



OWEN ELECTRIC CONNECTION

November 2020 • Owen Electric • A Touchstone Energy Cooperative

From the front lines to the power lines Owen Electric employees are dedicated to serving you and our nation

When Owen Electric takes veterans to visit the Marine Corps War Memorial on our annual Honor Flight, I sometimes wonder how many of the 1.5 million people who see it each year know that one of the hero soldiers came from Kentucky.

Franklin Sousley, a son of Fleming County who was 19 in World War II, is one of six Marines immortalized by the statue near Washington, D.C. Being the one with the rifle on his back, he's easy to find.

When he and the other Marines raised the flag on the island of Iwo Jima, the troops below cheered. Sailors offshore saw it, too, blowing horns on every ship in the harbor.

It's a moment captured forever at the memorial honoring Marines who died in every conflict since 1775. For soldiers who saw the flag raised, a few called it the best sight of their lives. They knew they might not make it through the day, but the flag represented two priceless jewels: hope and freedom.

As our nation prepares to celebrate Veterans Day Nov. 11, I am thinking of Franklin Sousley, who was from a family served by an electric co-op,



TIM WEBB

and Iwo Jima because the memorial symbolizes the commitment of our men and women in uniform.

There are 302,000 veterans living in Kentucky. Among them, I'm proud to tell you we have a number of employees who are veterans. Whether they waded through rice paddies in Vietnam, patrolled streets in Iraq or climbed mountains in Afghanistan, veterans are committed to taking care of the person standing next to them.

We believe in that commitment here, too. Our employees know that providing the best service requires giving their best each day. They

stand ready 24/7, working in all kinds of weather to provide power to serve you and our nation.

Service is never easy, and the memorial reminds us why. It sits on land next to Arlington National Cemetery, a stark reminder of the cost of freedom.

On Veterans Day 2020, we salute and send our thanks to all who have served. God bless you for what you have done and for your perseverance in defense of freedom.

President and CEO
Michael Cobb



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Serving our country, serving you

We are grateful each and every day for the men and women who protect our freedom by serving our country. This Veterans Day, we want to take a moment and recognize a couple of our veteran-employees who have graciously agreed to share a few of their experiences with us.

Jimmy McCane

What inspired you to serve?

I was working for an electric utility as a substation technician in 2001 when 9/11 happened. There was so much uncertainty at the time about what would happen next, and I immediately started thinking about what I could do. I knew it could mean leaving my job and my family, and would certainly change my way of life, but I felt like it was something I needed to do. I wanted to be a part of something bigger than myself, and I found that in the U.S. Navy.



JIMMY MCCANE

In what capacity did you serve?

I enlisted, and a few months later was assigned to NMCB-24 out of Huntsville, Alabama. Training began, and the war in Iraq started. I deployed multiple times, starting in Iraq as part of Operation Iraqi Freedom and then during Operation Enduring Freedom. We provided support to the Marine Expeditionary Forces and the Army Special Operations Command during that time. I left the Navy with a rank of 2nd class petty officer, CE2 SCW.

What did you take away from your time spent serving?

There were many good and bad experiences that shaped my life and impacted me greatly. I wouldn't change any of it because I fulfilled what I had set out to do, with no regrets. When I left the Navy, I took with me many memories and experiences that I'll never forget. I gained friendships that will last a lifetime, and I'm truly grateful for the opportunities that I had.

Why do you enjoy working at Owen Electric Cooperative?

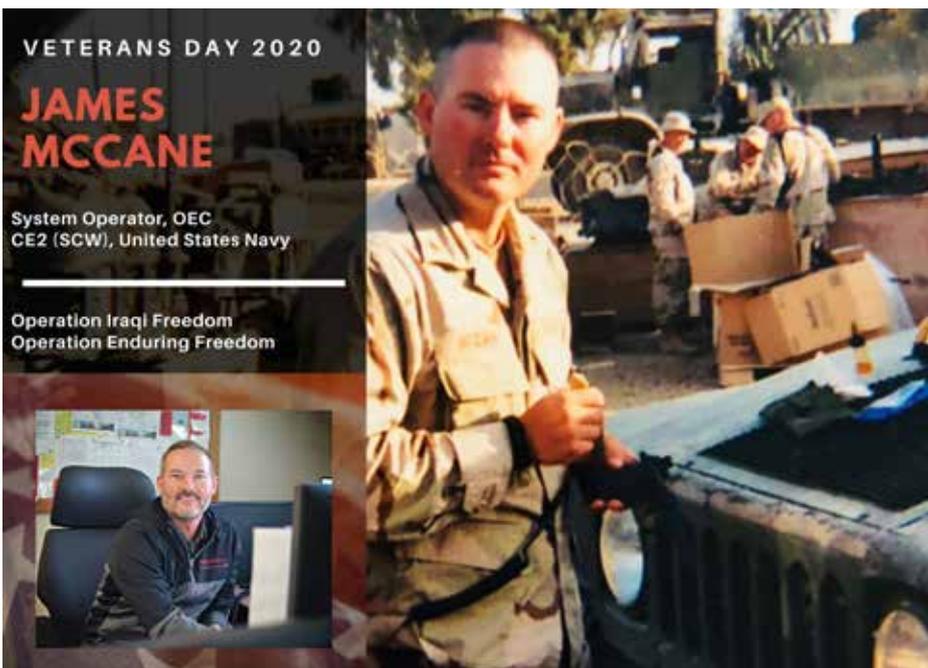
I enjoy working at Owen Electric now because the job we do takes a team effort. Working in system operations allows me to be involved with all aspects of our cooperative. I'm



JIMMY MCCANE

involved in monitoring and remotely operating substation equipment and working with the field technicians during outages. I also coordinate with our members on scheduling work to be done. I get to be involved with all aspects of the day-to-day operations and work with employees from every division, and I enjoy that. There are many moving parts to providing electricity to our members, and Owen employees work together to make that happen. I'm proud to be a part of that and a part of this co-op.

James "Jimmy" McCane is married to Kate, and they have six children: Micheala, 22; Grace, 21; Carson, 15; Brice, 13; Connor 12; and Jace, 10. They also have a 2-year-old Weimaraner, Maggie, and a cat named Junie.



Brandon Day

What inspired you to serve?

I wanted to see if I was up to the challenge of becoming a United States Marine, and to serve a greater cause than myself.

In what capacity did you serve?

I served in the USMC from 2001–2008 with 4th Marine Division, Communications Company HQBN. I deployed in 2003 to Iraq, with 1st Marine Division out of Camp Pendleton, California, in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom, and was also serving during Operation Enduring Freedom and the Global War on Terrorism. I held jobs as a Marine Integrated Maintenance management specialist, primary marksmanship instructor, 18 months as platoon sergeant of Maintenance Platoon and finished up my career as the Peacetime-Wartime Support Team liaison. I completed my service with the rank of E-5, sergeant.



I will always be thankful for my time served, experiences I had and the lifelong friends I've made along the way. John 15:13: There is no greater love than to lay down one's life for one's friends. Semper Fidelis!

Why do you enjoy working at Owen Electric?

I enjoy providing a service to consumers while striving to ensure efficient and reliable electric to all our members. I also enjoy working with everyone I do and the fact that each day provides something new and challenging.

Brandon Day is married to Allison, and they have five children: Zach Williams, 17; Joshua, 16; Jacob Williams, 15; Alexis, 13; and Luke, 6.



Kobe Bryant with Sergeant Brandon Day.

What did you take away from your time spent serving?

I came away with a greater feeling of self-perseverance; the confidence to complete any task I felt I wanted to complete; lifelong friends; and a patriotism for this country I never truly understood growing up.

Other than my experience of being involved in the invasion and liberation of Iraq, one of the neatest experiences I had was waiting on the tarmac in San Diego, California, when out of an airplane hangar came Kobe Bryant. He was one of the most genuine people I have ever met. He stayed and took pictures and signed autographs for over an hour, and made the effort to meet and speak with every Marine there.



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Behind? Call us, and let's find a monthly payment solution that's right for you.

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Effective October 20, 2020, the Kentucky Public Service Commission's (PSC) order to stop disconnections of electric service for non-payment will be lifted, allowing utilities to resume disconnections for past-due balances.

Disconnections resumed on Wednesday, October 21, 2020.

If your account is past-due, please contact us as soon as possible so we can set up a monthly payment plan to get you caught up. Call us at (800) 372-7612 option 4.

Link to the PSC's press release:

https://psc.ky.gov/agencies/psc/press/092020/0921_r01.pdf