



There's value in membership

It's been great," Ralph Morris of Salvisa says succinctly of his 71 years as a member of Blue Grass Energy. "Any time I've had a problem, they have responded quickly."

Not that he has needed that quick response very often. Ralph says he hasn't had many problems. "One time a neighbor did something with a piece of machinery and

knocked out our power, but they had it back up in about an hour. During storms, they've always come quickly."

CONTINUED ON 28C



"Any time I've had a problem, they have responded quickly."

—Ralph Morris

RACHEL SETTLES

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MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Giving back to our community

Over the years, you've probably heard or read about Blue Grass Energy's concern for our community. This is one of the core principles that sets cooperatives apart from other types of utilities and businesses. We've always taken this responsibility to heart. It's who we are as a co-op.

As we begin a new year, I've been reflecting on this principle and the role we play in our community. While our mission is to provide safe, reliable, affordable energy to you, the members we serve, we have a greater purpose—making life better, the cooperative way.

One of the ways we do that is through our Pennies for Purpose (PFP) program. This is where we take donations from generous members like you who have “rounded up” the amount due on their electric bill to help various charities throughout our service area.

Recently, with our members' help, we made life better for several area organizations with PFP donations. You will read on page 28D of this issue how your pennies have had such a powerful impact on those in need. From helping NICU families to first-generation women going to college, your contributions are making difference.

In closing, we know that our core job is to keep the lights on, but our passion is derived from our purpose. Making life better through our Pennies for Purpose program is a great example of fulfilling this purpose. Because we live and work in this community, we want to make it a better place for all. So, I invite each of you to partner with us by participating in our Pennies for Purpose program. Signing up is easy at bgenergy.com, or you can call our office at (888) 546-4243.

I wish each of you a happy new year.

By President/CEO
Michael I. Williams



CONTINUED FROM 28A

In Nicholasville, William and Judy Canter have had that same experience. The couple has been members of Blue Grass Energy all their lives—that’s 83 years for William and back to her childhood for Judy.

“Electricity is a lot handier than when I was a kid,” William says. “Back then we bought a Delco Plant, a machine that charged about seven to 20 auto batteries, and that’s what we used to get current from. It ran off coal oil.

“Now you don’t think about electricity. It’s something you have, and something that you’re used to having. If we didn’t have it, I don’t know what we would do.”

Judy agrees, and vividly remembers the time before electricity.

“It was so dark and gloomy at night, and you were only allotted so much time for the radio to play.”

Decades later, she remembers the 2009 ice storm that froze the state in place and knocked out electricity most everywhere.

“Our electricity never went off,” Judy recalls. “Almost everyone else’s went off. They kept our electric going. That was a bad time for a lot of people. Our relatives came and stayed with us. Our daughter stayed here with her baby. Our niece and nephew came from Danville with their two babies. We made do. Just having the heat was wonderful, having the electricity to work.

“You just don’t know how much you rely on electricity. It is a bare necessity anymore. Our automobiles are even going that way,” she adds.

As for Blue Grass Energy, Judy says, “they do a good job, a fine job. If the electric does go off, in no more than an hour they have it back on.”



William and Judy Canter of Nicholasville have lived on Blue Grass Energy lines their whole lives. Photo: Rachel Settles

PENNIES FOR PURPOSE SUPPORTS OUR COMMUNITIES

Congratulations to Early Bird Foundation, Inc. They are the recipient of a \$500 donation from our Pennies for Purpose program.

Early Bird Foundation, Inc. encourages and empowers past, present and expecting NICU (neonatal intensive care unit) families in Kentucky.

Another congratulations goes to First Generation Women of the Bluegrass (FGWAB). They are the recipient of a \$1,000 donation from our Pennies for Purpose program.

First Generation Women Achievers of the Bluegrass is dedicated to empowering first generation female students to further their college education through financial assistance and mentoring opportunities/programs.



Co-Executive Director Lyndsey Lewis accepts the Pennies for Purpose donation on behalf of the Early Bird Foundation from Blue Grass Energy President/CEO Mike Williams. Photos: Denise Myers



Vice President and Co-Founder Christine Herren accepts the Pennies for Purpose donation on behalf of the First Generation Women Achievers of the Bluegrass.

We strive at making life better, the cooperative way, in our communities. Pennies for Purpose is one way we do that.

Our Pennies for Purpose program is funded by Blue Grass Energy members, like you, who round up their monthly electric bills to the nearest dollar, which provides funding to charitable causes across our 23-county service area.

To find out how you can participate in Pennies for Purpose, visit bgenergy.com/pennies-purpose, or call and let your member service representative know you would like to enroll.

You can make a difference, too.