

Horry Electric Cooperative, Inc.

www.horryelectric.com

Main Office

P.O. Box 119
Conway, SC 29528-0119
369-2211



(to report power outages only)

369-2212

Board of Trustees

Johnny M. Shelley
President

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

Eugene Harriott, Jr.
Vice President

Ashley Anderson
Secretary/Treasurer

Elaine D. Gore

Bobby E. Jordan

Franklin C. Blanton

Ronald H. Floyd

Henry W. Boyd

Frederick 'Freddy' Thompkins

Co-op Connection Editor

Penelope D. Hinson
penelope.hinson@horryelectric.com

Horry Electric Cooperative, Inc., is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

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



A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative

75 Acts of Kindness

Looking for applications for specific, one-time acts

COMMITMENT TO COMMUNITY is a core value of Horry Electric Cooperative. It's at the heart of the initiative we



announced last month to celebrate our 75 Years of Service in the Horry County community.

January is a busy month, and we understand the news may have been overlooked, so we're repeating the information about our program this month.

As you already know, Horry Electric has a long history of working to serve in the best interest of our membership and our community. We believe, through our 75 Acts of Kindness program in 2016, we can honor that history and our tradition of service in small, but very meaningful ways.

75 Acts of Kindness

Horry Electric Cooperative traditionally helps people in need by supporting local charitable organizations through employees who volunteer in our communities; through Operation Round Up and, when possible, through general monetary donations.

To celebrate our history and our tradition of giving to the community, we're doing 75 Acts of Kindness with a value of up to \$500 per act this year.

Recipients do not have to be members of Horry Electric, but they must be located in Horry County. General local charities that benefit HEC members are eligible, but they must submit an application for a specific one-time project. Schools and school groups, churches and individuals are also eligible to apply as long as the purpose of their proposed community service project benefits an



individual or group of people in Horry County.

The funding for this initiative is included in the 2016 budget for Horry Electric's 75th Anniversary. Funds requested must be for specific, one-time acts. You'll find an application on page 16D. You can also pick applications up at either of our offices.

Apply now

Applications are being accepted throughout the year and will end when 75 Acts of Kindness are complete.

We have an application review committee made up of employees who each represent the primary communities in which we serve. As they review these applications and approve an individual Act of Kindness, we'll keep members updated. The information will be published in the monthly magazine and/or through our social media outlets.

I urge you to tune in and join us in celebrating our anniversary and the 75 Acts of Kindness. Please also help us spread the word about our project. We want to see an outpouring of creative, specific, one-time acts that will make a difference in Horry County!

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

Call 811 before you dig —not 911 later

LAST JUNE 6 in Santa Maria, Calif., two men were working on an underground water pump when their equipment came in contact with an underground electrical line. One man was electrocuted, dying at the scene, officials said, while the other suffered severe burns.



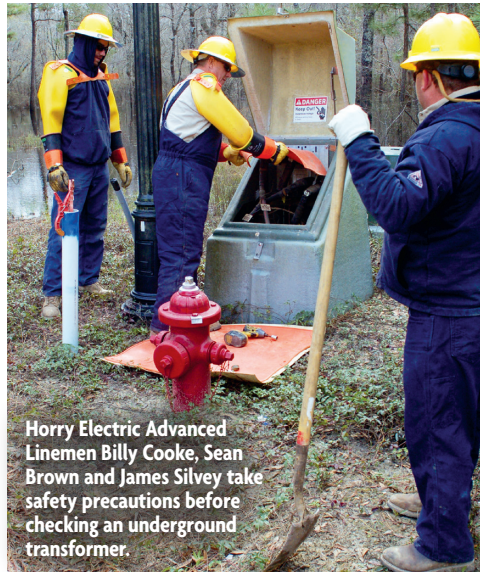
**Know what's below.
Call before you dig.**

This tragedy shows the risk of injuries that can be caused by contact with underground power lines.

Don't let it happen to you. If you have a digging project, large or small, be sure to call 811 before you dig. This national number protects do-it-yourselfers, landscapers and contractors from unintentionally hitting underground facilities.

South Carolina law requires a 72-hour notice (three working days) before you excavate. In Horry Electric's area, a call to 811 connects you with the Palmetto Utility Protection Service (PUPS). The service is free and one call does it all, as long as all utilities involved are PUPS members.

Once you make the call, a notification center will establish a computer link



Horry Electric Advanced Linemen Billy Cooke, Sean Brown and James Silvey take safety precautions before checking an underground transformer.

between you and/or the individuals planning the digging project and utilities that operate underground facilities where the project is planned. Be prepared to provide your telephone number, name, city and county names, the project's address and location, the type of work planned and its start date and time.

Safety is critical at Horry Electric. We do underground locates on all projects for the very same reasons we urge members to call 811 before digging.

The alternate PUPS phone number is (888) 721-7877. Online forms are also available; go to HorryElectric.com, and search for Call Before You Dig.

HorryExtra

Who was Miss Leo?

On March 4, Horry Electric Cooperative will once again present its annual Miss Leo G. Knauff Leadership Award, naming the 38th Rural Lady of the Year. But who was Miss Leo? Turn to 16B.



RIGHT-OF-WAY SCHEDULE

CLEARING LINES OF LIMBS helps keep service reliable. Here's our current right-of-way maintenance schedule:

Allsbrook—Down Hwy. 45, over to Hwy. 410 and surrounding areas, also from Hwy. 701 north to Cane Branch Road and nearby.

Socastee—Around Hwy. 707 to Leonard Road and surrounding areas, also behind Socastee High, down 707 toward Rosewood.

Longs—East Bear Grass and Freemont roads and surrounding areas.

Goretown—Hwy. 66, areas near Daisy Crossroad.

Unclaimed Capital Credits posted online

HORRY ELECTRIC MAILS capital credit checks to members who have received service in past years. Many of these checks are returned by the postal service. We hold them for those listed in a searchable database at our website, located at <http://www.horryelectric.com/capitalCredits.aspx>.

You can find the database by using the search engine on the page or by selecting Capital Credits from the My Co-op tab on the home page. In addition to the online database, Horry Electric publishes the unclaimed capital credit list in *The Horry*

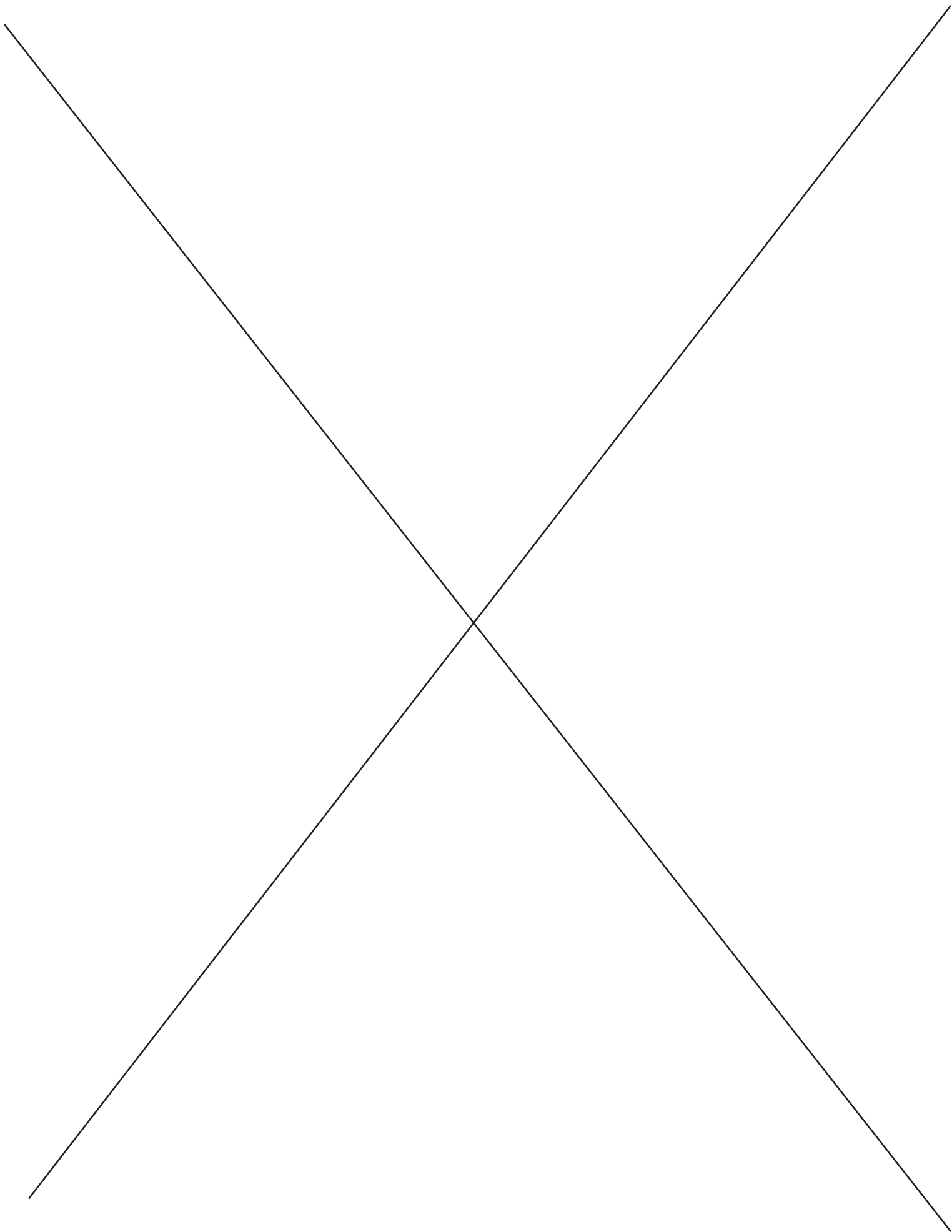
Independent on an annual basis.

In order to claim funds, please contact Horry Electric Cooperative's main office in Conway between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. weekdays at (843) 369-2211. Please reference your call as concerning unclaimed capital credits.



Midway mud-boggers

Mucking it out, contract utility crews continue to build a new Midway Substation to better serve HEC members. Here are Sumter Utilities employees Benton Foy, Rodrigo Lopez and equipment operator Ethan Thompson at the site off S.C. Hwy. 19 on Jan. 6.



Co-op Connections® Card: By the Numbers

\$16,346,724.18

Saved on prescriptions by
S.C. co-op members since 2007



You've saved more than \$791,000!

MEMBERS OF HORRY Electric and other Touchstone Energy Cooperatives in South Carolina saved \$1,912,357.78 on prescriptions last year by using their Co-op Connections discount cards.

That's just part of the grand total of \$16,346,724.18 saved by S.C. co-op members since 2007, according to Touchstone Energy, the co-op alliance that coordinates the discount card program and other member benefits such as TogetherWeSave.com. Horry members, who pocketed more than \$55,854.42 in Rx savings during 2015, have now saved more than \$791,000 since the co-op connected with Co-op Connections in 2009.

The discount card program also features other Healthy Savings Discounts, helping members save on vision, dental, imaging and other health-care services. The prescription drug benefit entitles Horry Electric members to discounts ranging from 10 to 85 percent off the cost of prescription drugs at more than 60,000 national pharmacy locations including CVS, Walgreens, Walmart, and Target. More than 100 pharmacies in and around Horry Electric's service area participate. ☺

To find pharmacies that honor the Co-op Connections card, go to HorryElectric.com, click on the Co-op Connections card image to go to Connections.coop. Look under Healthy Savings Discounts and use the Locate Providers feature. Lost your card? No problem! Just print a new one from the website.

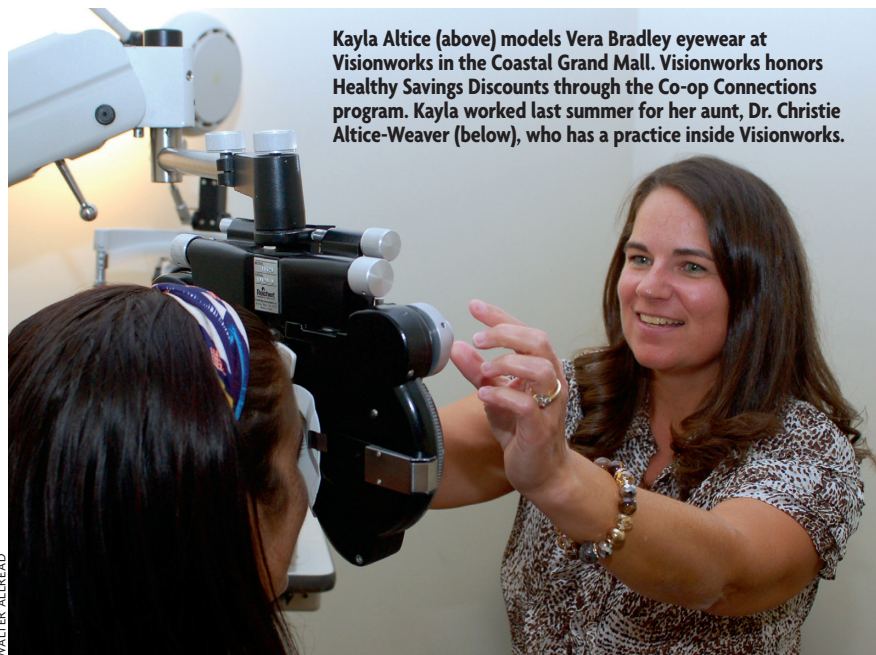
The eyes have it!

Healthy Savings Discounts aren't just for pharmacy prescriptions

Touchstone Energy Cooperatives' Co-op Connections program helps you save more and live healthier every day! But the prescription drug discount isn't all Horry Electric members get with Co-op Connections: The program's Healthy Savings Discounts also offer savings on vision, dental, hearing, lab work and imaging, and chiropractor visits. Best of all, members get all these great benefits for free! Use the search tool at Connections.coop to find service providers, including vision care offerings. Within 50 miles of Conway, you'll find:

- ▶ Laser surgery providers
- ▶ Lifere vision providers
- ▶ Md vision providers
- ▶ Retail vision providers

The vision care discounts are offered through the Coast To Coast Vision network. Keep in mind, you must have the newer version of the Co-op Connections card with the necessary logos to obtain these discounts. If you don't see the logos for Coast To Coast Vision, Humana Dental Access and UHS Chiropractic on the back of your card, visit Connections.coop to print a new card.



Kayla Altice (above) models Vera Bradley eyewear at Visionworks in the Coastal Grand Mall. Visionworks honors Healthy Savings Discounts through the Co-op Connections program. Kayla worked last summer for her aunt, Dr. Christie Altice-Weaver (below), who has a practice inside Visionworks.

WALTER ALLREAD

'Miss Leo' ushered in a new era of member services

ON MARCH 4, at a luncheon at the cooperative, Horry Electric will once again present its annual Miss Leo G. Knauff Leadership Award, naming the 38th Rural Lady of the Year.

The award's formal name will be on the program and the winner's plaque, of course, although few in attendance will recognize the significance of the woman it honors. But Leo Gertrude Knauff, who died in 1980, in many ways personified the progress Horry Electric made in its second, third and fourth decades.

Hired in 1952 as a home electrification advisor, she helped rural homemakers—who were accustomed to cooking on wood stoves and pumping water by hand—learn to let Willie Wiredhand, the “extra hand on the farm,” ease their burdens. In those days, co-ops across the nation

were hiring electrification advisors—in fact, Miss Leo's sister, Irene Knauff, later took the same position at Black River Electric Cooperative in Sumter.

Electrification advisors were forerunners of today's member service employees, who help members



Leo G. Knauff (center) teaching a cooking class with Earlese McCray (left) and Sandy Lovette, Miss Leo's secretary for many years in HEC's home energy department.

COURTESY: MARY FRANCES MCNEILL

use energy more efficiently by taking advantage of co-op programs and services. Advisors were often communications specialists, too: Miss Leo contributed to Horry's edition of its original member publication, *South Carolina Electric Co-op News*.

All in a day's work

Miss Leo wrote a column, “All In A Day,” for Horry's local pages. Early in her career, she helped cover a major event—Hurricane Hazel, which made landfall Oct. 15, 1954, just northeast of Myrtle Beach. Packing 130-mph winds, Hazel knocked out power to 7,200 co-op members—practically the entire membership. As Miss Leo noted in her November 1954 column, Hazel also reminded many how reliant they had become on co-op power.

“All In A Day” quoted “Mrs. Liston Hardee of Rt. 4, Loris,” as saying, “I just can't do anything! It isn't that I'm too good to pump water and carry it, or see by an oil lamp, it's just such a nuisance and inconvenience. . . . It's

been so long since we've used the old oil lamp, we had forgotten how to put it together, and what a mess keeping the chimney clean. I'll never complain about a light bill again.”

Building the co-op's knowledge base

During Miss Leo's career, Horry Electric greatly expanded its member services and community-outreach efforts.

In the 1960s and '70s, as many members were building new homes, and the co-op sought to build its electrical load, HEC even offered home layout and lighting-planning services. One past winner of the Rural Lady award, 2011 recipient Martha Ann Johnson, says that Miss Leo designed her kitchen.

“I've heard that a lot,” says Miss Leo's step-niece, Joyce Moran.



WALTER ALBRECHT

Rick and Joyce Moran with personal belongings and items from Miss Leo's co-op files, which they've kept. Joyce, her step-niece, says she and her cousins spent a lot of time at Miss Leo's home: “As a kid, I remember going over there. She'd do crafts with us all the time.” Miss Leo's old fan (inset above) works fine, Rick says.



HEC ARCHIVES



A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative

Joyce and her husband, Rick, today are the keepers of Miss Leo's memory. They inherited her office files from Miss Irene, who passed away in 2007. "She was like me. She could not let go of anything," Joyce says with a laugh.

Joyce came into Miss Leo's orbit by luck—bad and good: After her birth mother died when Joyce was little, her father re-married Irene and Leo's sister, Emma Oline Jordan. Emma, a social worker, had moved in with her sister and their mother, Emma Gertrude Knauff, in Conway after Miss Leo got the co-op job. They all hailed from DeValls Bluff, Arkansas.

The family had been planning to join an older brother, Carl, in Los Angeles, but fate stepped in: The morning they were packing, the postman arrived with a letter from Horry Electric offering Miss Leo the

During Miss Leo's career, Horry Electric expanded its community and youth outreach efforts. With Clemson Extension, HEC offered 4-H programs such as a 1958 tractor contest (below). Her Girl Scout notebook (bottom) included notes on nutrition and puzzles and a "Sugar An' Spice" cookbook (left), which includes her notation, "Received November 1972. Ordered 200, 10/12/72. Gave to Scouts 1-17-73."



Miss Leo's photos of the aftermath of Hurricane Hazel in the December 1954 edition of the newspaper that HEC and other co-ops published for members in those days.

job, Rick says.

Sister Irene joined her relatives in South Carolina in 1960. Joyce notes, "Leo and Irene were extremely close." Rick adds, "They both had the same interests. Both were home economists."

Irene—a World War II-era Marine Corps veteran and a fascinating person in her own right—doted on her younger sister, whom she called Angel. Perhaps it was because Leo was born with scoliosis, a sideways curvature of the spine.

Overcoming adversity

Neither Irene nor Leo ever married, but Leo enjoyed the company of their many nieces and nephews, says Joyce. She remembers regularly going to Miss Leo's house with her younger sister. "She'd do crafts with us all the time," Joyce says.

"She had nephews and nieces all over the country, and they all liked to come to Aunt Leo's," Joyce says. "She'd get a house at the beach, and they'd come to stay a week."

One nephew, Jim Talley, remembers accompanying Aunt Leo on monthly trips to a specialist in Charleston, where she had her back brace adjusted. She'd drop him off at the old Charleston Museum. "I'd spend all day in the museum, when she was at the doctor's. I loved it!" says Jim. He



also recalls an "idyllic summer" in the 1960s, hanging out at the then-new Conway pool. "I could do anything I wanted all day long as long as I was home by the time she got home," Jim says.

Despite her physical limitations, Miss Leo represented the co-op in the community quite well, Joyce notes. "She was very, very active in Conway," she recalls.

Energy expertise, c. 1964

Rick, who retired from AT&T, says Miss Leo's co-op papers continue to fascinate him. He points to one lighting fact sheet she had on file, which indicates how far back Horry Electric's energy expertise runs: "I find this really unique—it tells the amount of output of light per lumen that bulbs put out by wattage, and how much square footage they cover. You see things like that and you go, 'Really?!' That was '64!"

Rick adds, "It seems like so much of the legacy that you leave behind isn't discovered until years after you're gone."

So, here's to Miss Leo G. Knauff—gone but definitely *not* forgotten! ☺

Visit HEC's Facebook page to see more photos from Miss Leo's files.

75 Acts of Kindness Application

Horry Electric Cooperative is celebrating 75 years of serving our community!

IN ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF this milestone, the co-op will perform 75 individual acts with a monetary value of up to \$500 each.



Eligibility: Recipients do not have to be members of Horry Electric Cooperative, but they must be located in Horry County. General local charities that benefit HEC members are eligible to apply. Schools or school groups, churches and individuals are also eligible to apply for the purpose of community projects that benefit an individual or group of people in Horry County.

Name of recipient: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Employer: _____

Describe in as much detail as possible the need for the Act of Kindness (*attach additional sheets as necessary*):

Estimate cost: If cost of need is more than \$500, are there sources to supply the balance of the need/project/act?

\$ _____

Supporting documentation: provide as much supporting documentation as possible (*official cost estimate, proof of disability, newspaper articles, photographs, etc.*)

Reference: please list a reference for the recipient (*i.e. teacher, doctor, employer, pastor, help organization volunteer*)

Name: _____

Phone: _____

Address: _____

Job title or position in community: _____

☐ Are you willing to share your story and/or photo in Horry Electric Cooperative's print or online publications?
(*answer does not affect eligibility*)

75 Acts of Kindness recipients will be selected by a committee of Horry Electric Cooperative employees from different communities within our service area. Recipients will be notified by mail or phone.

Submit applications online, by mail or email:
Horry Electric Cooperative, Inc., P. O. Box 119, Conway, SC 29528
(843) 369-2211; community@horryelectric.com; horryelectric.com