

JEMCOnews

A PUBLICATION FOR JACKSON EMC MEMBERS

**JACKSON EMC
CREWS HELP IN
FLORIDA WITH**

HURRICANE IAN AFTERMATH



NOVEMBER 2022 | IN THIS ISSUE

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FIND HOLIDAY DEALS ON SMART THERMOSTATS

ENERGY SAVINGS AVAILABLE WITH RIGHT CHOICE™ NEW HOMES



SERVICE AND GRATITUDE

Thanksgiving is a time when we pause and reflect on what makes us grateful. Recently, I was grateful to witness acts of kindness — small and large — that have had an impact on people's lives. An act of kindness can change someone's entire day. It certainly makes my day when members share their appreciation for employees whose kindness helped them.

One such example is a member who appreciated the exceptional care she received from one of our customer service reps, Barbino Garcia. The member had recently moved to a new residence and needed help setting up her online account. She said Barbino was pleasant and helped her with the process. She continued by saying, "We are really thankful [for] how nice he was and how smooth everything went." Indeed, kindness is greatly appreciated and valued.

Acts of kindness often extend to our neighbors. For electric cooperatives, like Jackson EMC, our "neighbors" are our fellow cooperatives, including those in neighboring states. A recent example was demonstrated by the selfless response of our linemen, who worked alongside fellow co-op crews to restore power in Florida after Hurricane Ian. Our crews were there for 11 days helping our neighbors in need by doing the challenging work of restoring power in a storm-damaged community.

Helping others is the cooperative way and I'm thankful for the service of our co-op employees every step of the way to deliver safe, reliable and affordable electricity to you. From engineers to customer service representatives, co-ops understand and embrace our unique relationship with our members. It's our way to show that at Jackson EMC you're more than a customer - you're a member.

And speaking of members, I'm also thankful for you. We exist because of you and appreciate your involvement and engagement in your cooperative. One strong and powerful way you show that connection is through participating in our Operation Round Up® program that supports the Jackson EMC Foundation. Through your generosity, we're able to make our community a better place to live, work and play.

From all of us here at Jackson EMC, we hope you have a wonderful Thanksgiving and that our gratitude is evident to all of those around us.

Have a story to share about exceptional service or an act of kindness from a Jackson EMC employee? Share it with me at chip@jacksonemc.com.

Chip Chip Jakins, President/CEO

Find Holiday Deals on Smart Thermostats on the JACKSON EMC MARKETPLACE

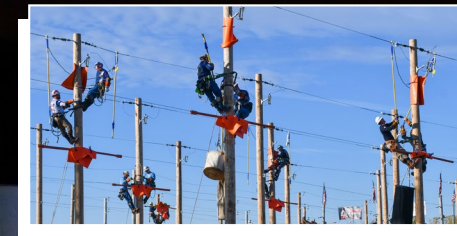


Cooler weather means it's time to keep your home warm and cozy. The Jackson EMC Marketplace can make it easier to bring comfort and energy savings to your home this holiday season.

Jackson EMC members can receive instant rebates on select smart thermostats purchased through the Jackson EMC Marketplace, our online energy-efficiency store. You can also find deals on LED lightbulbs, water-saving fixtures, air purifiers, dehumidifiers and EV chargers.

Looking for gift ideas for family and friends? The Jackson EMC Marketplace has deals this holiday.

[SHOP NOW AT JACKSONEMCMARKETPLACE.COM](https://www.jacksonemc.com/marketplace)



Jackson EMC Linemen Win Awards at International Competition

Jackson EMC linemen earned three top awards at the 38th annual International Lineman's Rodeo, held October 15 in Bonner Springs, Kansas. The competition included more than 1,200 line workers, who were judged on speed, agility, technique and safety procedures.

Jackson EMC sent a journeyman lineman team and five apprentices to the international competition. A total of 366 journeyman lineman teams and 242 apprentices competed at the event. Apprentices compete as individuals, while journeymen compete in teams of three. The International Lineman's Rodeo includes participants from electric cooperatives, investor-owned utilities, municipal utilities, contractors and electric providers for the military.

Apprentices and journeyman teams compete in the hurt man rescue and pole climb events. In addition, two mystery events are revealed to participants the day before the competition. Apprentices also complete a written test as a part of their overall scores. Competitors are scored based on skill and speed for completing tasks for each event.

A journeyman lineman team with Jeremy Adams, Kaleb Chapman and Matt Tolar finished first in the insulator replacement event.

Apprentice lineman Carter Kelling finished first in the hurt man rescue. Walt Palmer, an apprentice lineman, finished second in the hurt man rescue, eighth in pole climb and eighth in the insulator replacement event. Apprentice lineman Austin Lewis finished seventh in the hurt man rescue.

“Being a lineman is tough and rewarding. Jackson EMC's linemen who compete in the International Lineman's Rodeo are some of the best in our industry. At the rodeo, they're able to show their skills, dedication and teamwork among their peers. Many of their family members also make the trip to Kansas to cheer on their loved ones during the competition.”

- Patrick McAuliff
Jackson EMC's director of operations services



TJ Witherell competes in an event at the International Lineman's Rodeo.

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Several crews from Jackson EMC recently helped Lee County Electric Cooperative (LCEC) restore power after Hurricane Ian caused extensive damage to the North Fort Myers, Florida area. More than half of LCEC's members lost power and it took weeks to fully restore electric service.



Corey Willard and Cole Smith

"This was the worst damage I've ever seen from a storm," said Brad Moon Jackson EMC journeyman lineman who previously helped restore power in communities following Hurricane Katrina, Hurricane Rita and Hurricane Michael.

Thirty-two of Jackson EMC's linemen and support personnel worked alongside crews from LCEC on Matlacha Island, a small community located near Cape Coral. Nearby, Sanibel Island was one of the areas hardest hit by Hurricane Ian, according to media reports.

"The people in the community were very grateful to see us," said lineman apprentice Ben Brissey. **"In some areas, people stayed to ride the storm out with water rising up to five feet in homes and winds up to 140 mph."**



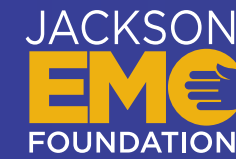
Storm damage on Matlacha Island, Florida



The Jackson EMC team gathers to discuss plans for restoring power.

Jackson EMC has a long history of sending and receiving help from other cooperatives during major storms. "Cooperation among cooperatives" is one of the principals of co-ops.

Lineman Kasey Odom has helped in power restoration efforts after Hurricane Matthew and Hurricane Michael. "The main difference I experienced with Hurricane Ian was the mass destruction to homes and businesses," he said. "With other storms, I have witnessed trees that fell through homes and roofs that sustained pretty severe damage. But with Ian, there were homes that were completely gone."



SHARING CHANGE THROUGH OPERATION ROUND UP®

The Jackson EMC Foundation was founded in 2005 to help make our community a better place. One of the seven cooperative principles is concern for community and donations made through the Foundation allow members to give back to the community.

The Foundation is a 501(c)3 organization that distributes funds raised through Operation Round Up, Jackson EMC's philanthropic program.

Operation Round Up allows members to round up their bill to the nearest dollar and donate the difference. Donations support funding for community-based programs, like food banks, community health clinics, educational initiatives, emergency shelters and more.



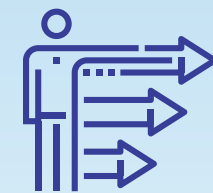
of members' contributions go toward improving the lives of others in our community.



Last year, Jackson EMC members invested more than

\$1.3 million

in the community through grants awarded by the Jackson EMC Foundation.



Since Operation Round Up® started in 2005, our members have contributed more than

\$18.5 million to the program.

More than **350+**

organizations have received grants.



More than **\$5.4M**

in health and human services grants have been made.

Most months, the Jackson EMC Foundation awards more than

\$100,000

through grants to organizations making a difference in our community.



Grants have been distributed across all **10 counties** served by Jackson EMC.



The Jackson EMC Foundation Board of Directors has **11** volunteer members.

The average annual contribution per member is

\$6

LEARN MORE ABOUT THE JACKSON EMC FOUNDATION AT [JACKSONEMC.COM/FOUNDATION](https://www.jacksonemc.com/foundation)

The Jackson EMC Foundation board of directors awarded a total of

\$102,000 in grants

for organizations during its September meeting.

ORGANIZATIONAL GRANT RECIPIENTS:

\$15,000 to Gateway House Inc., in Gainesville, to provide furniture and supplies for efficiency apartments and an indoor playground in its new domestic violence shelter.

\$15,000 to Good Samaritan Health Centers of Gwinnett Inc., in Norcross, for technology needs to operate its two full-service primary medical and dental care clinics serving uninsured patients in Gwinnett County.

\$15,000 to Hebron Community Health Center Inc., in Lawrenceville, a nonprofit organization providing low-income, uninsured Gwinnett County residents with medical and dental care, to fund the Next Step Project, which provides diagnostic referrals, testing, prescription medication and supplies.

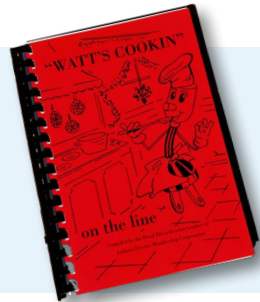
\$15,000 to Hope Clinic Inc., in Gwinnett County, for its mental health services program for uninsured patients in Banks, Barrow, Clarke, Franklin, Gwinnett, Hall, Jackson and Madison counties.

\$15,000 to Junior Achievement of Georgia Inc., for program materials and supplies for the JA Biztown and JA Finance Park interactive programs that teach the concepts of financial literacy, business, entrepreneurship and career readiness to middle school students in Gwinnett County.

\$15,000 to Neighborhood Cooperative Ministry, in Norcross, for its Emergency Rental Assistance Program, which provides matching funds to assist clients with one month's housing costs.

\$12,000 to Northeast Georgia Care Inc. (dba Choices Pregnancy Center), in Gainesville, for its My Baby Counts program, which provides educational materials on parenting skills to pregnant women and new parents in Barrow, Clarke, Gwinnett, Hall and Jackson counties.

FOR MORE INFORMATION AND TO APPLY FOR A GRANT, VISIT JACKSONEMC.COM/FOUNDATION.



Vintage Recipe Cookbook Makes Great Holiday Gift

Did you know the recipes featured in *JEMCO News* are submitted by Jackson EMC members? For decades, we've been sharing members' favorite recipes in *JEMCO News*. In fact, a cookbook featuring recipes from members and employees, called *Watts Cookin' on the Line*, debuted several decades ago and is still available. These vintage cookbooks make great gifts. **You can purchase a Watts Cookin' cookbook for \$4 at Jackson EMC's local offices.**

MEMBERS MAKE IT DELICIOUS

Apple Crisp



INGREDIENTS:

- 4 cups apples, peeled and sliced
- 3/4 cup self-rising flour
- 3/4 cup packed brown sugar
- 1/2 cup whole grain oatmeal
- 1/3 cup chopped pecans or walnuts
- 1 1/2 tsp. cinnamon
- 1/2 cup margarine, softened

DIRECTIONS:

Preheat oven to 375 degrees. Spread apple slices in an ungreased 9-inch pan. Mix remaining ingredients with a fork. Sprinkle over apples. Bake uncovered for about 30 minutes until topping is golden brown and apples are tender.



“Apple recipes remind me of my childhood growing up in Turin, Ga. in Coweta County. We would get off the school bus and we'd be so hungry we'd pick and eat Yates apples - the old-timey little hard apples.”

— GERALDINE JOHNSON, BUFORD

SEND US YOUR BEST RECIPES: RECIPES@JACKSONEMC.COM OR MAIL TO: COOPERATIVE COOKING | JACKSON EMC | PO BOX 38 | JEFFERSON, GA 30549
FIND MORE RECIPES AT WWW.JACKSONEMC.COM/RECIPES.



Schools Honored with Cooperative Spirit Sportsmanship Awards

Five local high schools recently won a Cooperative Spirit Sportsmanship Award for practicing exemplary sportsmanship during competitive events.

Duluth High School, Flowery Branch High School, Johnson High School, Lambert High School and Mill Creek High School each received an award. Only one school in each region within each Georgia High School Association (GHSAA) classification receives a Cooperative Spirit Sportsmanship Award.

“This award recognizes the cooperative values of respect, fairness, honesty and responsibility displayed during a school's competitive events,” said Karen Ewing, Jackson EMC's community relations representative.

Jackson EMC is proud to sponsor the award, along with 31 other participating electric cooperatives in partnership with Georgia EMC. The award recognizes student-athletes, fellow students, school staff, parents and event spectators for the sportsmanship they display at events.

TO VIEW PHOTOS AND VIDEOS OF THIS YEAR'S COOPERATIVE SPIRIT SPORTSMANSHIP AWARD WINNERS, VISIT JACKSONEMC.COM/GHSA.

**YOUR POWER.
YOUR COMMUNITY.**

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JACKSON EMC MEMBERS

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Save Energy and Money with Right Choice™ New Homes

Chandler Todd was looking for his first home when he learned more about Jackson EMC's Right Choice™ new home program. Soon after moving in his new home, he quickly noticed a difference in his electric bill.

"When I got my first Jackson EMC bill, I really couldn't believe how low it was," Chandler said. "I had come from [an apartment] that was smaller, and my bill was higher than it is here."

Right Choice homes, like Chandler's, are built for energy efficiency, improved indoor air quality and comfort. For a home to be certified as a Right Choice home, it must meet stringent criteria set by Jackson EMC for energy efficient construction.

Jackson EMC's lowest residential electric rate is part of the Right Choice new home program, saving homeowners an average of 5% on energy costs for the life of the home.

Right Choice homes also come with a three-year energy warranty that guarantees a Right Choice home's heating and cooling energy costs will be below a specified amount each year.



TO VIEW SUBDIVISIONS FEATURING RIGHT CHOICE NEW HOMES, VISIT JACKSONEMC.COM/RIGHTCHOICE.

