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707 South Arant St.  
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Phone (843) 672-6111  
or 1-800-922-3486  
www.lynchesriver.com

**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**  
Chief Executive Officer

*Trustees:*

**Eric L. Horton**  
President, District 1

**Myrtle L. Faile**  
Vice President, District 2

**Steve Chewning**  
Secretary/Treasurer, District 7

**Theresa S. Hicks, District 3**

**Mike Crawford, District 4**

**Scott Croxton, District 5**

**Daryl Faulkenberry, District 6**

**Randolph Mackey, District 8**

**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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## Exceeding expectations every day

**MY KIDS ALWAYS** combed their grade-school report cards for EEs, which signified they had attained the coveted “exceeds expectations” rating in aspects of school life that couldn’t be assigned a letter grade.



As they grew, EEs turned into (we hoped) As and Bs. Yet I don’t think any of them lost that desire to exceed expectations.

At Lynches River Electric Cooperative, we also strive for EEs, every single day. We don’t want to do what you only expect us to do—provide you with affordable, safe, and reliable electric service. We want to go further and do better, from providing superior member service to offering programs that help you save time and money.

Lynches River Electric Cooperative lineworkers provide the public face of our mission to exceed expectations. When storms damage our electrical systems or that of neighboring co-ops our crews are ready to assist. They routinely work in rough weather and put in long hours. But, they do it gladly, because they care about doing an exceptional job for cooperative members.

However, we have many people behind the scenes who also make our co-op the best it can be. Our engineers continually explore new

technologies to improve service reliability, like automated meter reading and computerized mapping of our service area. Our finance department works to make bill paying easier and more convenient offering a variety of payment options like bank draft, Levelized Billing, on-line bill pay and remote payment sites. Our knowledgeable customer service representatives want to make sure you have a positive and satisfying experience when you call or come to our office. We offer two drive-through lanes, an after-hours drop box and accept payments over the phone.

And because we’re a cooperative, we have a special responsibility to support the communities we serve and exceed expectations there, too. That means we aim to improve the quality of life by supporting area schools, volunteering at local charities, and providing our expertise in energy efficiency and electrical safety to the public at large.

Whether it’s a power outage or energy audit, a billing question or community event, we’re working hard to achieve those EEs from you every day.

**David A. Altman**  
Chief Executive Officer

### Protect yourself against identity theft

Recently, the S.C. Department of Revenue learned its records were breached in a criminal cyber-attack. As a result, anyone who has paid S.C. taxes since 1998 may have had his or her personal information compromised.

#### S.C. individual taxpayers should do the following by Jan. 31, 2013:

- ▶ Visit [ProtectMyID.com/SCDOR](http://ProtectMyID.com/SCDOR) (code SCDOR123) or call 1-866-578-5422 (M–F 9 a.m.–9 p.m. EST; S–S 11 a.m.–8 p.m. EST) to enroll for one year of identity theft protection.

#### S.C. business owners should do one or both of the following by Jan. 31, 2013:

- ▶ Visit [DandB.com/SC](http://DandB.com/SC) or call 1-800-279-9881 (M–F 8 a.m.–8 p.m. EST) to register for lifetime credit alert protection.
- ▶ Visit [SmartBusinessReports.com/SouthCarolina](http://SmartBusinessReports.com/SouthCarolina) to register for lifetime business credit monitoring.

All services are free of charge. For more information, contact the S.C. Dept. of Consumer Affairs at 1-800-922-1594 or visit [consumer.sc.gov](http://consumer.sc.gov).

## Juniors—apply now for 2013 Youth Tour

Tour dates are June 15–20



**THIS YEAR FOUR** lucky rising seniors will have the opportunity to experience “the trip of a lifetime.” Those are not our words, but the words of youth tour delegates who have gone on the tour.

Application materials are available from Lynch River Electric Cooperative, your high school guidance counselor or history teacher and online at [lynchesriver.com/community/washingtonyouthtour](http://lynchesriver.com/community/washingtonyouthtour).

To qualify students must be a high school junior whose home or family business receives power from Lynch River Electric Cooperative. To be considered, students must return their application and references to

**Tori Roberts and Daniel Johnson pose on the Capitol steps as representatives of Lynch River Electric Cooperative while on the 2012 Youth Tour.**

Lynch River by Friday, Feb. 22, take a short test about electric cooperatives and participate in an interview. Study questions for the test are included with the application.

Please contact Leigh Smith, Youth Tour coordinator, at 675-3213 or 1 (800) 922-3486 ext. 213, for more information or to request application materials through the mail.

Visit [youthtour.coop](http://youthtour.coop) to learn more about the Youth Tour. Watch for photos, updates and reminders on our Facebook page at [facebook.com/lynchesriverelectric](http://facebook.com/lynchesriverelectric).

### Teachers, we want you for Washington Youth Tour!

South Carolina high school teachers and guidance counselors can apply through Feb. 1 to join The Electric Cooperatives of South Carolina (ECSC) on the 2013 Washington Youth Tour. Two teachers will be selected to join rising high school seniors from across South Carolina for the June 15–20 trip.

While in Washington, the students meet S.C. congressmen, visit monuments and historic sites and take part in special Youth Tour programs with 1,500 other high school juniors from across the country. The 2013 tour marks the third year teachers and guidance counselors will participate as chaperones. ECSC pays each chaperone’s costs for transportation, hotel room, exhibit admissions and three meals a day.

The deadline to apply is Friday, Feb. 1. Use the online application at [scliving.coop/teacherapplication.aspx](http://scliving.coop/teacherapplication.aspx).

### Factors affecting your bill

**BOW BURCH, ENERGY EXPERT**

When you receive your power bill, consider these factors that can affect the amount of your bill.

**Weather:** Running your air-conditioning and heating system in the summer and winter when temperatures are extremely high and low will have the most significant effect on your bill. In the spring and fall when temperatures are moderate, cooling and heating systems are rarely used. Cooling and heating your home accounts for about



Bow Burch

50 percent or more of your energy use.

**Days of use:** Check the number of days that are billed for your electric use. This varies from bill to bill due to the number of days in a month. A billing cycle may be a bit shorter or a bit longer so as not to make your bill due on a weekend or holiday.

**Lifestyle:** No two houses are built the same and no two households use energy the same way, so comparing your energy bill to your neighbor’s is like comparing apples to oranges. It is best to compare your current use to your past use, keeping in mind changes that may have occurred, such as new occupants, additions to the home, added electronics or appliances, etc.

**Your meter:** As a clock or watch keeps track of time, your meter keeps track of the amount of electricity you use. Meters are seldom the cause of a higher bill, but they are often blamed. Meters measure energy use. Very few meters are proven to be wrong when tested. A faulty meter will not read at all.

Meter tests should be a last resort. When requested, a Lynch River Electric Cooperative field representative will check a member’s meter, and if it is determined that it is working properly, a \$30 fee is charged. Faulty meters, although rarely found, are usually replaced at no charge.