

## Horry Electric Cooperative, Inc.

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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

## Learning is year-round for us

We are continually learning and researching options



**IT'S A NEW** school year and kids of all ages are getting ready to go back to school. From kindergarten through college, students attend school to gain knowledge about a broad variety of subjects and learn new skills that will prepare them for the future.

The employees, staff, management team and trustees of Horry Electric Cooperative are in a 'back to school' mode all year-round. We take advantage of opportunities to learn about and explore technologies that improve electric service, reliability and safety. Together, all of these improvements add up to an enhanced quality of life for our members and our communities.

The utility business is changing rapidly and we're doing our due diligence to keep up with the trends and sift through the options that will provide the most benefit to our members.

### Research pays off

On an annual basis, we participate in The Cooperative Difference Research through the Touchstone Energy Cooperative network. The feedback we get from participating members guides us in our strategic planning.

Based on the results of past surveys, we've implemented programs like Advance Pay, and we expanded our convenient payment options for members including paystations at 24 local bank branches across the county.

In recent years, we've added to our menu of energy information and online tools for members based on research results. Members expressed an interest in learning more about their individual

energy use and indicated they were looking for ideas on how they might be able to save energy dollars. What better source to turn to than your own electric co-op for that information?

### Looking ahead

The preliminary results of our 2019 Cooperative Difference Survey are in, and we're anxiously waiting for the final report. This year, the focus was on gauging member interest in technologies like smart thermostats, smart water heaters, community solar and a variety of other things.

Stay tuned. We will soon be introducing some new things through our social media channels and *South Carolina Living* magazine.

### One more thing

The Cooperative Difference Survey results also tell us that members believe it's important for us to be involved in community activities, particularly youth development programs. I can't think of a better example of this than the Cooperative Youth Tour and Cooperative Youth Summit opportunities we offer each year.

We've devoted four of our six local pages to these programs this month. I urge you to read their individual testimonies of their experiences. I think you'll agree that Horry Electric and Horry County were well represented by these young people.

*Daniel B. Shelley, III*

**DANIEL B. SHELLEY, III**  
Executive Vice President and CEO



## WIRE, Youth Summit participants aid students in need

**STUDENTS WHO** find themselves without a permanent residence will have it a little easier thanks to Women Involved in Rural Electrification (WIRE) and participants in this summer's South Carolina Cooperative Youth Summit.

Participants in the Youth Summit, a cooperative-sponsored educational program for rising high school seniors, joined volunteers from WIRE chapters across the state July 11 at Mid-Carolina Electric Cooperative in Lexington. They put together 448 bags of supplies for temporarily homeless youth. Each bag held personal hygiene items, as well as laundry detergent.

Peggy Dantzler of SC WIRE, the coordinating organization for the cooperative-affiliated community outreach organization, asked the Youth Summit students, "How many of you take shampoo for granted? How many of you have soap in your bathroom? We take these things for granted. These kids don't even have that."

SC WIRE Chair Bobbie Cook noted, "These students come from all socio-economic backgrounds." Their families have faced setbacks such as losing jobs, she said. "They stay with relatives, in hotels, in cars or with friends," added Cook, a retiree from Aiken Electric Cooperative.



WALTER ALLREAD

**WIRE members with the some of the 448 bags of items they filled for students in need during the 2019 Kids Closet event. HEC WIRE's Kelli McDowell (right) helps a Cooperative Youth Summit student fill a bag.**

After the Kids Closet effort, Susan Brown, Lynn Elvis, Jessie Robinson and Kelli McDowell of Horry's WIRE chapter took 52 bags with them—26 for girls and 26 for boys. They later delivered the bags to the Horry County Schools to be distributed to students in need.

Throughout the year, local WIRE chapters assist children and families served by electric co-ops in other ways. Horry's chapter provides scholarships to local students. Through SC WIRE, all chapters help fund annual scholarships for women who want to continue their education. The Jenny Ballard Opportunity Scholarship is named for a WIRE founder. WIRE reflects electric cooperatives' commitment to community.

**To get involved in Horry's WIRE chapter, contact Susan Brown at (843) 369-6323 or email Susan.Brown@horryelectric.com.**



WALTER ALLREAD



DANNY PECK

### HORRY EXTRA

#### The trip of a lifetime

Hear from our HEC representatives (left) about their trip to our nation's capital on pages 20A-C. Plus, you can find a recap of the Youth Tour on Horry Electric's YouTube and Vimeo channels.



# Washington Youth Tour: In their own words

## 'Sensational experience'

BY BRIANNA JOYNER  
NORTH MYRTLE BEACH HIGH SCHOOL

**THERE ARE NO** words to describe the absolutely sensational experience I had on this trip.

The tour consisted of visiting historical monuments, museums, and memorials, while also providing many other exciting activities, such as the Ghost Tour of old Alexandria. From touring the Newseum to dining in the Senator's food court, every aspect of Youth Tour was unforgettable. I will hold every memory created in the span of five days near and dear to my heart. I made friends from South Carolina and other states. One of my favorite activities was



Dylan Young holds an umbrella for Brianna Joyner as she makes a rubbing of a name at the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Wall.

the river cruise, where I met incredible people from South Dakota, Hawaii, Kansas, and Iowa. Something about the trip I deeply enjoyed was being able to trade pins with other kids from around the country.

It was an honor to tour the Capitol and see the works of our democracy. One of my fondest memories of Capitol Hill day was sitting in the House of Representatives gallery.

As I reflect on Youth Tour, I find I



HEC Youth Tourists (from left) Dylan Young, JaNiya Livingston, Mary Katherine Todd and Brianna Joyner with a sculpture of a Great Depression bread line at the Franklin Delano Roosevelt Memorial.

have learned numerous life lessons and have adopted a new attitude on life. I have learned to enjoy every moment, to know there is something to learn, and to break out of your comfort zone. History can teach us the most about the future.

I would like to express my gratitude to all the chaperones, fellow participants, new friends, and, most importantly, Horry Electric Cooperative. I will be forever thankful for the Washington Youth Tour, as it transformed me into the best version of myself, while providing valuable lifelong skills.

## A new adventure

BY JANIYA LIVINGSTON  
GREEN SEA FLOYDS HIGH SCHOOL

**I WOULD LIKE TO THANK** the best co-op in South Carolina, Horry Electric, for giving me the opportunity to go on this trip. The one question I remember about my interview was "If you could be a salad dressing, what would you be?" Confused, I answered, "Sweet and sour sauce, because I have so much life and energy, but I can also simmer down and get things done." An hour later, I got a call saying I was chosen. A huge ball of excitement came over me and I screamed the entire way home. I was more nervous than excited. I had never flown before, was nervous about meeting new people, plus being away from my family for almost a week.

This is a once in a lifetime experience and it was the best! I highly recommend any high school junior to take this opportunity. Within the span of six days, I have met lifelong friends, eaten great food, and visited places I've never thought about visiting. My favorite museum was the Holocaust Museum. Such a tear dropper; seeing the shoes, reading the stories, and understanding how and why they were treated that way touched my heart.

I learned a lot about Washington, D.C. and South Carolina. I never realized how special my co-op was until this trip. Horry Electric is filled with a friendly, hardworking staff. Co-ops focus on the well-being of their communities, not profit. Horry Electric is a prime example of this.

JaNiya Livingston gives the Youth Tour a thumbs up.



JENNIFER HARMON



## Arlington holds a special place in our hearts

### 'Pride in my country'

BY DYLAN YOUNG  
NORTH MYRTLE BEACH HIGH SCHOOL

**THIS TRIP TAUGHT** me a lot about myself and how in tune I am with the real world. For the first time, I realized how much I need to learn and achieve to contribute to the success of this great nation. I found in myself, a pride in my country, that was taken to new heights, plus a drive to create change for the better. I came to this conclusion at Arlington National Cemetery, while at



the Changing of the Guards at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier.

I saw a group of war veterans, from World War II to Vietnam. Most were in wheelchairs and looked to be in pain, but they all had the strength to pay respects to their fallen brothers and sisters at Arlington. I couldn't let these heroes just pass me by; I had to greet each one of them. I stood on the sidewalk and shook their hands and thanked them for their service. I thought, "They dedicated their lives to

this country, I can give them a piece of my time, even if it's just a thank you."

This experience cemented in me the idea that even though we're all individuals with our own goals, motives, struggles, and strengths; if we don't work together to build a better future, and embrace the sacrifices made by so many, then the entire experiment we call America would have been a failure. So it's our duty as Americans to embrace one another, regardless of issues or beliefs, and use teamwork to build a better tomorrow. This is the true American Dream.

### 'Freedom truly isn't free'

BY MARY KATHERINE TODD  
AYNOR HIGH SCHOOL

**THANKS TO YOUTH TOUR,** I met two of the best friends a girl could have. I was worried I wouldn't meet anyone on this trip, but I cried when I had to leave the airport.

I learned a lot about our nation on the trip. My favorite places we visited were the American History Smithsonian and Arlington National Cemetery.

Arlington affected me deeply. My father is an Army vet. I'm so blessed to have him still with me, but seeing the sheer number of servicemen who sacrificed their lives for our country gave me a deeper appreciation for our



military. Freedom truly isn't free.

Capitol Hill day was also amazing, including meeting Senators Lindsey Graham and Tim Scott. Visiting Representative Tom Rice's office made me appreciate again how he worked for flood-damaged areas last year.

I also learned that 47 states have electric co-ops and they all stick together through the Cooperative Principles. Thanks, Horry Electric, for this unforgettable experience!



### The moment our hearts melted

BY JENNIFER HARMON & PATTY MARTIN  
HORRY ELECTRIC

**THIS WAS OUR FIRST** Washington Youth Tour experience, plus Patty's first trip to D.C., and to sum it up, it was incredible. Patty and I chaperoned a phenomenal group of students from Horry County and we keep bragging about how respectful they are.

Watching the students learn about co-ops, tour national landmarks and relive history is something we'll never forget. This trip was our first time at Arlington National Cemetery. The Changing of the Guards was an unforgettable moment, but as we were leaving, we turned to find some of our students waiting to greet a group of veterans. Our hearts melted as we watched Dylan thank each and every hero. I (Jennifer) thought, "How amazing. These students could have walked back to the tram, but they went out of their way to make sure these veterans knew how much they appreciated their service."

This was an unforgettable experience and we wish each of our Horry County students the best in their futures. They are truly some of South Carolina's finest.



JENNIFER HARMON



# Exploring our nation's and state's capitals

## 'An honor and a privilege'

BY LUCY NEFF  
CONWAY HIGH SCHOOL

**THE WASHINGTON YOUTH TOUR** was an incredible experience. It allowed me to connect with students from across the country and make friends that will last a lifetime.

I had the opportunity to explore our nation's capital and learn about its history while also expanding my knowledge about electric cooperatives and their impact worldwide.

It was an honor and a privilege to represent both the South Carolina Trustee Association and Horry Electric Cooperative during the Washington Youth Tour, while creating memories that will last a lifetime.



Lucy Neff outside the office of her congressman, U.S. Rep. Tom Rice.

PATTY MARTIN

## How you can get involved

**High school juniors** can compete for two incredible trips by submitting one application!

### Electric Cooperative Youth Tour:

Experience Washington D.C. with nearly 1,500 high school juniors from across South Carolina and the country. You'll get the chance to meet lawmakers and tour all the sights.



**Cooperative Youth Summit:** Experience South Carolina's capital like never before! Tour the Statehouse, meet lawmakers and see how co-ops are preparing for our



state's energy future. Plus, there's plenty of time to visit

state's energy future. Plus, there's plenty of time to visit

Columbia's popular attractions, including Riverbanks Zoo!

### What you need to know for 2020:

- ▶ Applicant must be a rising senior
- ▶ Applications will be open Jan. 2 through Feb. 29
- ▶ Applications can be submitted online

A personal interview is part of the selection process for Horry Electric representatives. Study materials are sent to nominated students well in advance of the date scheduled for the selection process. Horry Electric will select four representatives for each trip.

If you have any questions, please contact Horry Electric's Youth Tour Coordinator, Toni Gore, at (843) 369-6359 or [toni.gore@horryelectric.com](mailto:toni.gore@horryelectric.com).



S.C. Youth Tourists at the White House.

JENNIFER HARMON



HEC employees Jennifer Harmon (left) and Patty Martin (right) with sponsored students (from left) Dylan Young, Mary Katherine Todd, Lucy Neff, JaNiya Livingston and Brianna Joyner on the 2019 Youth Tour.

DANNY PECK



## GET THE MESSAGE!

Sign up today  
and help



We'll send you a message when we expect heavy electricity use. You can save energy—and help us all save money—if we reduce peak power use.

On “peak” days, we’ll contact you via your choice:



**LET'S SAVE  
ENERGY—TOGETHER.**



Watch our video  
to learn more.

**BeatThePeak.com**

## Pay your electric bill on time, every time!

**THE BANK DRAFT PROGRAM** from Horry Electric Cooperative makes it easier to pay your bill on time and to keep track of drafts. When you sign up for this program, Horry Electric will automatically draft your checking or savings account for the amount of your monthly electric bill. You'll still receive monthly statements showing kilowatt-hour usage and the amount due, but you won't have to write a check.

The best part is that you won't ever have to worry about your payment getting to Horry Electric on time. Your account will not be drafted until the actual due date indicated on your bill. If that date falls on a bank holiday, it will be drafted

the following business day. As with writing a check, all you have to do is make sure there is adequate money in your account. Otherwise, it will be processed as a return check and additional charges will be applied.

Simplify your life! Just fill out and send us the form below. It may take a few days to process your request. So continue to pay your bill until “Bank Draft” appears on it. After that, you'll never have to remember to write a check to Horry Electric to pay your electric bill again! ☺

**If you have any questions about Bank Draft, contact us at (843) 369-2211.**



You can mail or bring by your completed authorization form. You'll need to include a **VOIDED** check so we can obtain the correct bank account number and ABA/Transit number. Please allow five working days for your authorization form to be processed. Authorization forms can also be found on the back of your monthly electric bill.



### BANK DRAFT AUTHORIZATION

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Bank: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City/State/ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

### CONSUMER'S CONTACT INFORMATION

Contact Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone # \_\_\_\_\_ Best Time for a CSR to Contact You: \_\_\_\_\_ AM \_\_\_\_\_ PM \_\_\_\_\_

**Horry Electric Cooperative, Inc.:** I hereby authorize and direct you until further written notice to honor and charge to my bank account **DRAFTS** drawn on my ☐ checking ☐ savings account and payable to **Horry Electric Cooperative, Inc.** in the amount of the monthly statement rendered on the account(s) listed below.

### HORRY ELECTRIC MEMBER ACCOUNT NUMBER(S)

1. \_\_\_\_\_ 2. \_\_\_\_\_  
3. \_\_\_\_\_ 4. \_\_\_\_\_

HEC shall not be liable for returning any such drafts unpaid if the balance in my account is insufficient to pay the same upon presentation.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Type or print full name: \_\_\_\_\_

## Would weekly payments suit you better?

**WITH ADVANCE PAY**, HEC members have the opportunity to pay for electricity when they want and in the amounts they want! No more fees and no more security deposit!

Participants won't get a monthly bill, but that's because they're paying for electric service in advance. Energy use is calculated daily, and account history is available online and by phone, any time of the day or night.

Is it right for you? If it would be easier for you to make weekly or biweekly payments rather than one large payment each month, then you'll want to consider

Advance Pay. Members who choose prepaid electricity programs say it

helps them lower electric consumption due to a greater awareness of use patterns.

Before making a final decision, carefully read the Terms and Conditions. Members initiating service will need to be prepared to pay a membership fee, application fee, any applicable construction fees and establish at least a \$50 credit balance on the account. Visit [HorryElectric.com](http://HorryElectric.com) for details. ☺

