



CONNECT

A newsletter for the members of JEFFERSON ENERGY COOPERATIVE

Veterans K9 Solutions Inc. *Saving Lives One Dog and One Veteran at a Time*



The Jefferson Energy Cooperative Foundation is proud to support Veterans K9 Solutions Inc., a company dedicated to helping veterans through specially trained service dogs. This organization was started by Jerry Lyda Sr., a U.S. Navy veteran who has a powerful story of service, sacrifice and compassion, and his son, Jerry “Jay-bird” Lyda Jr.

Jerry Lyda Sr. joined the Navy when he was young. After basic training, he was assigned to be a “river rat,” a river patrol serviceman during the Vietnam War. He recalls that when he first joined, the chances of surviving were slim, saying that “God saved him twice from the front lines of war.” His experience in the military gave him a new purpose: to serve those who fought alongside him and protect the freedoms we enjoy today (10065670-001).

Lyda’s passion for service dogs started early. He trained his first dog at age 12, but his real motivation grew from his

understanding of the struggles faced by veterans with post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) and other issues related to their service.

Lyda, himself, is a veteran who struggles with PTSD, as he vividly remembers when his anxiety began and how difficult it was. Despite his challenges, he believes that his service was worth it. Now, he feels called to help others, guided by his experience and faith.

His daughter, Jackie Lyda, is the company’s COO. She helps run Veterans K9 Solutions and is involved in many aspects



of the organization. Their unique approach is simple but powerful: By rescuing shelter dogs, they give these dogs a second chance at life. In return, the dogs are trained to serve and support veterans in need.

Volunteer trainers help educate dogs to recognize anxiety, assist with mobility, sense medical needs, open doors, alert veterans to danger and much more. Each dog is trained to meet the specific needs of its owner.

“Only that person knows what their need is,” says Lyda.

The bond between a veteran and their service dog goes beyond just assistance. It creates a safe space for healing.

“When a veteran speaks, the dog listens,” Lyda adds. “When they need help, the dog responds without judgment.”

Since 2010, Veterans K9 Solutions has proudly helped many veterans, and Lyda confidently shares that none of the veterans who received service dogs from them have died by suicide. This statistic speaks to the profound impact these dogs have on their owners’ lives.

The Jefferson Energy Cooperative Foundation is honored to support Veterans K9 Solutions through Operation Round Up and unclaimed capital credits. Operation Round Up is a program where members’ electric bills are rounded up to the nearest dollar each month, with the extra cents directed to the foundation. Unclaimed capital credits are margins allocated to

(Continued on page 2)





Satisfying Summer Recipe

Mini Blueberry Crumbles

Filling

1 1/3 cup sugar
1-1/2 tablespoons cornstarch
1/4 teaspoon cinnamon
4 cups fresh blueberries
1 tablespoon fresh lemon juice

Crumble

1/2 cup sugar
1/2 cup light brown sugar
1/2 cup all-purpose flour
1/4 teaspoon cinnamon
1/4 cup cold butter, cut into pieces
Preheat oven to 350 degrees.



For the filling: Put sugar, cornstarch and cinnamon in a medium bowl, whisking to combine. Add blueberries and lemon juice to the bowl, folding into dry ingredients until evenly coated. Divide into 6 (1-cup) ovenproof ramekins. Set aside (10086161-001).

For the crumble: In a food processor, combine sugar, light brown sugar, flour and cinnamon. Pulse dry ingredients 1-2 times to combine. Add cold butter pieces to the food processor. Pulse until mixture forms pea-size crumbs. Divide evenly over filling in ramekins.

Place ramekins on a baking sheet and bake for 30 minutes or until bubbly and golden.

Serve as-is or with ice cream or whipped cream. Serves 6.

Veterans K9 Solutions Inc.

Saving Lives One Dog and One Veteran at a Time...continued



members based on their electricity use, and if these credits go unclaimed, the funds are used to support the community (10077274-001).

The Lydas love dogs and are grateful to those who served. Their mission is clear. They give back to those in need by saving two lives at a time. Together, we can help spread awareness and make a difference in the lives of our veterans and shelter dogs alike.

For more information about the JEC Foundation, capital credits and Operation Round Up, visit www.jec.coop, and click on the Community and About JEC tabs.

Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month



Replace your cooling system's filter regularly to maintain strong airflow and boost energy efficiency. A clean filter means your system doesn't have to work as hard, saving energy and lowering your utility bills. Factors like allergies and pets in the home can impact how often filters should be replaced. Check the filter every month and replace it as needed. Changing filters regularly also reduces wear and tear on your cooling system, helping extend the life of the unit.

—Source: www.energy.gov



JEFFERSON ENERGY COOPERATIVE'S

Bright Ideas 2025

**NOW
ACCEPTING
APPLICATIONS**



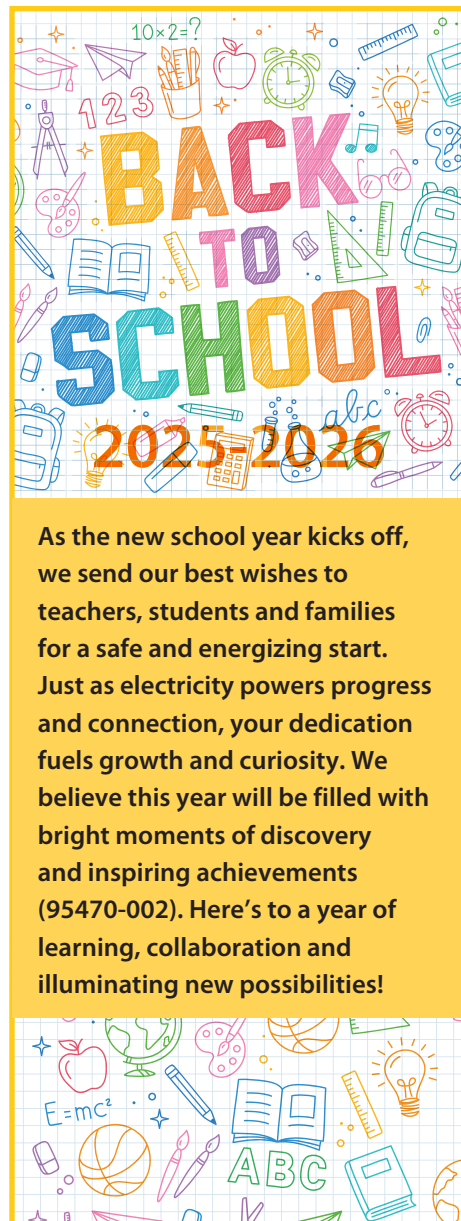
FIND OUT HOW TO WIN A **\$1,000** GRANT
FOR YOUR
CLASSROOM PROJECT BY VISITING
WWW.JEC.COOP, - CLICK ON COMMUNITY.



**Submissions
are online
ONLY**

THE APPLICATION DEADLINE IS
SEPT. 26, 2025.

Call for more information: **877-533-3377, ext. 5055**



BACK TO SCHOOL 2025-2026

As the new school year kicks off, we send our best wishes to teachers, students and families for a safe and energizing start. Just as electricity powers progress and connection, your dedication fuels growth and curiosity. We believe this year will be filled with bright moments of discovery and inspiring achievements (95470-002). Here's to a year of learning, collaboration and illuminating new possibilities!



HAPPY

LABOR DAY

Holiday Office Closing

Jefferson Energy Cooperative offices will be closed Monday, Sept. 1, in observance of Labor Day.



CONNECT

Jefferson Energy Cooperative

Jefferson Energy Cooperative

P.O. Box 457
3077 Highway 17 N
Wrens, GA 30833-0457
www.jec.coop

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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A member-owned Georgia cooperative since 1937

OFFICE HOURS

All offices: 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Monday through Friday

WAYNE A. GOSSAGE, JR.

President/CEO

TAMIKA LAMPKIN

Director of Cooperative Communications

For your convenience, bills can be paid anytime
at the corporate headquarters, or in the
Richmond, Louisville or Thomson offices.

TOLL-FREE SERVICE NUMBER

(877) 533-3377

24-hour Dispatching Daily

THE OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED:

Labor Day, Sept. 1
Thanksgiving, Nov. 27-28
Closing at 12 p.m., Dec. 19
Christmas, Dec. 24-25

KEEP INFORMED AND WIN \$25

It pays to keep informed about JEC's business. Read and find
your account number in "Connect." Call our member services
department to claim your award—a \$25 credit on your bill.

WITH YOUR CORRECT PHONE NUMBER, WE CAN GET THE LIGHTS ON FASTER

During large outages, Jefferson Energy Cooperative receives
thousands of calls at once. Having your correct phone number helps
our Outage Call Answering System retrieve your information faster.

Please check the phone number and service address listed on your
electric bill. If they are incorrect, please call 877-JEFFERSON (877-
533-3377) with the correct information so we can better serve you.

*Jefferson Energy Cooperative is an equal
opportunity provider and employer.*

Levelized Billing

- Worried about the
uncertainties
of your energy bill?

- Looking for some normalcy
from month to month?



**We are now offering levelized billing for
all residential members!**

Who?

Any member with a zero balance.
Members who have been with JEC for at least 12 months.
**Not valid for prepay account members.*

What?

A rolling 12-month average of your bill.

How?

Call us at (706) 547-2167 and speak to one of our
representatives for more information.

Switch to E-Check

A safer, faster and easier way to pay by check

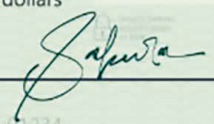
Are you still paying your bill by check? Let Jefferson Energy help you with a
more reliable and secure payment method.

Did you know that between the rising costs of postage, postal delivery delays
and potential check washing (also known as fraud), paying by check has become
more difficult?

Jefferson Energy is now offering an **E-Check** solution for members who
traditionally pay by check. This option:

- Allows our EMC to post your payment immediately, reducing the risk of a late
payment due to postal carrier delays.
- Keeps your checking information secure and safely stored in our information
system, which lowers your risk of fraudulent activity.

**Give us a call at (706) 547-2167 to find out how you can sign up for
E-Check today.**

Your name	<u>Valued Member</u>	0123
Date	_____ 20 ____	
Pay to the order of	<u>Jefferson Energy</u>	\$ _____
	_____ dollars	
Memo	<u>E-Check</u>	
012345678 0123 01234		

Jefferson Energy Cooperative