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Automated Outage System
675-LREC (5732) or
1-866-675-LREC (5732)

Office Hours
8:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m.
Monday–Friday

David A. Altman
President and CEO

Trustees:

Eric Horton
Chairman, District 1

Myrtle L. Faile
Vice Chairman, District 2

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Secretary/Treasurer, District 7

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John T. Blackwell
Member-At-Large

Remote Payment Sites

Chesterfield
Piggly Wiggly Market of Chesterfield
1303 West Boulevard
(843) 623-6590

Kershaw
Quality Appliance
407 South Hampton Street
(803) 475-2302

Lancaster
The Energy Center, Inc.
667 Lancaster Bypass 9 E
(803) 283-6148

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Membership matters

BY AND LARGE, we don't get to choose who provides our electric service.

Folks on opposite sides of the road may be served by different electric providers, some by a stockholder-driven investor-owned utility, others a city-owned municipal electric system. We are a not-for-profit electric cooperative owned by you and your fellow members.



But there's one major difference between these electric utilities. Every home or business receiving power from an electric cooperative—18 million in 47 states—owns a portion of the utility. As a result, anyone who receives cooperative electric service becomes a member and consumer, not a customer. Across the nation, electric co-ops serve more than 42 million people.

Being a member matters. Lynches River Electric Cooperative doesn't exist to make profits for distant investors on Wall Street. We exist to provide you with safe, reliable, and affordable electric service—and doing so in a way that raises the quality of life in our communities. Because electric co-ops operate on a not-for-profit basis, they have no need to increase revenues above what it takes to run the business in a financially sound manner. This structure helps keep your electric bill affordable.

Membership also matters because electric co-ops care about improving the quality of life in the areas they serve. From providing support to our local schools to assisting members

financially through our Operation Round Up program, Lynches River Electric Cooperative invests in local communities where you live and work.

Membership matters because it entitles you to certain benefits, like a variety of payment options so paying your bill is more convenient or energy-efficiency information to help you find ways to lower your electricity use. You receive the *South Carolina Living* magazine and the *Current Report* newsletter because you're a member of an electric cooperative that wants you to stay abreast of important co-op news and events.

Membership matters because you have a voice and a vote in how your co-op is governed. Through democratic control, members like you elected me and others from our co-op to serve on the board of trustees. Control stays in local hands. Your board of trustees, along with those who work for your co-op, are your friends and neighbors.

Membership matters because you receive returns on your investment in your co-op. Electric co-ops aim to operate at-cost, so any excess revenues, or margins, are returned to members in the form of capital credits, based on their electric use.

The bottom line: Membership matters because you matter to your electric cooperative.

Eric Horton
Chairman, Board of Trustees

Attention high school juniors—Apply now for Youth Tour trip, June 16-21

Each year Lynches River Electric Cooperative selects two high school juniors to go on an awesome trip to our nation's capital, Washington, D.C.

Request an application from your guidance counselor, Lynches River Electric Cooperative or download an application from lynchesriver.com.

Information on how to apply is located on our website home page.



Complete the application and return to Lynches River Electric Cooperative by the deadline on Friday, Feb. 17. For more information, contact Leigh Smith at 675-3213 or 1-800-922-3486 ext. 213.

News from the board

GREETINGS, FELLOW MEMBERS. The November board meeting began with an update from the general contractor on the status of the new building. The construction is on time with a general move-in date of April 2012.

The 2012 budget was discussed at length. At this time, barring an increase in wholesale power costs, there is no price increase planned. We know members were concerned the new building would result in a price increase, but we are pleased to report the financial position of the cooperative is sound without an increase.

The board voted to begin time-of-day service for members and businesses that can reduce their peak power usage. This program will be available after the first of the year.

The board made a commitment to the members, the employees and to each other to reduce the internal board conflict and to unite for the good of the cooperative, and the good of community relations at large. It is time to put politics aside. We collectively hope you notice the difference.

*Lynches River Electric Cooperative
Board of Trustees*

April 11, 2012

WWII Veterans: We Want YOU!

Honor Flight of South Carolina is seeking World War II veterans to join a co-op-sponsored Honor Flight on April 11, 2012. Veterans of the Greatest Generation will be treated to a one-day, all-expenses-paid trip to Washington, D.C., to visit the World War II Memorial in honor of their service. Turn to page 22 for more on the trip and a mail-in application. You may also apply online at SCLiving.coop. **Please submit your application by March 1, 2012.**



WALTER ALLREAD

James Hough, now 90, with a photo of himself in uniform. A D-Day invasion veteran, Hough recalls, "It was a mess."

In the thick of it Lynches River member saw action on D-Day, beyond

BY WALTER ALLREAD

EVEN AT 90 YEARS old, James B. Hough of Pageland has a mind like a steel trap, especially when it comes to those memories forged on that momentous period of World War II: D-Day and the Battle of Normandy.

The Lynches River Electric Cooperative member and Jefferson native served in the Army in WWII through the intense fighting in Europe as an infantryman and demolition expert until the end of the war, but it was his experience on D-Day that stands out most.

"It was a mess," Hough says of the invasion itself and the job of coordinating such a massive air and

sea armada. "Our landing craft took us to the wrong beach. We were supposed to go to Omaha beach, but we went to where the British and French troops were landing, so our landing craft operator went up this stream to get us to the right beach, but at the end of it there were water mines. So we jumped out and had to wade in, in water neck-deep, with bullets flying around everywhere. A lot of my friends didn't make it."

Making matters worse than the already intense German machine gun and artillery fire,

including 88-mm rounds and the gigantic gun known as Big Bertha, Hough and so many others also had to endure friendly fire from their own ships.

"Our battleships offshore thought they were firing to hit the beach defenses, but they were hitting short, right where we were," Hough says. "We were getting it from everywhere. We were completely exposed, and bullets were going past my head all the time. Somehow, Lord willing, none of them hit me."

Hough and others managed to rendezvous with the U.S. Army Rangers, and Hough was able to set the charges that destroyed the 88s and Big Bertha itself. "I blew them up!" Hough says, proudly.

Hough was discharged after the war as a private first class.

"They offered me two more stripes to stay on, but I said no thanks, this one stripe got me through the war and I'm taking it home with me!"