

Horry Electric Cooperative, Inc.

www.horryelectric.com

Main Office

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

Conway Office: 369-2211

Socastee Office: 650-7530



(to report power outages only)

369-2212

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Co-op Connection Editor

Penelope D. Hinson
penelope.hinson@horryelectric.com

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

Celebrating co-op independence

ON JULY 4 we celebrated our nation's independence. In the midst of apple pies and hot dogs, fireworks shows and parades, I can't help but think about the independent streak that inspired groups of farmers around America's countryside to band together and improve their quality of life.



Aside from President Franklin Roosevelt's promise of federal aid in the form of low-interest loans and engineering expertise, rural Americans didn't have much help in bringing electricity to their homes. They pulled themselves up by their proverbial bootstraps and did it themselves.

This independence not only tends to inspire cooperatives; it's a guiding principle. The Fourth Cooperative Principle, "Autonomy and Independence," means that no matter what contracts and alliances Horry Electric Cooperative might enter into, we will always remain an independent entity.

Each year, Horry Electric's Annual Meeting of Members becomes an independence celebration. You hear reports from the co-op's leadership and, in short order, we take care of

co-op business. I would like to take this time to thank those of you who attended and participated in this year's Annual Meeting. In spite of the frustration of the long lines due to the overwhelming numbers of people who came before the doors were even opened for registration, we had more than 7,500 members join us at the meeting. That's co-op spirit for you.

Electric cooperatives form a vast network across the country, from coast to coast. Co-op lines are strung in 47 states, serving 42 million people—a different world from 1935, when much of America remained dark. This Fourth of July, as we recognize the hard-fought war that created the United States, I'll also tip my hat to Horry Electric's founders, who beat incredible odds to make life better for themselves and their neighbors.

We look forward to seeing you again next year at our Annual Meeting on May 13, 2014, when we'll celebrate our co-op's autonomy and independence all over again.

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

Capital Credits



Unclaimed Capital Credits posted online

A searchable database is posted on [horryelectric.com](http://www.horryelectric.com) (<http://www.horryelectric.com/capitalCredits.aspx>). You can find it by using the Search Engine on the page or simply by selecting 'Capital Credits' from the myCO-OP tab on the home page of our website.

Horry Electric mails capital credit checks to members who have received service in past years. Many of these checks are returned to us by the postal service and we are holding them for those listed on the website.

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.

In addition to the online database, Horry Electric publishes the unclaimed capital credit list in *The Horry Independent* on an annual basis.

WE WILL PAY YOU TO STAY IN HOT WATER!

THE AVERAGE LIFE of a water heater is between 6 and 10 years. If your water heater has been around that long, it might be time to start thinking about replacing it.

"Before you do anything, you need to call us to learn more about our H₂O Select program," says Eddy Blackburn, marketing analyst for the cooperative.

"We offer rebates of \$250 for a minimum 80-gallon electric water heater or \$125 for a minimum 50-gallon electric water heater," says Blackburn. "All you have to do is make sure the water heater meets the specifications of our program, sign the participation agreement and allow us to install a load management device on the unit."

To make sure the process goes smoothly, members will need to make sure a 4-by-4-inch metal junction box is wired to the tank and verify that the upper and lower elements are not more than 4,500 watts.

"If your water heater has already kicked the bucket and you've replaced it with a new one, it still may not be too late to qualify for the program," says Blackburn.

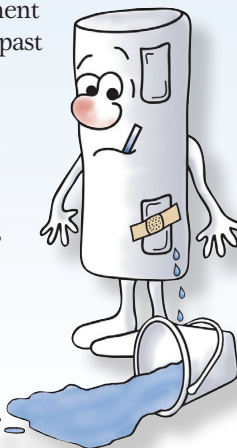
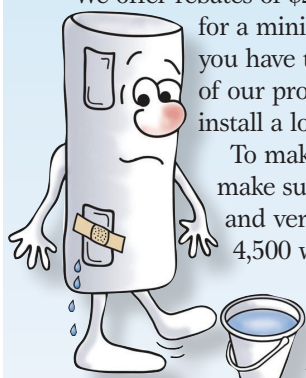
Members who have installed a replacement water heater that meets the requirements of the program in the past 12 months, might still be able to qualify for the program!

Horry Electric Cooperative is always glad to help members explore ways to use energy more efficiently and get the most out of their energy dollars. "We created the water heater program to give participants a way to get plenty of hot water—efficiently and conveniently," says Blackburn. "Offering and qualifying members for this program helps Horry Electric save money, and we're happy to pass those savings on to participating members!"

To find out more, visit horryelectric.com and look for the H₂O Select program under the myHome tab or call us at (843) 369-2211.



We'll pay you to stay in hot water!
Rebates of \$125 and \$250 for qualifying installations with a load control device.



Powerful savings

Central Electric Power Cooperative provides wholesale power aggregation services to Horry Electric and 19 other electric distribution co-ops in South Carolina through purchase agreements with Santee Cooper, Duke Energy Carolinas and other power providers. In early May, Horry Electric leaders signed a new contract with Central. Shown here are Johnny M. Shelley, president of the Horry Electric board of trustees (seated, left), with Lawrence J. Hinz, chairman of the board of Central Electric Power Cooperative. Behind them (from left) are James P. "Pat" Howle, executive vice president and CEO of Horry Electric, and Elaine D. Gore, trustee for Horry Electric, and Ronald J. Calcaterra, president and CEO of Central Electric. Later in May, Central signed a multi-billion-dollar, cost-saving extension of an agreement to purchase power from Santee Cooper, the state-owned utility. Learn more about how these contracts benefit all co-op members in Dialogue, Page 10.



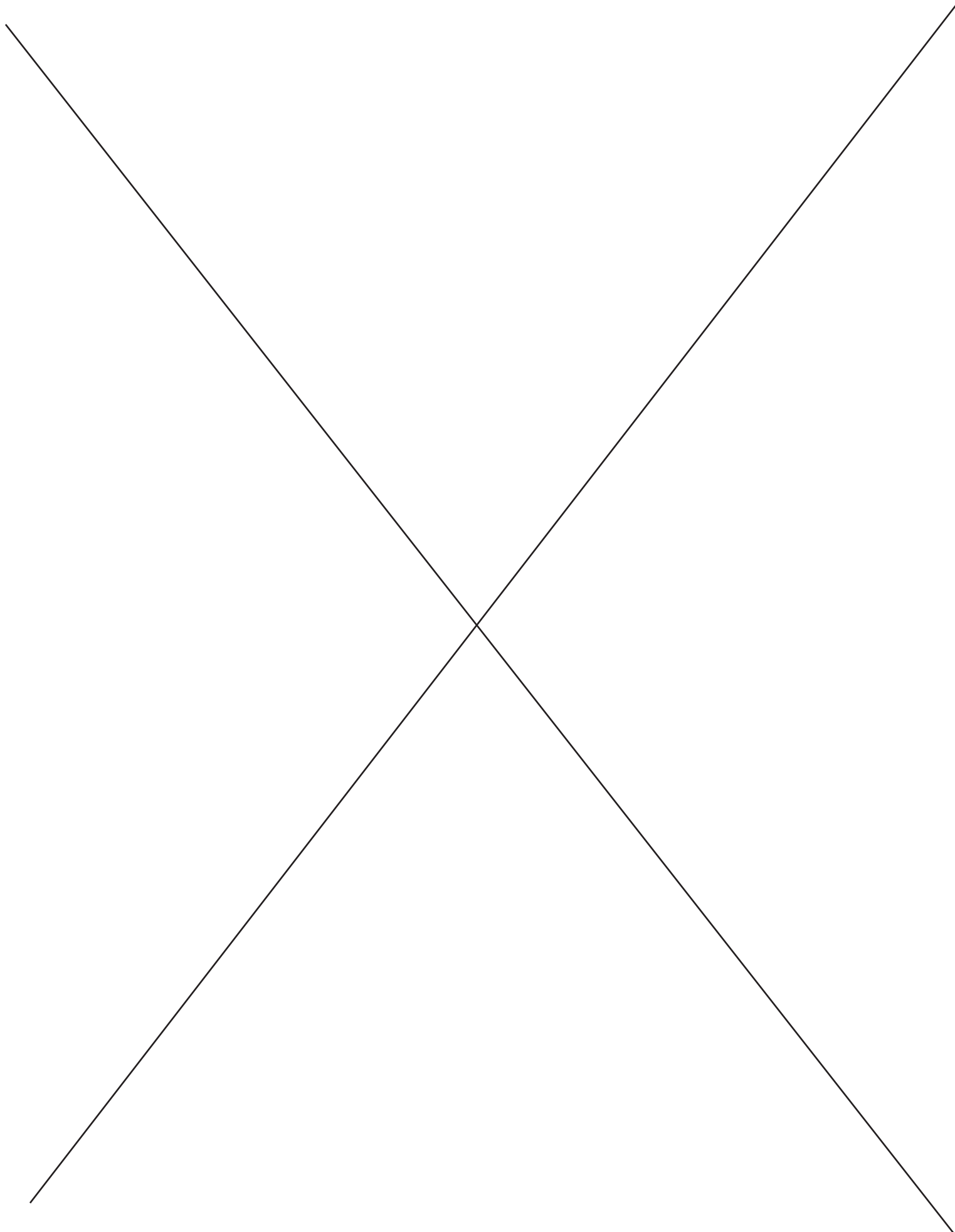
Horry Extra

Our guys stand tall at Lineworkers' Rodeo

This month's Horry Extra, starting on page 16A, has three features that will make you feel good about our country, our state's lineworkers, and about your fellow Horry Electric members.

On 16D, we take you to the annual Lineworkers' Rodeo, where HEC's team shined. On 16A, there's a light-hearted look back at the fun had at the Meet Your Linemen tent at our Annual Meeting May 14. In between, we share the remarkable memories of WWII Navy veteran Robert "Bob" German, who received a standing ovation at the meeting.





Lineworkers for a ... little while

Members, kids get to Meet Your Linemen at Annual Meeting and live the dream



WALTER ALLREAD

Juanita Dobson is stylin' with her HEC "helmet" over her turban.



Natalie Chichester makes her lineman fashion statement as she poses with HEC's Phillip McClellan.



Sean Brown helps Jaidyn Chambers, 6, with her gloves.



Mark Zheng, 8, with Sean Brown.



Guests who posed for photos in the bucket could get a print or ...



... like Shelby Johnson, 10, have it made into a button.



Adults got in on the fun, too. Here's Phyllis Maloni with Ricky Tindall.



Bill and Jean Stone learn about underground service safety with HEC's Martin Williamson.

We ♥ Horry Electric's linemen! See 16D for highlights from our team's trip to the 2013 Lineworkers' Rodeo

A hero among us



When WWII veterans were asked to stand to be recognized at HEC's Annual Meeting May 14, only Robert German rose—and HEC members promptly followed suit, giving him a standing ovation.

graphic, or painful, but because two others, two rescue missions, stand out in his memory above all else for their raw emotional power.

'10 or 12' passengers

The first came on just the second patrol for German, an Horry Electric Cooperative member in Murrells Inlet. A call came in for a rescue mission for a group of "10 to 12" Americans who had been hiding from and being harassed by the Japanese Army on the island of Panay. His boat, the USS Angler, responded.

"Instead of 12, it turned out to be 57 people," says German, who turns 89 this month. "The sub carried a full crew of 77.

"We got everyone aboard, putting all the women and children at one end in the forward torpedo room, and the men and boys in the aft quarters with the crew amidships for eight days and nights, and we ran out of food two days before we got them safely back to Darwin, Australia."

'You rescued me'

The second story involved the rescue from the Japanese-occupied Philippines of an American woman who was seven-months pregnant and carrying pages of hand-written notes about how for two-and-a-half years she'd been running from the Japanese, hiding in caverns and caves until she could escape.

"We came into some action and it got real loud, and I remember thinking, there's nothing in the submarine manual about delivering a baby," German says, joking. "But we also safely delivered her to Australia."

Fast forward after the war, and thanks to the G.I. Bill, German received his degree in industrial

The lone WWII veteran at Horry Electric's 2013 Annual Meeting shares remarkable war stories

BY WALTER ALLREAD

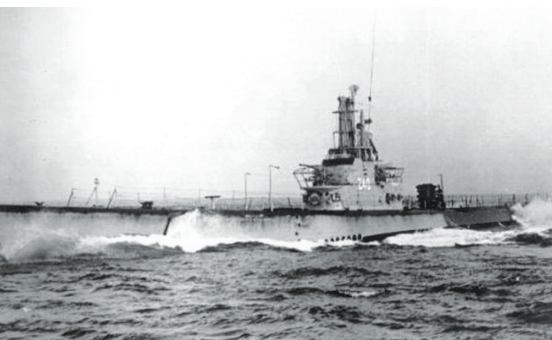
SERVING ON TWO SUBMARINES in World War II in the South Pacific that combined to sink 34 Japanese ships, retired First Class Petty Officer Robert "Bob" German has plenty of stories about successful combat action at sea.

Those aren't the ones he likes to tell the best, not because they're too



Bob German with a kangaroo during a break from the action in the South Pacific. On an earlier stop in Australia, German (right) and his shipmates sported beards, which sub sailors were allowed to grow before their "boat," as German calls them, scored its first combat kill.





engineering from the University of Maryland where his wife and baby boy are staying with him. After class he went to pick up his son from being cared for at a converted barracks facility on campus, and greeting him at the door is a young Filipino woman.

"I smiled warmly at her and asked her where she was from, and she said 'Panay,'" says German, who also served on the USS Bluefish. "I got chills. I told her that during the war I'd served on a submarine that rescued people off Panay, and she said, 'Sir, I saw your boat surface. You rescued me.' I was absolutely floored.

"She then went in and brought me a book to look at, and it was the story of the pregnant woman we'd also rescued that had been published as an autobiography, and the last chapter was about our rescuing her. You talk about a small world." ☺

German, right, with Navy vets at a recent reunion. "WWII veterans are dying at a rate of one every 90 seconds," he says. "I plan to be the last one."



A baby-faced Bob German, right, with his mates on shore leave. He served aboard the USS Angler, left, and the Bluefish, which together sank 34 enemy ships.

Streams of bubbles—and other memories of WWII

In WWII, submariners called torpedoes "fish," and once fired, they became a dead giveaway to a sub's position because the propellant, a mix of 190-proof alcohol and distilled water, created a stream of bubbles leading right back to the firing position. In German's case, however, aboard the sub Angler, he had an advantage few others did. "Because one of the skipper's older brothers was an admiral, we received some secret weapons, the first new electric-propeller torpedoes, and were able to score kills for the first time without having to give away our position to the enemy."

The Angler's first combat experience was sinking a patrol boat not long after going on patrol. "It was about 100-foot long and had two radio antennas on it and two machine guns on the stern," German says. "After fooling around with them for half a day, the gunner wore glasses and couldn't see the target, he'd be over it, under it, over it, under it. We fired 98 rounds of ammunition of 100 total

on board. We got enough hits to stop the boat, knock the machine guns off the stern, then we set it on fire with incendiaries.

"We picked up one survivor, a Japanese kid who was 14 years old. We had a Chinese radio operator, who found out he was from Nagasaki, and we saved his life. He claimed it was a fishing boat and his father was the captain. They were fishing, all right—fishing for submarines!"

In between submarine assignments while in Australia, German had the rare chance to serve as a chauffeur for the squadron commander for two months. "That was a super job, because the commander, a former shoe salesman in Seattle, had rekindled a friendship there with a friend of his he knew from back home, this professional wrestler from Canada who now had a chicken farm in Australia," German said. "So my job every day was to go pick up the commander's girlfriend, who lived in Perth. Every morning I had fresh ham and eggs. I loved it, but after a couple of months I was ready to get back to the war."

German married his wife, Ruth, on the deck of his second sub, the Bluefish, while it was on dry dock in Connecticut. After the war, German went back to school. First earning his GED, then his degree in industrial engineering from the University of Maryland before going on to work for the federal government for nine years. For the next 40 years, he worked for the American Bank Note Company, Washington, D.C., which printed stock certificates and the official currency for 65 foreign nations.



PHOTOS COURTESY BOB GERMAN



JIM HUFF

It was a patriotic sight, S.C. linemen style, when the flag was raised May 4 for the 16th Annual Santee Cooper Lineworkers Rodeo at Old Santee Canal State Park near Moncks Corner. HEC's Matt Savage (at the bottom above and at right in competition) and teammates Carluss King and Nick Jordan competed with linemen from the state-owned utility Santee Cooper as well as fellow Touchstone Energy co-ops York Electric, Fairfield Electric, Coastal Electric and Berkeley Electric. The Lineworkers Rodeo focuses on sportsmanlike competition with fellowship and safety highly emphasized. See more Lineworkers' Rodeo photos on HEC's Facebook page.

HEC team shines in skills challenge

CONGRATULATIONS to HEC's team for winning second place in the vertical-phase transfer competition and second place overall at the 16th Annual Santee Cooper Lineworkers Rodeo.

Carluss King, Matt Savage, and Nick Jordan, coached by Curtis Jordan, competed in Journeyman Division, where events include hurt-man rescue, knot tying, down primary, transformer change-out and the phase transfer.

HEC's Sean Brown served as a judge for the event, which emphasizes skills and safety. Your co-op puts safety first every day, which helps control operational costs and, ultimately, results in savings for all Horry Electric Cooperative's members. ☺

