2019 meeting of the members of Jackson Electric Membership Corporation will be held at the headquarters in Jefferson, Ga., on Thursday, September 19, 2019. Registration will begin at approximately 5:30 p.m. The meeting will be called to order at approximately 7:20 p.m. by the chairperson. The purpose of the meeting is to:

1. Receive reports of officers, directors and committees;
2. Elect three directors; and
3. Handle all other business which may properly come before the meeting or any adjournment thereof.

Prizes, entertainment, a box supper, important business and other special programs will be featured at this meeting. You are requested to be present.

Sincerely,  
Lynn Price, Secretary, Board of Directors



# VIEW YOUR ENERGY USE WITH MYJACKSONEMC

**MyJacksonEMC, a new website and mobile app, allows members to view and analyze their energy use.**

With the energy use tool on MyJacksonEMC, members can view their energy use by the hour, day, month or specific date ranges. Members can also view their average energy use by billing or time periods.

The tools in MyJacksonEMC also allow you to compare your energy use to daily weather temperatures. Typically, you'll use more energy to heat or cool your home or business when weather temperatures are extremely low or high.

To get started with the energy use tools in MyJacksonEMC, be sure to sign up for a MyJacksonEMC account on the website (**MyJacksonEMC.com**) or by downloading the MyJacksonEMC mobile app on the App Store or Google Play.

On the MyJacksonEMC website, the energy use tools can be found under the "My Usage" section. On the mobile app, the energy use tools are accessible when you tap the "Energy Use" icon. To access the most options and features of the energy use tools, we recommend visiting the MyJacksonEMC website on a desktop computer or laptop.



# Together,

## WE'RE A COOPERATIVE

**Jackson EMC is an electric cooperative. In fact, we're one of more than 900 electric co-ops in the U.S. serving more than 42 million people.**

As a cooperative, it's our mission to serve our members and our community. So, what's a cooperative?

Cooperatives are formed to meet a common need that serves their members, who are also owners of the co-op. More than 80 years ago, residents and business leaders came together to bring electricity to our area by establishing Jackson EMC. Besides providing electricity, there are also co-ops that provide insurance, financial services, groceries and retail products.



**Jackson EMC members benefit from being a member of a co-op by receiving a portion of the profits each year through margin refund checks.**

Cooperatives return any excess revenue to their members in proportion to how much of the co-op's services they used. Since 1938, Jackson EMC has returned \$135 million in margin refunds to our members.

**Our members demonstrate concern for community by rounding up their power bills to the next dollar with the extra change funding charitable grants provided by the Jackson EMC Foundation.**

Since its inception in 2005, the Jackson EMC Foundation has distributed more than \$14 million in Operation Round Up funds to organizations and individuals in need.





**Education, Training and Information is one of the principles followed by cooperatives.**

Through school visits, Jackson EMC employees educate students about electrical safety and careers in electric co-ops. Our members can learn how to save energy by reading *JEMCO News* or visiting our website ([jacksonemc.com](http://jacksonemc.com)).

**In communities across America, electric co-ops are economic engines that supply energy and provide jobs.**

Jackson EMC actively supports economic development in our community and partners with local businesses to maximize their energy efficiency.



**Cooperatives are led by its members, who have a voice in the management of the co-op.**

One of the ways members can participate in the cooperative is by attending Jackson EMC's Annual Meeting, which provides information about business operations.



**Across the country, electric cooperatives work together to learn from each other and develop new technologies.**

Whether it's providing reliable power or restoring power after a storm, electric co-ops often work alongside other co-ops to serve their communities. Jackson EMC is the largest of 41 electric membership corporations (called EMCs) in Georgia and collaborates with other cooperatives in the state to provide power generation and transmission to economic development.



## COMMUNITY IMPACT: BANKS COUNTY SENIOR LIFE CENTER

When older adults get a moderate amount of physical activity, the health benefits can be significant, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). With regular physical activity, older adults can reduce the risk of dying of coronary heart disease and help control joint swelling and pain from arthritis, among other benefits, according to the CDC.

Tracie Hammond, director of the Banks County Senior Life Center, says you're never too old to start healthier activities.

"I can see a difference in our clients when they come here and start exercising," she said.

The Banks County Senior Life Center was established to provide nutritional, social, educational and recreational programs to older adults in the county. The center focuses on providing peer support through the normal process of aging. Participants typically attend the center daily from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the facility located in Homer.

Now in its 30th year, the facility is undergoing its first renovation and expansion, which is funded through a state grant and the Banks County Board of Commissioners. As part of

the expansion, the Banks County Senior Life Center will add more exercise equipment for its participants. The center recently received a \$10,000 grant from the Jackson EMC Foundation to purchase fitness equipment, including four treadmills, stationary bikes and elliptical machines.

"In the past, we had one treadmill and one bike, but we always had people waiting," Hammond said.

For participants, even a few minutes on the fitness equipment can make impact. One recent participant, who was 97 years old, started walking on the treadmill just three minutes at a time. He

started feeling better and reported having more energy, thanks to his brief times on the treadmill, Hammond said.

Besides staying physically active, the Banks County Senior Life Center is a resource for participants to stay mentally and socially connected. For many of the participants, the center is their primary source of peer support and care for older adults, Hammond said.

Hammond said those at the Banks County Senior Life Center are thankful for a grant from the Jackson EMC Foundation to support its wellness program. "We know this is very much needed in this area," she said.



FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THE BANKS COUNTY SENIOR LIFE CENTER, VISIT [CO.BANKS.GA.US/DEPT-SENIOR-SERVICES.HTML](http://CO.BANKS.GA.US/DEPT-SENIOR-SERVICES.HTML).



## OPERATION ROUND UP®: YOUR DONATIONS AT WORK

The Jackson EMC Foundation board of directors awarded a total

**\$97,631 IN GRANTS**

during its May meeting, including \$93,500 to organizations and \$4,131 to individuals.

### ORGANIZATIONAL GRANT RECIPIENTS:

**\$15,000** | **Salvation Army - Gwinnett**, for its Financial Emergency Services Program, which provides rent and mortgage assistance to Gwinnett County residents in need to prevent homelessness and stabilize families in crisis.

**\$12,000** | **St. Vincent de Paul Society – Flowery Branch**, to help fund direct aid for housing assistance, including rent, mortgage and temporary housing for families in crisis in Gwinnett, Hall and Jackson counties.

**\$12,000** | **St. Vincent de Paul Society - Gainesville**, to help fund direct aid for housing assistance, including rent, mortgage and temporary housing for families in crisis in Hall County.

**\$10,000** | **Banks County Senior Life Center**, in Homer, to support the wellness and fitness

activities program for senior citizens, which helps them maintain physical fitness and improve functionality.

**\$10,000** | **Salvation Army - Athens**, for its Pathway to Hope Program in Clarke, Madison and Oglethorpe counties to provide shelter and housing assistance and financial literacy through case management for families in crisis.

**\$10,000** | **Salvation Army - Gainesville**, for its Pathway to Hope Program in Banks, Barrow, Hall and Jackson counties, to provide shelter and housing assistance and financial literacy through case management for families in crisis.

**\$7,500** | **Asian American Resource Foundation**, in Duluth, which provides supportive services to members of the community in need, for its Rapid Re-Housing Program that provides low-income, homeless families with safe and affordable permanent housing within 30 days of program entry.

**\$7,000** | **Quinlan Arts Center**, in Gainesville, to help provide for free or reduced cost participation in the Summer Art Program for 80 children and teens in underserved communities in Hall County.

**\$5,000** | **Muscular Dystrophy Association**, to help children and young adults with neuromuscular diseases from the counties served by Jackson EMC attend Camp Walk N' Roll, a weeklong summer program with no boundaries for physical disabilities where campers can build confidence and independence while their caregivers have a break from the demands of constant care.

**\$5,000** | **Salvation Army – Toccoa**, for its Emergency Social Services program in Franklin and Lumpkin counties, which provides nonperishable food and clothing to individuals and families experiencing a crisis.

### INDIVIDUAL GRANT RECIPIENT:

**\$2,631** to provide assistance for roof repairs for an elderly resident.

**\$1,500** to help provide a pediatric car booster seat for a disabled child.



FOR MORE INFORMATION, OR TO APPLY FOR A GRANT, VISIT [JACKSONEMC.COM/FOUNDATION](http://JACKSONEMC.COM/FOUNDATION).

# JACKSON EMC COMMUNICATORS RECEIVE NATIONAL RECOGNITION

Jackson EMC's communication department recently earned multiple awards from the Cooperative Communications Association (CCA) for a variety of communication pieces developed for members and employees.

CCA is a trade association of cooperatives across North America, including brands like Sunkist, Land O'Lakes, National Cooperative Bank, Dairy Farmers of America and many electric cooperatives. The organization's annual awards program recognizes excellence in communication projects and programs developed by its cooperative members.



## JACKSON EMC EARNED THESE HONORS:

- **First place**, cooperative education, for a video and stories about supporting restoration efforts after Hurricane Michael
- **First place**, brochures, pamphlets or one-time publications, for a brochure about Jackson EMC's business development services
- **Second place**, video series, for testimonial videos featuring Jackson EMC members
- **Second place**, social media, for the cooperative's social media strategy
- **Third place**, promotional video, for a video about Bright Ideas grants for educators
- **Third place**, campaigns and programs, for a multimedia campaign featuring Jackson EMC employees telling their personal stories
- **Honorable mention**, employee publication, for Jackson EMC's employee newsletter

Jackson EMC communication team members honored with these awards include: Karen Ewing, Dekotah Mathis, Ryan Russell, April Sorrow and Kerri Testament.

## MEMBERS MAKE IT DELICIOUS

### Korean Barbecue



“Dinner can't get any better than this. It's shockingly easy, quick and delicious.”  
— LAURA HONG, BRASELTON

#### INGREDIENTS:

1 lb. thinly sliced ribeye, chuck, skirt or sirloin steak  
½ large onion, sliced  
2 tsp. garlic, minced  
2 green onions, sliced  
¼ cup soy sauce

2 tbsp. Japanese sweet rice wine/mirin sauce (optional)  
3 tbsp. sugar  
1 tbsp. sesame oil  
1 tsp. sesame seeds  
Pinch of black pepper  
1 tbsp. vegetable oil

#### DIRECTIONS:

Add the onions, garlic, green onions, soy sauce, mirin sauce, sugar, sesame oil, sesame seeds, and black pepper to a medium bowl. Whisk all the ingredients for 30 seconds until well incorporated. Add the thinly sliced steak into the bowl and gently massage meat with marinade for 2-3 minutes. Cover the bowl and marinate in the refrigerator for at least 30 minutes.

Heat vegetable oil in a large skillet over medium-high heat until oil is hot. Add the meat to the pan and cook in a single layer, tossing occasionally until fully cooked through (about 3-5 minutes). Transfer to a plate and serve with steamed rice.

FEATURED  
RECIPES WIN A  
\$200 PRIZE  
PACKAGE

SEND US YOUR BEST ENTRÉE RECIPE: [RECIPES@JACKSONEMC.COM](mailto:RECIPES@JACKSONEMC.COM) OR MAIL TO:  
COOPERATIVE COOKING | JACKSON EMC | PO BOX 38 | JEFFERSON, GA 30549  
FIND MORE RECIPES AT [JACKSONEMC.COM/RECIPES](http://JACKSONEMC.COM/RECIPES).

**YOUR POWER.  
YOUR COMMUNITY.**

A PUBLICATION FOR  
JACKSON EMC MEMBERS

**JACKSON EMC OFFICES**  
1000 Dawsonville Highway  
Gainesville, GA  
(770) 536-2415

85 Spratlin Mill Road  
Hull, GA  
(706) 548-5362

850 Commerce Road  
Jefferson, GA  
(706) 367-5281

825 Buford Dr  
Lawrenceville, GA  
(770) 963-6166

**EMC SECURITY**  
55 Satellite Blvd., NW  
Suwanee, GA  
(770) 963-0305 or  
(706) 543-4009



PERIODICALS  
POSTAGE PAID

@JacksonEMC jacksonemc JEMCTV1 jackson\_emc Jackson EMC

[jacksonemc.com](http://jacksonemc.com)



# Ways to Pay

## YOUR JACKSON EMC BILL

Jackson EMC offers a variety of ways for members to pay their power bill – including online, by phone, by mail or in person at a local office. Members can pay online or by phone using a bank account, credit card or debit card. We accept Visa, Mastercard, Discover, and debit cards with the Visa or Mastercard logo. Credit/debit card payments are limited to \$600 per single transaction.



### ONLINE PAYMENTS

Make a payment at [MyJacksonEMC.com](http://MyJacksonEMC.com) or via the MyJacksonEMC mobile app. Visit [MyJacksonEMC.com](http://MyJacksonEMC.com) to sign up for a MyJacksonEMC account and to view instructions.



### AUTO PAY PROGRAM

The Auto Pay Program allows you to pay your monthly bill through an automatic draft from your bank account or credit/debit card. Sign up for Auto Pay at [MyJacksonEMC.com](http://MyJacksonEMC.com) or via the MyJacksonEMC mobile app.



### PHONE PAYMENTS

Call 1-888-228-9166 to pay over the phone using our automated payment system, which is available 24/7.



### MAIL

Mail your payment with the return envelope provided with your bill to: Jackson EMC, P.O. Box 100, Jefferson, GA 30549.



### IN PERSON/LOCAL OFFICE

Payments are accepted in all Jackson EMC offices located in Gainesville, Jefferson, Lawrenceville and Neese. Office hours are Monday through Friday, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Jackson EMC offices offer in-person payments in the lobby and drive-through window service.