

## Horry Electric Cooperative, Inc.

[www.horryelectric.com](http://www.horryelectric.com)

### Main Office

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Conway, SC 29528-0119

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(to report power outages only)

**369-2212**

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### Co-op Connection Editor

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**Horry Electric Cooperative, Inc. is a non-profit, member-owned organization providing information and energy-related services on a fair and equitable basis.**



Your Touchstone Energy® Partner

## Membership matters

Why? Because electric co-ops care about the people they serve

**BY AND LARGE**, we don't get to choose who provides our electric service.

Folks on opposite sides of the road may be served by different electric providers, some by a stockholder-driven investor-owned utility, others a city-owned municipal electric system. We are a not-for-profit electric cooperative owned by you and your fellow members.



But there's one major difference between these entities. Every home or business that receives power from an electric cooperative—18 million in 47 states—owns a portion of the utility. As a result, anyone who receives cooperative electric service becomes a member and consumer, not a customer. Across the nation, electric co-ops serve more than 42 million people.

Being a member matters. Horry Electric Cooperative doesn't exist to make profits for distant investors on Wall Street. We exist to provide you with safe, reliable and affordable electric service—and doing so in a way that raises the quality of life in our communities. Because electric co-ops operate on a not-for-profit basis, they have no need to increase revenues above what it takes to run the business in a financially sound manner. This structure helps keep your electric bill affordable.

Membership also matters because electric co-ops care about improving the quality of life in the areas they

serve. Horry Electric invests in local communities where we all live and work.

### Member benefits

Membership matters because it entitles you to certain benefits like online energy audits that help you find ways to lower your electricity use, or educational opportunities for your children. You receive this magazine because you're a member of an electric cooperative that wants you to stay on top of important co-op news and events.

### Local control

Membership matters because you have a voice and a vote in how your co-op is governed. Through democratic control, members like you are elected from our co-op to serve on the Board of Trustees. Control stays in local hands. Your board, along with those who work for your co-op, are your neighbors.

Membership matters because you receive returns on your investment in your co-op. Electric co-ops aim to operate at cost, so any excess revenues, or margins, are returned to members in the form of capital credits, based on their electric use.

The bottom line: Membership matters because you matter to your electric cooperative.

**James P. "Pat" Howle**

*Executive Vice President and CEO*

## Seal leaks to cut energy use in manufactured homes

**"IF THE UTILITY** bill for your manufactured home seems too high, it is likely the result of leaks," says Garrett Gasque, marketing representative for Horry Electric. "Fortunately, there are some things you can do to stop the leaks in your home and the drain they have on your wallet."

Older manufactured homes, especially those built before 1994, may have leaking ducts and inadequate insulation. "Leaky ductwork can reduce the efficiency of your heating and cooling system by as much as 20 percent," explains Gasque, adding that a good time to check for leaks is on a windy day. "You'll easily be able to find drafty spots in your home."

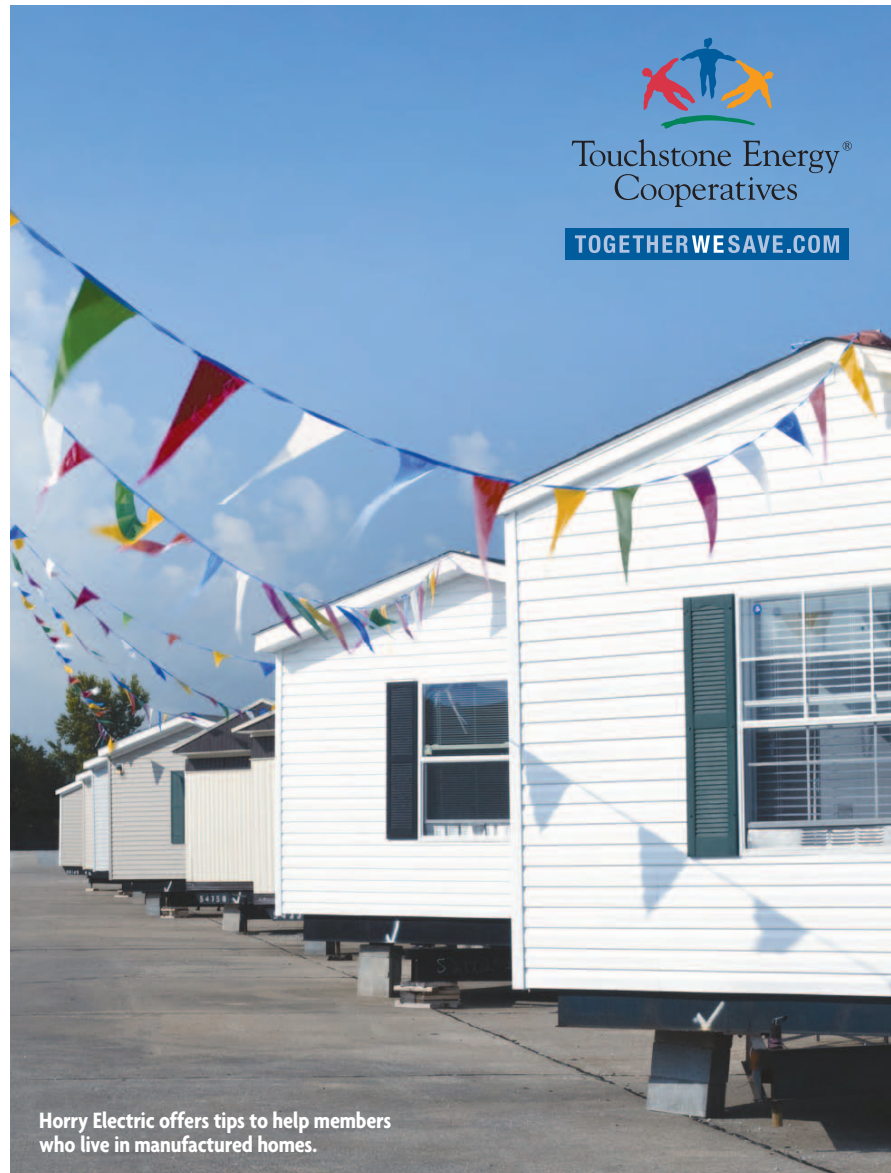
"Go after the big leaks first," says Gasque. "That means plugging all holes around chimneys, vents, water pipes and heating system ductwork."

Leaky ducts can be sealed with mastic sealant. Avoid the use of duct tape, which can dry out and disintegrate when used on ductwork. "Adding insulation to floor, wall and ceiling cavities can improve energy efficiency, but you probably need the expertise of a professional contractor for those tasks."

"Once you've sealed the major leaks, look for smaller ones around windows, doors, electrical outlets and light switches," says Gasque. "Seal gaps around windows and doors, using caulk on non-moving parts."

Gasque also recommends replacing any worn weatherstripping. "We suggest caulk or expanding spray foam where plumbing, wiring, vents and ductwork penetrate through walls," he says. "Installing foam outlet gaskets in electrical outlets and light switches—*especially on outside walls*—can save energy, too."

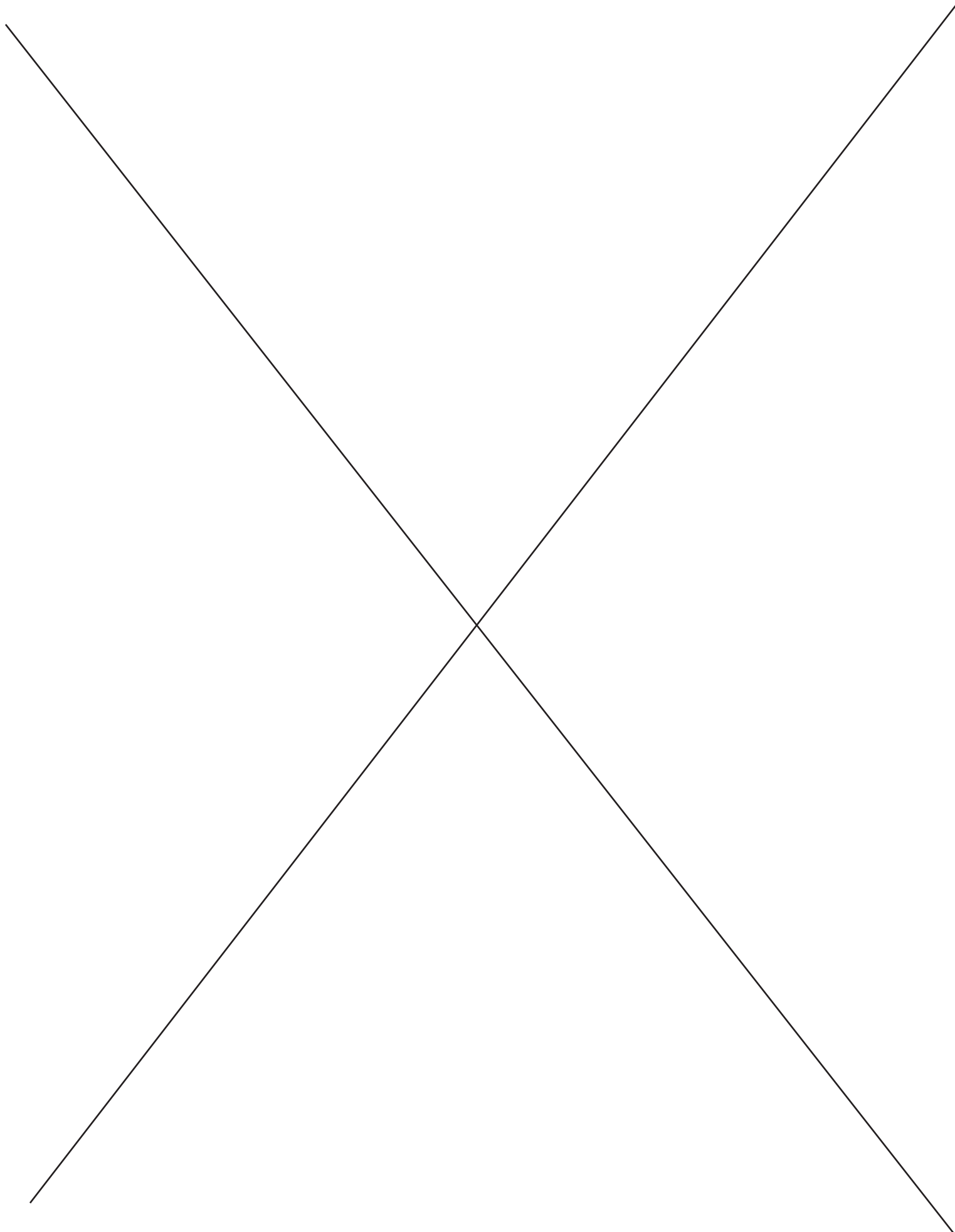
"For safety's sake, make sure that all combustion appliances, such as



furnaces, stoves and water heaters, are properly vented," he adds.

For other tips on how to save energy—and money—visit [horryelectric.com](http://horryelectric.com) and check out the *comprehensive guide to energy savings* or call the energy experts at Horry Electric Cooperative at (843) 369-2211. Find out how the little changes add up at [TogetherWeSave.com](http://TogetherWeSave.com).

Horry Electric offers a variety of energy information and tools to help guide members through evaluating the way they use energy. "These tools can even help you map out a strategy to get more out of the energy dollars you spend," says Gasque, adding that members should also make use of online tools such as [MyUsage.com](http://MyUsage.com), [BillingInsights](http://BillingInsights) and Horry Electric's Online Energy Efficiency Store.







WALTER ALLREAD

## Five for fighting

All five Jordan brothers saw action in WWII

BY WALTER ALLREAD

**IT'S OFTEN SAID** that of those who served in war, all gave some, and some gave all. In the case of the Jordan brothers, that saying is even more appropriate.

Horry Electric Cooperative member Asa Jordan and his identical twin brother, Billy, were the last of five brothers to join the service. By the time they were drafted, older brothers James (Army), Malcolm (Army) and Cliff (Coast Guard) already were serving in Europe and the Atlantic.

"Billy and I were drafted out of high school when we were 19," says Asa, now 85. "Because our other three brothers were already gone,

we got a deferment from the government until we could help Daddy finish the crops; we grew tobacco, corn, potatoes, that kind of stuff. After that, off we went into the Army."

Asa and Billy served together in the 129th Infantry Division, nicknamed "The Blue and the Gray" because of the mix of Northern and Southern troops. Asa recalls serving with another set of identical twins from Ohio and says both twins would play havoc with their commanders by calling each other the same name—in the case of the Jordans, it was "Will."

"They'd say, 'Now who in the h-e-double-I is Will?'" Asa says. "We'd play dumb



Asa Jordan holds a photo showing (from left) his twin brother Billy, older brother Malcom and himself in bombed-out Frankfurt not long after the German surrender. Asa and Billy both thought they were then headed for Japan and had already received their Pacific vaccinations before the Japanese surrendered to end World War II.

and say, 'Well, don't you know? That's your job to tell us apart.' We'd keep them guessing all the time."

By the time they reached the front lines, the brothers just missed out on the heaviest fighting in the Battle of the Bulge.

"We didn't see much killing," says Asa, whose grandson, Asa "Bucky" Jordan III, now works in the engineering department of HEC. "When we got there, the platoon we joined had lost all but three men. We refurnished those men."

The closest they came to danger was when, while on patrol for remaining pockets of Germans, they walked right up on a well-camouflaged machine gun position.

"My brother and I were both scouts, and we looked up and a few feet in front of us was a German slumped over his machine gun in a foxhole," Asa says. "If he'd have been alive, he could have not just killed Billy and me but mowed down the whole company."

With hostilities completed, Asa and Billy's time was spent guarding gates and the occasional POWs. After the war, Asa and Billy finally returned home together. As for the rest of fighting Jordans?

"We all came back alive, thank God," Asa says. ☺

April 11, 2012

### WWII Veterans: We Want YOU!

Honor Flight of South Carolina is seeking World War II veterans to join a co-op-sponsored Honor Flight on April 11, 2012. Veterans of the Greatest Generation will be treated to a one-day, all-expenses-paid trip to Washington, D.C., to visit the World War II Memorial in honor of their service. Turn to page 22 for more on the trip and a mail-in application. You may also apply online at [SCLiving.coop](http://SCLiving.coop). **Please submit your application by March 1, 2012.**





## Right man, right place, right time

WWII veteran served with, aided Gen. Patton

BY WALTER ALLREAD

WHEN WORLD WAR II broke out, Horry Electric Cooperative member Clayton Fowler was 26, had been married for six years with three young girls and held a steady job as a welder and body man in Sumter repairing military training vehicles from bases around the region. Work was good, he'd had the job for a few years and, in short, had little reason to leave.

In fact, it was only when he was taken out of the shop and made to paint vehicles using the old lead-based paints of the era that he found the work was harmful to his health. He asked to go back to the body shop.

"The fellow said the only way I could go back to what I was doing was to join the Army," says Fowler, now 95 and who recently celebrated his 75th



Clayton Fowler down on the farm in Green Sea, with his trusty dog Bear.

WALTER ALLREAD

wedding anniversary with his wife, Carrie, at Green Sea Baptist Church. "I said, well, if I'm gonna kill myself, I might as well kill [an enemy soldier] with a rifle rather than here with this paint."

### Skills in demand

Fowler promptly enlisted in an outfit made up predominantly of men from North and South Carolina and immediately found that his welding skill was in high demand. He was offered a job as an instructor at

**Fowler holds a copy of a photo of his wife, Carrie, like one he carried with him during the war.**

the welding school he attended in Maryland. Duty called, however, and before long he was on a steamship with thousands of soldiers bound for England, where he stayed for nine months before following the infantry over to France.

"I was in the 7th Section, 222nd Ordnance Company, 31st Ordnance Battalion of the 1st Army, and we stayed just behind the front repairing tanks and trucks and anything else that was needed," Fowler says. "It wasn't too long that we'd been there and General [George] Patton came to my welding shop truck and said the



vines in the hedgerows there were catching under the tracks of the tanks and throwing the tracks off.

"He said he wanted something to put on the tanks that could prevent those vines from getting tangled. He said he'd come back and check on me, and when he did I showed him what I'd made and asked him if that's what he wanted," Fowler says. "He said, 'That's exactly what I want!' He put it on his tank and tested it, and it worked like a charm."

### Frozen mountain roads

From there, Fowler followed the 1st Army across France, Germany and Central Europe, the scariest moments of which came not while dodging enemy fire as much as negotiating frozen German mountain roads, pontoon bridges and narrow Baltic streets driving his trailer loaded with tons of armor plating, acetylene, oxygen, nitrogen and all the assorted equipment needed to repair any vehicle that moved.

After the war's conclusion, Fowler came home to Sumter, where his family, including his daughters Carolyn, Clara and the youngest,



Camellia, were waiting for him on the steps of his house.

"My littlest girl was only three months when I left, and she looked up and said, 'Who's that man kissing my momma?!'" Fowler says. "The other two remembered me, and after I hugged them and was walking in the house, she said, 'Why aren't you going to hug me?'"

Shortly after the war the Fowlers would have a fourth child, who was

**A photo of the Fowlers during the war. They've now been married more than 75 years.**

born on Veterans Day—a son, Billy. That was appropriate because Billy would go on to serve in the Air Force, taking part in the USS Pueblo incident with North Korea. Fowler also boasts a great-grandson, J.R. Horne, who has served in Afghanistan and is still in the Army and another great-grandson, William Bell III, who recently joined the Army. ☺

## Following in his boot steps

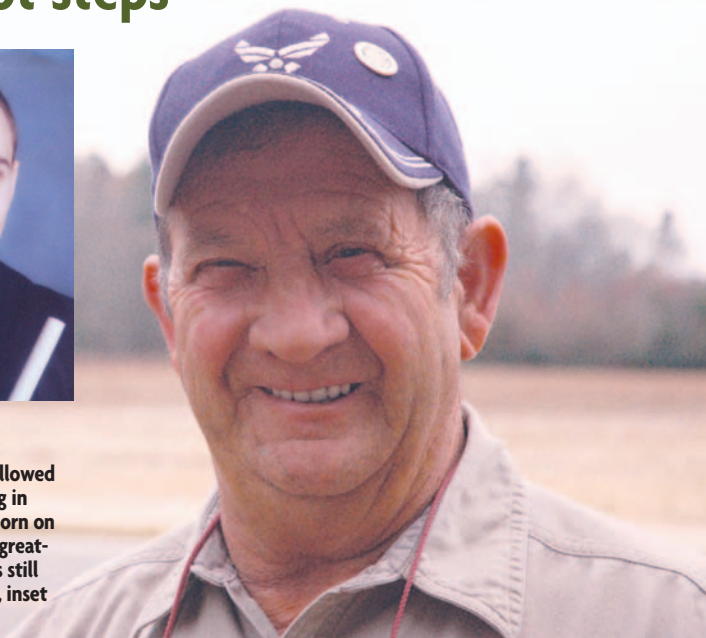


J.R. Horne



William Bell III

The men in Clayton Fowler's extended family have followed in his footsteps—or boot steps, if you will—by serving in the military. His son, HEC member Billy Fowler, was born on Veterans Day and later joined the Air Force. Fowler's great-grandson, J.R. Horne, has served in Afghanistan and is still in the Army. Another great-grandson, William Bell III, inset right, recently joined the Army.





The South Carolina Youth Tour representatives took in all the sights and sounds of D.C. including the Lincoln Memorial, the Vietnam Veterans Memorial and, of course, the Capitol.

## Chance of a lifetime

**IF YOU ARE** a high school junior living in Horry County, then you're qualified to apply for a chance to participate in a five-day, expense-paid trip to the nation's capital on the 2012 Washington Youth Tour.

Winners of Horry Electric Cooperative's local Youth Tour competition will join students from around the state and nation June 16-24. They'll tour historic sites, learn about our nation's government and have lots of fun shopping, dining out, seeing a play and cruising the Potomac at sunset.

Nearly 1,500 students participate each year and two of them are there representing Horry Electric Cooperative. Information packets have been distributed to Horry County schools. A quiz and personal interview

are part of the selection process. Study materials are sent to nominated students well in advance of the date scheduled for the selection process.

Grade point averages are not a consideration. Two alternates will be selected in the event one or both winners is unable to participate.

Applications, made available to guidance counselors in January, are also available online at [horryelectric.com](http://horryelectric.com).

or by contacting Horry Electric Cooperative's Youth Tour Coordinator Toni Gore at 369-6359 or [toni.gore@horryelectric.com](mailto:toni.gore@horryelectric.com). To find out more about this exciting chance of a lifetime for high school juniors, visit [horryelectric.com](http://horryelectric.com) or [youthtour.coop](http://youthtour.coop). Application deadline is Friday, February 24. ☺



## Horry Electric Cooperative, Inc.



### HEC 2012 Youth Tour

Application/Nomination Form  
HIGH SCHOOL JUNIORS ONLY

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Horry Electric Cooperative Account

Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Social Security Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Congressional District: \_\_\_\_\_

Parents'/Guardians' Names: \_\_\_\_\_

Guidance Counselor: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

How did you find out about Youth  
Tour 2012? \_\_\_\_\_

Recommended/Approved By: \_\_\_\_\_

On a separate sheet of paper, please list academic and athletic school activities as well as civic and church activities. All applications must include a summary of the student's activities.

All qualified applicants will be required to take a written test and participate in a personal interview. No essays will be accepted. Applications are open to all high school juniors, regardless of class rank or grade point average.

Send completed application forms to Toni Gore, Youth Tour Coordinator; Horry Electric Cooperative, Inc.; Post Office Box 119; Conway, SC 29528-0119

**APPLICATION DEADLINE IS FRIDAY,  
FEBRUARY 24**