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# Powerlines

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ALABAMA ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC.

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From inspiration  
to innovation

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*feature:* In our own back yard.



John Allen, owner, Allen Architectural Metals, Inc.

**Imagination**  
meets  
**Innovation**

City Hall Park, New York, N.Y.; the Chicago subway entrances; Union Station Hotel, Nashville, Tenn.; and the World War II Memorial in Washington, D.C., share something in common—not only is each location considered a landmark, each location also features custom designs created and manufactured by Allen Architectural Metals, Inc., in Talladega, Ala.

The award-winning company specializes in historic preservation and restoration, with an emphasis on metal fabrication and custom casting, and is located in the industrial park adjacent to Coosa Valley EC's (CVEC) headquarters in Talladega. In fact, in 1999, Allen Metals was the first company to construct a building in the industrial park.

"Allen Metals was first industry to locate in our industrial park, and in doing so, it helped attract other, larger industrial consumers," says Jon Cullimore, manager of marketing at CVEC. "We now have one of the most successful cooperative-sponsored industrial parks in the state and probably the Southeast."

Allen Metals prides itself as a full-service custom design company, specializing in historical restoration, renovation, fabrication and finishing. They offer castings in a variety of mediums, including bronze, brass, aluminum, cast iron and ductile iron.

"The uses of cast metals are limited only by the imagination of the client," says John Allen, owner of Allen Metals.

"The amount of talent that John Allen has been able to attract to his operation is astounding," says Frank Kujawski, CVEC general manager.

"We are constantly amazed at the magnitude and prestige of the projects



**City Hall Park**  
New York, N.Y.

This project included the recreation of four historic cast bronze and gold gilded gaslight candelabras and a decorative fountain spire encompassed by one mile of historic fencing surrounding the park.

**Architect:** George Vellonikis  
**Conservator:** Mark Robinowitz  
**Contractor:** Barney Skanska USA

he can attract to this business," says Kujawski.

As a leader in innovation, Allen Metals can achieve designs to meet new applications or replicate any historical style. One such project was the renovation of City Hall Park in New York City.

Allen Metals was awarded the Top Job in Restoration for its work on the New York City Park. During the project, the company constructed approximately one-third mile of perimeter fencing, replicating a design from 1880. The project also called for the construction of cast bronze and gilded candelabras and a fountain spire in the center of the park.

"Allen Architectural Metals brings together professionals with knowledge and experience in design and project management complemented by manufacturing capabilities," says Allen.

As one of CVEC's industrial members, Allen Metals brings much-needed jobs to the Talladega area. The facility uses an average 1,000 kilowatt hours each month, primarily for heating,

cooling and equipment, and was featured in a recent CVEC ad series that highlights industrial members in their service area.

"We employ between 25 and 35 people and offer value engineering, superior craftsmanship and a sincere dedication to customer service and quality," says Allen.

The staff includes designers, draftsmen, pattern-makers, fabricators, finishers and a full technical support staff.

Allen Metals' recent and favorite projects include work on the United States Capitol and the newly opened World War II monument in Washington, D.C.

Allen Metals' past projects range from the Texas State Capital, Austin, Texas, where a historic restoration of line posts for the perimeter fencing, custom bollards and medallions were produced for the property, to a historic restoration of the Union Station Hotel in Nashville, Tenn. ■