

Horry Electric Cooperative, Inc.

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**TO REPORT
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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

A thank you to legislators



THERE ARE A LOT OF PEOPLE who contribute to serving the members of Horry Electric Cooperative. The most obvious that come to mind are the lineworkers and operations staff who build, maintain and restore the poles and wires that bring power to your

homes and businesses. There's also our member service representatives and administrative personnel who support you whenever you come to our office, call or email us. Your democratically elected board of trustees devotes hours of class time, research and collaboration to best govern our cooperative.

There are others we should credit who don't typically wear the Horry Electric logo on their shirts. In the past, and especially over the last two years, our cooperative has benefited significantly from our local legislators in Columbia and those representing us in Washington, D.C. These legislators understand that what's good for cooperative members is good for all of their constituents.

Many state leaders showed their support of electric co-ops and our local youth by participating in 2020's Virtual Youth Experience (VYE). During a week-long web conference last June, U.S. Senators Lindsey Graham and Tim Scott, as well as U.S. Rep. Jim Clyburn and Gov. Henry McMaster, discussed current issues with teens selected by South Carolina's co-ops. VYE will return in 2021.

We are appreciative of all these elected leaders because we know they hear us when we're speaking up for you. Every time a new Congress convenes, or our state legislature gavel in a new session, electric cooperatives have the opportunity to educate policymakers on issues that matter most to our members and the communities we serve.

In the last few years, members of the General Assembly have listened as we spoke on your behalf regarding cooperative governance and transparency, consumer protections for solar buyers and wholesale power costs. The voice of South Carolina cooperatives is also valued by our U.S. senators and representatives on Capitol Hill.

New legislative sessions have begun in 2021 and this edition of *South Carolina Living* is your guide to the men and women who represent you in Columbia and Washington, D.C. I would encourage you to make note especially of those representing our area.

Legislators representing Horry Electric members

SENATE DELEGATION:

Stephen L. Goldfinch (R) - District 34
 Greg Hembree (R) - District 28
 Luke A. Rankin (R) - District 33
 Ronnie A. Sabb (D) - District 32
 Kent M. Williams (D) - District 30

HOUSE DELEGATION:

Carl L. Anderson (D) - District 103
 Lucas Atkinson (D) - District 57
 William H. Bailey (R) - District 104
 Thomas C. Brittain, Jr. (R) - District 107
 Heather A. Crawford (R) - District 68
 Russell W. Fry (R) - District 106
 Kevin Hardee (R) - District 105
 Jackie E. Hayes (D) - District 55
 Jeffrey E. Johnson (R) - District 58
 Timothy A. McGinnis (R) - District 56

U.S. CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION:

Lindsey Graham (R)
 Tim Scott (R)
 Tom Rice (R) - District 7

DANIEL B. SHELLEY, III
 Executive Vice President and CEO

Virtual Youth Experience returns in 2021

ONE OF THE BRIGHT SPOTS of 2020 was the creation and success of the Virtual Youth Experience, the week-long web conference for South Carolina teens that replaced the COVID-cancelled Washington Youth Tour in Washington, D.C., and the Cooperative Youth Summit in Columbia.

Rather than missing out on an opportunity of a lifetime, the event



U.S. Rep. Jim Clyburn speaks to students during the 2020 Virtual Youth Experience.

allowed high school students selected by Horry Electric Cooperative and other state cooperatives to engage with South Carolina leaders from the safety and comfort of their homes, using computers and mobile devices.

The National Rural Electric Cooperative Association has cancelled the Washington Youth Tour for the second consecutive year. The Electric Cooperatives of South Carolina followed suit by cancelling the Cooperative Youth Summit.

However, high school sophomores and juniors selected and sponsored by Horry Electric will again have the opportunity to discuss today's issues with state and federal leaders through the Virtual Youth Experience, June 21-25. Students will team up with other students from around the state to produce a podcast



Horry Electric delegate, Emily Rabon, pauses to take a picture while speaking with U.S. Sen. Tim Scott.

about their experiences living through a pandemic, and other current issues. They will also have the chance to earn money for college from the podcast competition and the R.D. Bennett Community Service Scholarship.

To apply to be a student delegate of Horry Electric, visit our website at horryelectric.com/youth-tour/ and complete the online form. Students can also contact Horry Electric's Youth Experience Coordinator, Toni Gore, at (843) 369-6359 or email toni.gore@horryelectric.com. The deadline to apply is 5 p.m. on Friday, March 5.

Apply now for 2021 WIRE scholarships

WOMEN RETURNING TO SCHOOL to earn college degrees have until June 1 to apply for financial assistance from the 2021 Jenny Ballard Opportunity Scholarship program.

Sponsored by Women Involved in Rural Electrification (WIRE), a service organization associated with South Carolina's electric cooperatives, the scholarship is a one-time award based on financial need and personal goals.

"One of our Horry Electric members, Charliss Wilson, was awarded this scholarship in 2020," says Susan Brown, WIRE coordinator at Horry Electric.

The scholarship is named after Jenny Ballard, who founded WIRE 40 years ago. The Opportunity Scholarship program began funding education for women returning to college in 2004.

Application forms for the 2021 WIRE scholarship are available online at **SCLiving.coop/scholarship**. Applicants for the program must:

- ▶ Be a member of Horry Electric Cooperative or another South Carolina electric cooperative.
- ▶ Have graduated from high school or earned a GED at least 10 years ago.
- ▶ Be accepted into an accredited S.C. college or university.
- ▶ Demonstrate financial need and clear academic goals.

Recipients will receive scholarships for the fall 2021 or spring 2022 semester, with funds paid to the college or university.

Completed application forms can be attached to an email addressed to Peggy.Dantzler@esc.org, or mailed to Peggy Dantzler, The Electric Cooperatives of SC, Inc., 808 Knox Abbott Dr., Cayce, SC, 29033.



\$1,500 scholarship available from HEC WIRE

A \$1,500 scholarship is available for co-op members and dependents of members, courtesy of Horry Electric Cooperative's chapter of the community outreach organization, Women Involved in Rural Electrification (WIRE).

The award is for one academic year for a freshman entering Coastal Carolina University or Horry-Georgetown Technical College in the fall. The recipient will receive \$750 for the first semester, and they must have at least a cumulative 2.5 GPA at the end of the semester to receive the other \$750. An essay is also required.

Applications are available at your local high school or by emailing **susan.brown@horryelectric.com**. Applications must be received by March 1.

Mail to: Mrs. Susan Brown
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Details: (843) 369-6323