

Horry Electric Cooperative, Inc.

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(to report power outages only)

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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

Getting ready for May 14

Annual meeting details falling into place

MARK YOUR CALENDARS, call your friends and make plans now to attend the Annual Meeting of Members of Horry Electric Cooperative on Tuesday, May 14, 2013, at the Convocation Center on the campus of Coastal Carolina University.



Registration gift increase

Only members who register, in person, to participate in the Annual Meeting of Members between the hours of noon and 7 p.m. on May 14 are eligible to receive the Registration Gift. As it has been for the past few years, the Registration Gift will be an electric bill credit. For 2013, however, the board of trustees has decided to increase the amount from \$15 to \$25.

New location; new logistics

As soon as the location of our 2013 Annual Meeting was determined, we began working on the details. The first step was informing members about the new venue. We did that in the July edition of *South Carolina Living* magazine.

When we made the announcement, we also made a commitment to keep members updated as decisions are made and plans are put in place.

Establishing a parking plan; figuring out how members would get to and from the Convocation Center and traffic logistics were high on our list of planning priorities. After much discussion and consultation with groups that typically handle these types of logistics for large groups at locations similar to CCU, a team

of employees developed and then proposed to the board of trustees a plan. It includes long-term parking with round-trip shuttle service to and from the convocation center; short-term parking within easy walking distance of the building and handicap parking right next to the building. Only vehicles with a placard displayed will be permitted in the handicap parking area. The plan was reviewed and approved by the board of trustees.

Business as usual

The agenda for the business portion of the Annual Meeting will run the same as it has in the past. Registration and voting will take place between the hours of noon and 7 p.m. The business meeting will begin promptly at 7 p.m. and, once it adjourns, we will begin the prize drawing.

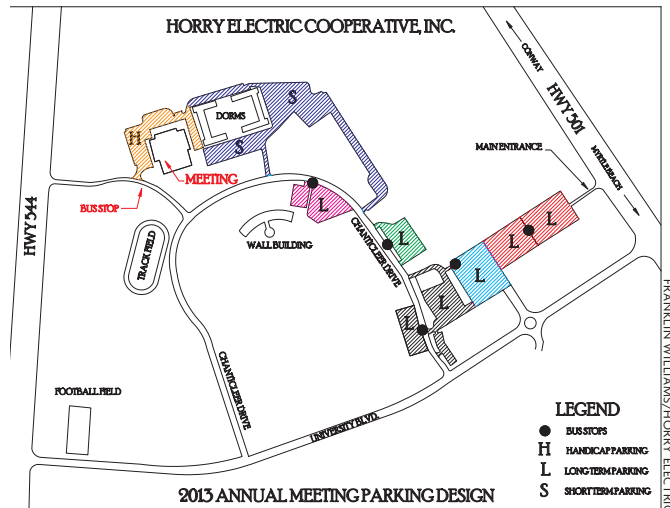
More to come

The map on the following page features the areas designated for long-term, short-term and handicap parking for the 2013 Annual Meeting of Members. Please take some time to review it and the other details we're able to share with you at this point in our planning process. Don't worry about saving a copy. You will be seeing all of this again in a variety of communications between now and May 14.

James P. "Pat" Howle
Executive Vice President and CEO

Looking out for you

Annual Meeting demonstrates membership matters



YOU ARE MORE THAN A CUSTOMER at Horry Electric Cooperative. You are a member. Electric co-op membership is as important today as it was in the late 1930s. All of the nation's 900-plus electric co-ops in 47 states share a common mission: to keep energy safe, affordable and reliable. Your membership matters.

It's your meeting

The Annual Meeting is important. It's one of the best examples of how your membership matters.

For employees, our management team and the board of trustees, it gives us an opportunity to report our status, share our progress and announce future plans. It also gives us a chance to meet members face-to-face rather than through voice, electronic or

written communications.

For members, it's an opportunity to proactively participate in the business meeting of their electric cooperative. Each year, three members are elected to represent their fellow members on the board of the trustees. When necessary, bylaw changes may be proposed and voted on by the membership at the Annual Meeting.

There is a quorum requirement in order for business to be officially conducted, so we do everything we can to make attending the Annual Meeting of Members as convenient and rewarding as possible.

Member-focused plans

Planning the Annual Meeting at a new location after having hosted it at the

Convention Center for more than 40 years has been a challenge.

As noted in the CEO column, parking, shuttle service and traffic logistics were high on the list of planning priorities. The illustration on this page shows the general layout of the campus, the parking areas reserved for members the day of the meeting and the location of the Convocation Center.

The most convenient parking for members is going to be in the areas designated as 'long-term'. Only members who park in these areas will be shuttled directly to and from the front door of the Convocation Center.

We have reserved several shuttle buses that will make a continuous loop throughout the day. Five bus stops are shown on the illustration. All are located in close proximity to at least one of the long-term parking areas.

To make it easy for members to remember where they left their vehicle, each driver will be given a silicone bracelet color coded specifically for the stop they boarded the shuttle.

The areas for short-term parking are located within a comfortable walking distance to the front door

of the Convocation Center. CCU is a walking campus, which means there is plenty of pavement and lighting.

Members with Handicap placards displayed will be directed to the appropriate area. The building entrance is designed for access with the personal wheelchairs, Segways or scooters of members who need to use them.

Easier exit

Attendance records are expected to be broken at our new meeting location. More members means more traffic. Not wanting traffic concerns to discourage members from coming, the board of trustees has removed the requirement that keeps people there until the last winning ticket is called.

Effective in 2013, members no longer have to be present at the time of the prize drawing in order to win. Each member who registers, in person, at the meeting between the designated hours, will not only qualify to get the Registration Gift, but will also be automatically entered into the prize drawing. Winners, if they are not present, will be notified by phone the following day.

The ambassador of stealth

Kayak fishing guide sneaks up on a career doing what he loves

BY WALTER ALLREAD

MOST FOLKS SETTLE for an I'D RATHER BE FISHING bumper sticker and the occasional escape from the nine-to-five grind.

Not Mike Eady.

The Horry Electric Cooperative member, 34, is having his 'druthers—doing what he loves, and making a living doing it. A professional tournament fisherman and guide, Eady's a walking (and paddling) ambassador for the fast-growing sport of kayak fishing.

He came by it naturally.

"My dad instilled a love of fishing in me, and I love kayak fishing in me, and I love kayak fishing because I grew up on Pawley's Island," says Eady, who now calls Conway home. "I've been a professional guide for four years now. I started just taking friends out. I was always taking people fishing, putting them on fish, so it was natural."

Unlike fishing from a bank or off a motorboat platform, kayaks allow anglers to sneak up on fish since there are no noisy motors or lavish wake to spook them, Eady points out. The mobility of the kayak means sportsmen can cast under bramble and overhang that other boats can't get close enough safely to chance.

"I started doing tournaments and



COURTESY MIKE EADY

getting popular and had so many people calling me, so I partnered with Black River Outdoor Center and added kayak fishing part to their business. It's

Horry Electric member Mike Eady with a nice redfish he caught from his Malibu Stealth 14 kayak. His biggest catch, a 40-inch redfish, came about this time last year, notes Eady, who fishes competitively for Team Malibu.



Eady's enthusiasm for kayak fishing is contagious—as the expressions of folks he's guided show, including a satisfied father and son and one excited "fisherwoman."

been great ever since."

When he's not competing and placing in regional kayak fishing tournaments, he's putting amateur anglers onto big fish—even in the winter months.

"In November, the redfish tend to school up when the water and weather cool up," he says. "It's actually

exciting to cast through them in those schools. You're so quiet in the kayak, you can literally be a couple feet off the fish and they don't even know you're there.

"The biggest fish I caught was last November. I caught a 40-inch redfish and a 34-inch speckled trout out of the kayak. Those are pretty good feats, right there. You don't see those that big, and to catch them out of a kayak made it that much better."

While Eady fishes competitively for Team Malibu, a highly competitive kayak team that has enjoyed a lot of recent success, he says he fishes for the love of the sport itself.

"In the kayak, besides being stealthy, you're slower and you're lower," he says. "So you see a lot more because you're sitting so low on the water. It's a great way to experience the sport. It's a fun way to fish." ☺

Call (843) 546-4840 or email info@blackriveroutdoors.com for details about a personal guided kayak fishing trip with Mike Eady.





Sheila Hemingway at "Sarah's House" for girls 12–18. "We want them to feel like they're coming to a home," she says.

WALTER ALLREAD

A Safe Harbor for girls

Second-generation 'street mom' seeks support for Horry shelter

BY WALTER ALLREAD

WHEN SHEILA HEMINGWAY was growing up, her mother was what's known as a "street mom," a term of endearment for someone who reaches out to children growing up without parental supervision or care and, often, without food to eat.

When Sarah Freshley wasn't working in housekeeping at the Conway hospital, she spent all her free time cooking for the less fortunate children in the neighborhood, who knew they always could find a safe haven at her home. Hemingway recalls, "My mom, who was raised on Suggs Street, worked at the hospital full-time for 30 years. She came home every day and worked full-time on her other job—taking care of kids in our neighborhood who were abused, left hungry and were scared."

Her example rubbed off on her

daughter, who grew up to take in foster children and become a "street mom" herself. What's more, she has formed Safe Harbor Ministries, which is now opening a group home for displaced and abused girls. It's to be called Sarah's House, after her mother.

The shelter will serve girls ages 12–18 from around Horry County. Hemingway points out that, despite its size and population, the county has no temporary housing for girls caught up in bad situations. The state agencies that assist these girls must take them to other counties, she notes. "They have to be driven three to four hours to the nearest shelter," Hemingway says.

"You're talking about people with a horrible home life, with physical or sexual abuse who then get into trouble at school, get into fights and get suspended or expelled and put into a system that makes them victims all

over again.

"This house will be a safe harbor but, more than that, we want to make sure they continue with their



Broken glass can be replaced, Hemingway says, just as broken lives can be mended.

education. We will partner with the mental health system to get them emotional counseling, and we will have associate pastors in our ministry to provide spiritual counseling. We'll help them learn daily living skills. These girls need love, guidance and stability."

Hemingway already has a location secured outside Conway off Hwy. 701 that, while promising, needs TLC to become livable. "We've had the copper stolen out of it while it was vacant and there are lots of issues, but it's really ideal for us," she says.

The house, which is in Horry Electric Cooperative's service area, has four large bedrooms that can accommodate two bunk beds each, meaning the shelter can serve up to 16 girls at a time, with like ages grouped together.

"We have a 36-month lease option, and we're trying to bring in funds, have a grant written and find sponsors to help us," Hemingway says.

The needs are critical—wiring, plumbing, heating and cooling, building materials, appliances, computers, office and living furniture, bedding supplies, just to begin with—and help is vital for Sarah's House to become a reality.

Despite the challenges, Hemingway sees great potential. "We have two acres on site, too, for a garden that we're planning," she says. "We have the girls waiting. All we need is the money and the help to be able to help them." Some volunteers, including skilled tradesmen, have already stepped forward to volunteer their services, she notes, helping make Sarah's House a home away from home.

"We don't want the girls to feel like they're coming to an agency," Hemingway adds. "We want them to feel like they're coming to a home." ☺

To learn how you can help, call Safe Harbor Ministries at 712-0122.

Hemingway inside the house back in September, before the living room had been repaired.



Horry Electric Cooperative, Inc.

Statement of nondiscrimination

Horry Electric Cooperative, Inc. is the recipient of Federal financial assistance from the Rural Utilities Service, an agency of the U.S. Department of Agriculture, and is subject to the provisions of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended, the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, as amended, and the rules and regulations of the U.S. Department of Agriculture, which provide that no person in the United States on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age, or disability shall be excluded from participation in, the admission or access to, denied benefits of, or otherwise be subjected to discrimination under any of this organization's programs or activities.

The person responsible for coordinating this organization's nondiscrimination compliance efforts is Abigail Lewis, human resources coordinator. Any individual, or specific class of individuals, who feels that this organization has subjected them to discrimination may obtain further information about the statutes and regulations listed above from and/or file a written complaint with this organization; or write USDA, director, Office of Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20250-9410; or call, toll free, (866) 632-9992 (voice). TDD users can contact USDA through local relay or the Federal relay at (800) 877-8399 (TDD) or (866) 377-8642 (relay voice users). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer. Complaints must be filed within 180 days after the alleged discrimination. Confidentiality will be maintained to the extent possible.



Your Touchstone Energy® Partner

How to become a trustee of Horry Electric Cooperative, Inc.

I. QUALIFICATIONS:

Below are the qualifications that must be met before a person can be elected to the Cooperative's Board of Trustees:

A. Must be a member in good standing with the Cooperative and receive electrical service from the Cooperative at his or her primary abode.

B. Must reside in the Trustee District from which Trustee is to be elected.

C. Shall not be a close relative of an incumbent board member, or of an existing employee of the Cooperative, or is employed by the Cooperative, or was employed by the Cooperative at any time during the preceding five (5) years.

D. Must not be employed by or financially interested in a competing enterprise, or a business selling electric energy or supplies to the Cooperative, or a business primarily engaged in selling electrical or plumbing appliances, fixtures, supplies or wiring to, among others, the members of the Cooperative.

II. NOMINATIONS:

Below are the two methods that may be used to become nominated for the purpose of being elected as a member of the Cooperative's

Board of Trustees.

A. A member may be nominated by the appointed Nominating Committee of the Cooperative as a candidate for the Board of Trustees from the Trustee District in which the member lives and for that District's seat. The Nominating Committee will meet in January prior to the Annual Meeting held in May. For the exact date of the Nominating Committee meeting, call the office at 369-2211.

B. A member can also be nominated by petition as a candidate for the Board of Trustees from the Trustee

District in which the member lives and for that District's seat. Official forms must be obtained from the Cooperative and must be signed by any twenty-five or more active member/owners in order to be considered valid. The deadline for petition candidates is sixty days prior to the date of the Annual Meeting of Members.

III. ELECTION:

The following is how the election will take place at the Annual Meeting:

All members who have been nominated by the Nominating Committee or who

have been nominated by petition will have their names appear on the official ballot of the Cooperative. The members who are in attendance at the Annual Meeting will then select their representative to the Board of Trustees by secret ballot. If a member has been properly nominated and has no opposition, that member may be voted to the Board of Trustees by acclamation.

For additional information on this procedure, please refer to the Cooperative's Bylaws, which are posted on horryelectric.com. For a printed copy of the Bylaws, just drop by our office.

Your Annual Meeting date is Tuesday, May 14, 2013 Coastal Carolina University Convocation Center

Time Schedule

ITEM	BYLAW PROVISIONS	ACTION
Nominating Committee Appointed:	Not less than one hundred twenty (120) days (1/14/13) nor more than one hundred fifty (150) days (12/14/12) prior to meeting of members, consisting of five (5) members.	To be appointed at December 2012 Board Meeting. Nominating Committee to meet in January 2013.
Notice of Meeting of Nominating Committee in <i>The Horry Independent</i> :	RUS requirement (No Bylaw provision)	Published in <i>The Horry Independent</i> January 2013.
Posting of Report of Nominating Committee:	Nominees: At least ninety (90) days before Annual Meeting.	Post before 2/12/13.
Deadline for Petition Candidates and Posting of Report:	Not less than sixty (60) days prior to meeting of members.	Deadline for Petition Candidates: 3/13/13 (Wed.) at Noon. Post by 3/15/13 (Fri.).
Credentials and Elections Committee Appointment:	At least ten (10) days—by (5/3/13) before any meeting of the members, and consisting of at least nine (9) members.	To be appointed at March 2013 Board Meeting.
Notice of Meeting:	Not less than ten (10) days (5/3/13) nor more than twenty-five (25) days (4/19/13) before the date of the meeting.	Direct mailers to all consumer/owners.

With names and addresses of all nominees, distinguishing between those nominated by the Committee and those nominated by petition.

Horry Electric Cooperative, Inc.; P.O. Box 119; Conway, SC 29528-0119; (843) 369-2211