

PAST EXHIBITORS RETURN TO THEIR YOUTH



To some, it may be just another week, another county fair. To others, it's the one week you prepared for throughout the entire year. It's the early mornings and late nights you spent getting ready for a long day in the show ring. It's the dropping off your projects in the exhibit hall, the anticipation of walking back through to observe the ribbons after judging. It's the learning from the other youth, the lifelong friendships formed along the way. It's the days of your youth that shaped who you are today. When that time has ended, you realize the experience left a mark on you, changed you. Your days as a junior exhibitor may have ended, but you always return to the Jackson County Fair.

The Jackson County Fair has positively impacted many junior exhibitors throughout its history. Vanessa Ponterio, a former member of both the Melrose Satellites 4-H Club and Melrose-Mindoro FFA Chapter, is one of those past exhibitors. This year, she has returned to the fair to serve as the fair board's first volunteer intern. "It's rewarding to give back to some of my favorite days as a youth that really shaped me into the person I am today," says Vanessa.



Vanessa Ponterio says, "Volunteering is never something you can regret doing."

(Photo Credit: Design Photography)

When the fair board was in need of a computer-savvy individual who could navigate the program used to make the fair's entry tags and someone who could help calculate exhibitors' premiums, Vanessa was more than willing to offer her expertise. "I knew I could do it, and I was looking for an internship," says Vanessa. "After a discussion with the fair board, an internship position was created. The board would like to continue this internship for college students."

Through Vanessa's internship, she has discovered the many volunteers it takes

to have a successful fair, including gate keepers, building monitors, ticket takers at the grandstand, grandstand cleanup, trash cleanup, superintendents, superintendent helpers, and ice cream stand workers. "It's a rewarding feeling to see everyone's hard work and dedication come together to make one big event," she shares. "Giving a helping hand wherever it's needed is greatly appreciated and will never go unnoticed."

Superintendents themselves are key volunteers who oversee and organize their individual departments. They review the fair book prior to publishing to make sure the projects listed in their department are correct and current, assist with fair cleanup and preparation of the exhibit area, check in and organize projects according to their categories, and assist the judge with record keeping. Some superintendents also help select the judge for their department.

Growing up, Black River Falls High School science teacher Dan Anderson always showed pigs at the fair. He was a member of the Whispering Hills 4-H Club until he was old enough to join the Black River Falls FFA. He is now serving his third year as the swine superintendent and enjoys seeing the exhibitors' hard work pay off. "Livestock exhibitors put in a lot of work throughout the year to prepare their animals for the fair," he says. "I always like seeing how successful they are in the show ring. Our exhibitors also prove that it isn't all about winning the grand prize."

Prior to the fair, Dan attends the Livestock Education Committee meetings every other month, helps with

education workshops, and determines how many pens are needed in the swine area. During the fair, he checks in the exhibitors' pigs, makes sure exhibitors have the correct paperwork, assists with judging, and lines the exhibitors up for the livestock auction on Saturday night. "Exhibitors' parents are always ready to jump in and help, and they check with me throughout the week to see if I need any help," says Dan. "I cannot thank them enough for the help they provide."

Each year, Dan looks for volunteers to judge herdsmanship in the Livestock Barn. This includes judging on cleanliness and decorations. Anyone interested in helping can find Dan in the Livestock Barn, and he'll explain the process. "Our fair is always looking for individuals to help. If you've ever considered helping, just do it," Dan says. "It takes many people to make a county fair thrive."

While this is Jackson County Extension Agriculture Educator Jamie Pfaff's first year as a superintendent, she is no stranger to the Jackson County Fair. Jamie is a former exhibitor at the fair and was involved in both the Melrose Satellites 4-H Club and Melrose-Mindoro FFA. She now enjoys seeing the excitement and passion from the youth. "These kids have worked all year to get their animals/projects ready, and they take so much pride in what they are exhibiting," shares Jamie.



Jamie Pfaff looks forward to her first year serving as a superintendent.



Jamie is looking forward to working with the youth and revisiting the livestock programs she used to be involved in, recalling the many lifelong friendships she developed through the county fair and the experiences to cherish for a lifetime. “I believe the fair is one of the greatest opportunities for youth to cultivate their passions and display their hard work,” she says. “Without volunteers, none of this would be possible. It’s a great way to give back to the community.”

You may also see Jamie volunteering in the Dairy Youth Project Committee’s ice cream stand, a longstanding staple of the fair. The stand depends on the support of many clubs, organizations, and businesses that volunteer their time. These volunteers serve ice cream, sundaes, root beer floats, and milk throughout the fair in two-hour shifts.

This is Bailey Larson’s first year coordinating the stand, but she volunteered to serve ice cream each year during her



Bailey Larson enjoys serving ice cream in the Dairy Youth stand.

time as a member of the Milk Duds 4-H Club and Lincoln FFA. “The dairy project taught me many life lessons and positively impacted who I am today,” says Bailey. “I am grateful for the opportunity to coordinate the ice cream stand that offered endless support to me when I was a junior exhibitor.”

Behind the scenes, Bailey has been busy collecting donations, ordering ice cream, and contacting volunteers in preparation for the fair. “Volunteering at the fair gives you an opportunity to catch up with friends you may only see once a year, all while making a difference in a large community event,” comments Bailey. “The satisfaction of putting a smile on someone’s face when you hand them an ice cream cone is the most rewarding part,” she adds.

The junior exhibitor days at the Jackson County Fair may have ended for these young adult leaders, but they all share a passion for giving back to the one week of the year that made an impact in each of their lives. Maybe you share a similar story. Whether it’s been a year or feels like ages since you were a junior exhibitor, there’s always an opportunity to return to the projects of your youth.—*Brandi Shramek, Executive Coordinator*

Please contact any member of the fair board if you’re interested in contributing your time to the Jackson County Fair.



The 2019 Jackson County Fair will be held July 31 through August 4.

Office Closed

Jackson Electric’s office will be closed for employee training on Friday, August 23, from noon to 1 p.m.

Now is the time to buy and install a solar system!

30% federal income tax credit available through December 31, 2019.

Contact JacksonSolar LLC to learn how you can use the sun to energize your home.

715.284.5385 800.370.4607



Jackson Electric's Youth Ambassador Program



POWER PLANT TOUR



Monthly Meetings



CONCERN FOR COMMUNITY

Accepting applications from high school juniors and seniors through August 21. Contact our office for more information.

HEAT PUMPS: Energy efficient heating and cooling for your home

Heat pumps “move” heat rather than “generate” it; therefore, they provide up to four times more heat energy than the amount of electrical energy they consume, making them a very efficient means to heat and cool your home.

Air Source Heat Pump

- Transfers heat between your house and the outside air.
- Delivers 2-1/2 to 3-3/4 times more heat energy than the electrical energy it consumes, making it efficient and economical to operate.
- During the summer, the unit cools your home like a central air conditioning system.
- During the winter, the unit provides heat.
- When outdoor temperatures dip low enough, these units reach their balance point, the temperature at which supplemental heat kicks in to maintain the thermostat setting in your home.
- A \$200/ton rebate is available from Jackson Electric if the unit is purchased, installed, and operating in 2019. Qualifications do apply.

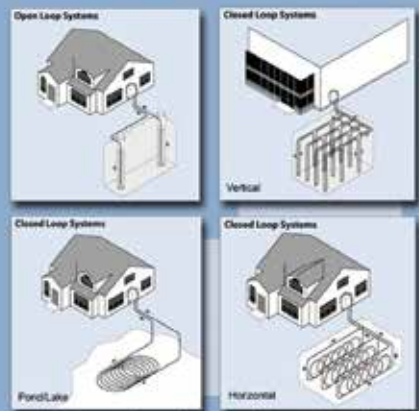
- Typically, the system is sized to meet all of a home’s heating and cooling needs.
- A \$400/ton rebate is available from Jackson Electric if the unit is purchased, installed, and operating in 2019. Qualifications do apply.
- Members may qualify for a 30 percent federal renewable energy tax credit if installed by December 31, 2019.

Ductless Mini-Split Heat Pump

- Easier to install, quiet, small in size.
- Flexible for heating and cooling individual rooms and smaller spaces.
- No energy loss through ductwork, which accounts for more than 30 percent of a home’s energy use for space heating/cooling. (source: energy.gov)
- Two main components: an outdoor compressor/condenser and an indoor air-handling unit. A conduit links the outdoor and indoor units.
- A \$200/ton rebate is available from Jackson Electric if the unit is purchased, installed, and operating in 2019. Qualifications do apply.

Types of Geothermal Heat Pump Systems

There are four basic configurations for geothermal heat pump ground loops. Three are “closed-loop systems,” where a water and antifreeze solution is continually moved through pipes; the fourth is an “open-loop system,” where groundwater or well water is used.



** Heat pump systems should be installed by a licensed professional.



Geothermal Heat Pump

- Uses the constant temperature of the earth to heat and cool your home.
- Moves heat through pipes buried underground.
- Even on the coldest winter nights, the earth’s temperature allows the system to reach efficiencies of 400 percent or higher.

MY CO-OP

Manage Your Account with SmartHub


View billing & payment history

Schedule & make payments


Enroll in autopay & paperless billing

Sign up and receive email and text notifications


Monitor and compare energy use



QR for Android




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Download the FREE mobile app.

Enrolling in SmartHub is Easy!



Visit www.jackelec.com, click the online bill pay icon:

Click on New User link


Enter Billing Account Number

Enter Last Name or Business

Enter Email Address

Follow instructions to create your SmartHub account

Check your email for a temporary password. Login and change password





WATER HEATER WARRANTY REMINDERS

Jackson Electric sells 50- and 100-gallon water heaters with a manufacturer's warranty. The warranty, to the original owner of the water heater, for each model is as follows:

50-gallon Rheem:

- 6-year warranty. If the unit fails within the 6-year period, the replacement unit's warranty will be prorated to the warranty date of the original water heater.
- If the unit is manufactured before April 2015 and is within the 6-year warranty period, you can purchase a new 6-year warranty on the replacement 50-gallon water heater for a nominal charge.

100/105-gallon Marathon:

- 10 years if the original purchaser did not register the water heater for an extended lifetime warranty.
- 10 years if the home is not owned by the original purchaser.
- 10 years if the owner does not have proof of purchase.
- 10 years if the water heater's been moved from its original installation location.
- 10 years if the unit is part of a residential rental property.
- Extended lifetime tank warranty when installed in a single-family dwelling owned by the original purchaser of the water heater with proof of purchase. Water heater needs to be registered online within 90 days of the installation date.
- 5 years if installed in an agricultural application.

Jackson Electric no longer sells 105-gallon MHD model water heaters. However, Jackson Electric does sell 100-gallon MRG model water heaters. These water heaters are grid-enabled and require a load management receiver to be installed and operational.

Jackson Electric Members are Invited to the Annual Member Appreciation Picnic

Wednesday, August 21

Serving 4-7 p.m.

Jackson County Fairgrounds, Black River Falls
(in the Livestock Barn)

Menu

- Brats/Hot Dogs
- Potato salad
- Cole slaw
- Beans
- Cookies
- Beverage

We enjoy meeting our members, so carry-outs will not be available.



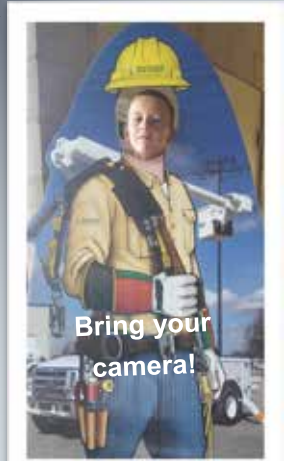
Check out some of the recently purchased equipment.

Sign up for a chance to win 1/8 of beef



Kids age 10 and under in attendance get a free hat.

Plenty of parking



Bring your camera!



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