

SLECA announces 2009 Youth Tour winners

Two area high school students won top honors in South Louisiana Electric Cooperative Association's (SLECA) annual Rural Electric Youth Tour Writing Competition.

Tenth grader Jamie Price, who attends Central Lafourche High School, is the son of Sharon Smith of Houma. Christina Cockerham, also a tenth grader at Central Lafourche High School, is the daughter of Sue and Martial Babin III of Houma.

The winning students each receive a one-week, all-expense-paid trip to Washington, D.C. in June as part of the contest according to Michael Guidry, SLECA General Manager, Bunnell and Dowouis will travel to Baton Rouge, March 25-27, to attend a Youth Leadership Conference and tour of Big Cajun Power Plant in New Roads, the Louisiana State Capitol and the Governor's Mansion (Acct. No. 2254533400).

The SLECA students will leave for Washington June 12 and return June 19. They join students and chaperones from electric cooperatives and the Association of Louisiana Electric Cooperatives in Baton Rouge where the trip begins.

While in Washington, the students will join more than 1,600 other students from 37 states for the 36th National Rural Electric Youth Tour.

SLECA has held its Youth Tour Writing Contest for the past 26 years. "The purpose of the contest is to give local students a chance to develop leadership skills, learn how electric cooperatives work, see our government in action and tour Washington, D.C.," Guidry said.



Cockerham



Price

We need to know if you are on a life-support system

We are updating our records for life-support equipment needs and would appreciate your cooperation in providing this information.

In order to maintain quality service and perform important maintenance or construction of our electric distribution system, it is sometimes necessary to plan a brief outage to protect the safety of the SLECA's linemen (Acct. No. 7852217704).

As members know, there is nothing that can be done to prevent outages due to extreme weather or other uncontrollable factors. By planning outages for maintenance and restoring service for all outages as quickly as possible, the SLECA strives to minimize any inconvenience.

In a special effort to minimize the inconvenience to any member who relies on life-support systems or equipment, we need to know who you are and where you are located. We also need to be advised at any time any changes are made and if the system or equipment is removed. We appreciate your cooperation in this matter.

If someone in your home is dependent on life-support equipment, please fill out this form and mail it to SLECA, P.O. Box 4037, Houma, LA 70361.

Life Support System Information

Name: _____
 Address: _____
 Phone Number: Area Code(____) _____
 Account Number: _____
 Type of Support System: _____
 Do you have an emergency standby generator to operate this equipment?
 Yes _____ No _____

SLECA News



Low Rates. High Expectations.

Mike Guidry, Manager
 Alexander Doyle, President
 South Louisiana Electric Cooperative Assn.
 P.O. Box 4037, Houma, LA 70361 (876-6880)



Don't miss your chance to win at SLECA's Annual Meeting

SLECA members can win a 46-inch 1080P LCD Sony giant screen TV set at their 71st annual meeting

South Louisiana Electric Cooperative Association (SLECA) members attending their annual membership meeting on April 24, 2009, at the Houma-Terrebonne Civic Center will have a chance to win a 46-inch 1080P LCD giant screen TV in addition to many other prizes and also share the event with family, friends and neighbors.

Drawing for the Sony giant screen television will close the annual membership meeting that will feature a great meal, comments by national leaders and entertainment by the Houma-Terrebonne Community Band along with health screenings, a magic show, face painting and balloon sculpturing for the kids, plus a variety of demonstrations on electrical, boating and fire safety.

This year's event once again includes a patriotic trib-



ute to all of our service men and women stationed throughout the world protecting our freedom, the awarding of valuable door prizes, a report from SLECA General Manager Michael Guidry, comments by elected officials plus a great meal and much more.

And this year all door prize winners will have their names included for the drawing of the 46-inch 1080P LCD giant screen TV.

Don't miss SLECA's 71st annual membership meeting and be sure to bring the entire family!

Check account names now to speed registration

To help speed your registration at SLECA's Annual Meeting, please take a couple of minutes to check something now (Acct. No. 8600207804).

Check the name (or names) listed on the mailing label on the front of this newspaper. This is how your account is listed on our records. If any changes have occurred, you need to contact us to find out what needs to be done to make the proper corrections. Your registration is important in the event of voting and also for the prize drawing at the end of the business session.

Only members of record (those listed on the bill cards and newspaper labels) may register at the meeting. A joint membership of husband and wife counts as one registration. A tenant may not register if the account is in the landlord's name, nor may a landlord register if the account is in the tenant's name. A qualified representative of a church, business or organization may register if proper documentation is presented. Only the president, officer or manager of a corporation may vote for the corporation at a meeting of the members. Any employee of the corporation may vote for the corporation as authorized by corporate resolution of the Board of Directors. This resolution must be adopted within ninety (90) days prior to the meeting.

We urge you to contact us as soon as possible if any changes or corrections need to be made on your records.

Bonne Terre Garden Fair

Southdown Plantation, Saturday, May 2, 2009, 9 a.m.-4 p.m.
 Join the Houma area's fourth annual Celebration of garden enthusiasts!
 Gates open at 8:30 a.m., 1208 Museum Dr., Houma, La.
 Admission—\$3; Children under 12—Free
 Advance Tickets only \$2
 For more information—985-446-1316
 bonne.terre@yahoo.com

SLECA SWEEPSTAKES

Did you know that each month SLECA gives away CASH just for reading LOUISIANA COUNTRY? It's true. Every month, four lucky SLECA consumers have their account numbers randomly selected by computer. The numbers are then hidden in the articles in the SLECA News section of LOUISIANA COUNTRY. Then it's up to you. If you see your account number, call SLECA and win \$25.00 in cash or have your winnings applied to your bill. It's that simple. So, if you are not reading LOUISIANA COUNTRY you're missing out on great local articles and the possibility of winning extra money.



Make your voice heard in Washington, D.C.

SLECA encourages all cooperative members to become involved in the political process by voicing your concern over the future price of electric power.

Visit www.ourenergy.coop where SLECA members can obtain up-to-date information on the legislation currently being considered by members of congress that could possibly increase electricity rates up to 30 percent

across the country in the near future.

Also contained on the website is a prepared letter that you can customize and send to your elected representative on Capitol Hill to express your thoughts and concerns.

Visit www.ourenergy.coop today; don't let events unfold in Washington without making your views known.

Official notice of Meeting of Members

In accordance with Article III, Section 3 of the Cooperative Bylaws, notice is hereby given of the Annual Membership Meeting of South Louisiana Electric Cooperative Association (SLECA) to be held on FRIDAY, APRIL 24, 2009, at the Houma-Terrebonne Civic Center, 346 Civic Center Blvd., Houma, Louisiana.

Member Registration (Every registered member receives a gift).....5:30-7 p.m.
 Music/Houma-Terrebonne Community Band.....5:30-7 p.m.
 Health Screenings & Community Information Booths.....5:30-7 p.m.
 Magic Show For Children (David LeBoeuf).....6:15-6:45 p.m.
 SLECA Annual Meeting.....7 p.m.
 Dinner (Approximately)8 p.m.
 Entertainment (Approximately)8:30 p.m.
 Door prize drawing following entertainment

The meeting is being held for the following purposes:

1. To administer the oath of office to SLECA Board members elected at 2009 district meetings.
2. To transact any other business which may come before the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,
 Brian Rivet, Secretary

Across the Board

February 2, 2009

Present were directors Alexander Doyle, president; David Luke, vice-president; Brian Rivet, secretary; Terry Trahan, treasurer; Tracy Duval, J. D. Boudreaux, Eroy Acosta, Roger Dale DeHart, Larry J. Daigle and Lloyd Gibson, advisor. Also attending were Michael Guidry, general manager; James Funderburk, attorney, and Elaine Robertson, member services supervisor.

After the invocation and pledge, the board approved the minutes of the January 5 regular board meeting, 200 new members and the ALEC Report (Acct. 1403468805).

The financial report, approved by the board, highlighted interest earnings, cash on hand, rate comparison showing SLECA having the lowest rates compared to other area utilities, line loss, kilowatt hour sales for the month, cumulative sales to date, cost of service, equity, TIER, electric and total revenue versus cost per kilowatt hour.

Following an update on upcoming schools, meetings and events, Mr. Guidry reviewed the following items: (1) SLECA continues to have the lowest rates in the area; (2) The Electric Power Research Institute projects electricity consumption to grow at an annual rate of 1.07 percent through 2030 and peak by 1.5 percent but these figures could be reduced through energy efficiency and demand response programs; (3) The price for the March, 2009 delivery of light, sweet crude oil settled at \$45.73/bbl on January 26; (4) December 2008 marked the first time every state recorded a rise in monthly unemployment since the statistic has been reported; however, the Houma-Thibodaux area had lower unemployment than the rest of the state; (5) The Louisiana Energy and Power Authority is asking its member cities to consider joining in building two power plants to solve their transmission problems, one in Houma and another in Morgan City; (6) To comply with NERC/SERC compliance periodic updates must be given to the board; (7) SLECA sent Matt Peters and Lee Aucoin to assist Craighead Electric Co-op in Jonesboro, AR with its restoration efforts following the ice storm; (8) In December SLECA hosted a lineman from a co-op in Haiti; (9) Employees reached two million work hours without a lost time accident on Tuesday, January 27 at 10 a.m.; (10) Chain Electric began working on the Lake Palourde line on January 27th; (11) The work to the Falgout Canal bulkhead by the substation is scheduled to begin shortly; and (12) SLECA has developed a written Affirmative Action Plan with the help of consultants.

Following Mr. Guidry's report, the board approved the following items: (1) The low bid to replace unit 204 and unit 220; (2) A resolution to accompany RUS Form 675 which authorizes the president, secretary and general manager to sign the documents required to draw down on RUS loans; and (3) The low bid to replace the 115 KV gas circuit breaker in Ashland Substation.

The board then approved the manager's report and expenses, the safety report and a resolution authorizing Mr. Doyle to sign the dissolution papers to dissolve Cajun Electric Power Cooperative presumably by unanimous consent of all cooperatives.

Finally, the attorney's report and fees were approved.

The meeting was then adjourned.

You may obtain copies of the minutes by contacting SLECA, P.O. Box 4037, Houma, LA 70361 or by calling (985) 876-6880 or 1-800-256-8826.

Your Cooperative Connection

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71 Years of Service

Committed to local communities and consumers

South Louisiana Electric Cooperative Association has a 71-year tradition of service to its local communities and consumers. From safety demonstrations at local schools or sponsoring an annual youth tour to Washington, D.C. and even offering scholarships that enable students to continue their higher education plus much more, SLECA exceeds expectations while providing reliable and affordable electricity to meet residential, commercial and industrial needs.



**You could win a
46-inch Sony Flat Screen TV!
Don't miss SLECA's April 24th
Annual Meeting at the
Houma-Terrebonne Civic Center**



**Annual Meeting
Special Insert
Included**