

## SLECA DIRECTORS RE-ELECTED

The following directors that were re-elected without opposition will be sworn in at the cooperative's Annual Membership Meeting on Friday, April 15, 2011, at the Houma-Terrebonne Civic Center, 346 Civic Center Blvd., Houma, La.

The directors who were re-elected without opposition are:  
 District 7 - Terry Trahan, 313 Lake Decade Ct., Houma  
 District 8 - Eroy Acosta, 1018 Tower Tank Rd., Morgan City  
 District 9 - Tracy Duval, P.O. Box 629, Amelia



### Terry Trahan

Director Terry Trahan, elected to SLECA's Board of Directors in 1987, currently serves as the board treasurer. He retired from Trahan's Heating and Air Conditioning after 34 years. Trahan is a native of Bayou Black who enjoys hunting often on his property in Mississippi in his spare time. He serves District 7, which includes areas of Bayou Black, Gibson, South-down West, Ouiski Bayou and The Lakes.

### Eroy Acosta

Stephensville native Eroy Acosta, elected to the Board in 1987, served his community as a restaurant and lounge owner for many years. Acosta is president of the combined St. Martin Parish Sewage District Board and St. Martin Parish Water District Board. The Stephensville Volunteer Fire Dept. was established through his fundraising efforts and he served 21 years as president of the department. Acosta serves District 8, which includes Stephensville, Bayou L'Ourse, Deadwood and parts of Gibson, Morgan City and Greenwood. Acosta has also represented SLECA on the board of directors of the Assn. of Louisiana Electric Co-ops. Acosta says he enjoys serving the community at both the state and local level. (Acct. No. 7185901)



### Tracy Duval

Amelia resident Tracy V. Duval has served on SLECA's Board since 1993 and currently serves as one of two representatives on the board of the electric cooperatives statewide group, the Assn. of Louisiana Electric Cooperatives. Duval is Justice of the Peace for Ward 9 in St. Mary Parish as well as serving as the liaison between the Policy Council and the St. Mary Community Action Committee and secretary of the Community Action program. She is also a commentator and the Eucharistic Minister of the Bread and Wine at St. Andrew's Catholic Church in Amelia. Duval represents SLECA District 9, which covers areas of Amelia, Siracusaville and part of Bayou L'Ourse.



## SLECA offers scholarships to local students

SLECA is offering scholarships for the 2011-12 fall and spring semesters at Nicholls State or the L.E. Fletcher Community College. Four scholarships valued at \$1000 each are being offered to graduating high school seniors to help with the costs of tuition, room and board, or books.

Qualifying students must live on SLECA electric lines or have a parent who is a manager or owner of a company that is a SLECA member.

Financial need is considered as well as scholastic performance.

See your guidance counselor for an application or call SLECA at 876-6880 in Houma or 631-3605 in Amelia. You may also download an application from [www.sleca.com](http://www.sleca.com).

The deadline for applying for this scholarship is March 31. Send in your application now!



# 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)



## Girl Scouts carry on tradition of character development

Three times Debbie Pincot retired from the Girl Scout program.

And three times she returned.

Pincot got involved in Girl Scouts 30 years ago when she wanted to enroll her daughter, Angelle, in the program but quickly discovered there were no troops in the Coteau/Bayou Blue area.

So she decided to lead an effort to start a new group. Now, three decades later, Pincot said that while some people may bleed purple and gold and others may bleed black and gold, she bleeds Girl Scout Green.

"I've retired from Scouting three times but I keep coming back because of the friendships that you develop with the kids and the parents," said Pincot, who serves as a seasoned troop consultant to Junior Troop 20133 of Service Unit 263. "Scouting truly gives girls an opportunity to develop physically, mentally and spiritually at a critical time in their lives."

The group, which was formed after it spun off an existing troop and is made up of a dozen or so girls, is one of several local non-profit civic clubs and organizations that utilize the Coteau Room at SLECA's headquarters office in Houma.

The Coteau Room is home to a variety of local groups such as the Bass Club, the Round Dancers, Terrebonne Parish Livestock Association, the Terrebonne Parish Fire Chiefs Association, the Houma Airport Beagle Club, the Southern



Shown above, left, are Girl Scout leaders Mandy Liner, Michelle Hieser, Heather Deroche and Debbie Pincot. Above, right, Girl Scout members participate in a candle-lighting ceremony.

courage others to use if they are in need of a place to gather," Ticheli said. "Many don't have an adequate place to hold their programs. We're owned by the members we serve and we have an obligation to assist the community any way we can."

Pincot, who is the wife of retired SLECA employee Donald Pincot, spends her time assisting troop leader Mandy Liner and Heather Deroche, membership executive for the local Girl Scout Council.

This is Liner's first year as troop leader, though her daughter,



Above, the girls recite the Pledge of Allegiance. At right, Debbie Pincot opens a recent meeting at SLECA's all-purpose Coteau Room at its headquarters office in Houma.

Gospel Sing-Along group and others. The Coteau Room also serves as a voting precinct for local, state and national elections in addition to accommodating all of SLECA's staff safety meetings, employee activities and the annual Christmas Open House that draws hundreds of visitors each year.

SLECA's Manager of Member Services Joe Ticheli said the locally-owned cooperative is pleased to be able to offer use of the facility free-of-charge to those non-profit groups in need of a meeting space. (Acct. No. 10521501)

"We think this is a really nice meeting room that we en-



ter, Margie, was a Brownie for two years.

She said she initially got involved in order to be close to her daughter.

"When Margie was in Brownies, I was around, but I wasn't very involved in a leadership role. I've learned that I love being able to give the girls a positive influence, to teach

them to help the environment, serve the community and build self-esteem. Some are shy and we can encourage them that it's okay and you can be yourself and love your friends and families and the people around you."

Liner said the girls learn a lot about life, especially during the annual Girl Scout Cookie campaign. While some may see this as strictly a sales endeavor, Liner said that's a very narrow view, adding that the program teaches a wide range of skills such as overcoming shyness, managing money, team bonding and mutual support, approaching potential customers, gaining confidence, formulating and adhering to budgets and creating a business plan.

She and others around the country are not only busy preparing for the Girl Scout Cookie campaign but also planning to celebrate National Girl Scout Month in March. The program, which was founded by Juliette Gordon Low in 1912, has grown to include more than 3 million youth and adults and boasts nearly 50 million alumnae.

Along with a birthday bash honoring the 99th year of Girl Scouting on March 12, upcoming programs include "Thinking Day" set for April 15. In this event, members including several troops from the local service unit will gather together to create and deliver presentations on selected states.

Deroche, who has daughters participating in the Daisy, Brownie, Junior and Cadet levels, invites all girls to join the troop and its activities.

"My girls have learned a lot in Scouting," Deroche said. "It teaches them to get out of their comfort zone and teaches them that it's okay to interact with people they're not familiar with. It encourages them to become active, responsible, productive adults. The mission of all our girls is to make the world a better place."

She added that her daughter, Kimberly, who is in the Junior program, will participate in her first resident camp experience this summer when she and others will spend several nights at Camp Marydale north of Baton Rouge.

The troop meets on the first and fourth Wednesday of every month from 5:30 to 7 p.m. Deroche may be contacted at [hderoche@gsle.org](mailto:hderoche@gsle.org).

## TARC Garden and Market Festival

The La Terre Master Gardeners invite their friends to the TARC Garden and Market Festival to be held on the TARC Grounds #1 McCord Rd., Houma, April 30, 2011, 8 a.m.-3 p.m. Admission is \$3.00. Children five years and younger are admitted free. A representative from the Terrebonne Orchid Society will speak at 10 a.m. in the TARC music room and Master Gardener Dan Gill will speak at 2 p.m. The Master Gardeners will have several educational displays and will be on hand to answer questions.

## District Meeting Notices

SLECA members in Districts 7, 8 and 9 should be on the lookout for this year's notice of the cooperative's district meetings. The notices will have a different look this year. For the first time, your notice will be mailed to your home in an envelope instead of a post card as in previous years. Look for your notice to arrive soon.

## Check account names to speed Annual Meeting registration

To help speed your registration at SLECA's Annual Meeting, April 15, 2011, please take a couple of minutes to check something now.

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. (Acct. No. 8200701)

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.

## Across the Board

January 3, 2011

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 and summary of the regular board meeting of December 13, 2010, the minutes of the District and Annual Meeting Planning Committee Meeting of December 22, 2010, and 124 new members.

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 and electric and total revenue verses cost per kilowatt hour.

Following an update on upcoming schools, meetings and events, Mr. Guidry reported on the following: (1) SLECA continues to have the lowest rates in the area; (2) Over 900 children attended SLECA's Christmas Open Houses in Houma and Amelia; (3) The Christmas Lighting Contest winners have been announced; (4) A reception will be held at the NRECA Annual Meeting on Sunday, March 6th in honor of Mr. Guidry becoming president of NRECA; (5) SLECA paid \$1,039,566 in property taxes for 2010; (6) SLECA had to shed 8 megawatts of load on December 27, 2010 due to a transmission failure between Richard and Scott, LA; (7) On December 30th Entergy lost its transmission line and knocked out Greenwood and West Houma Substations; and (8) There were no NERC/SERC violations for this period. Steve Giroir attended a workshop for Distribution Providers and Load-Serving entities. SLECA also participated in a webinar where we learned more about FERC's proposed plan to refine the Bulk Electric System and SLECA has worked on its AURORA vulnerability assessment.

The board then approved the bad debt write-offs for 2008 and ratified its approval of SLECA's drawdown from the Co-Bank line of credit for TESI. (Acct. No. 6922101)

The board then approved the manager's report and expenses, the safety report showing employees have worked 2,314,591 hours without a lost time accident since December, 1996 and the attorney's report and fees.

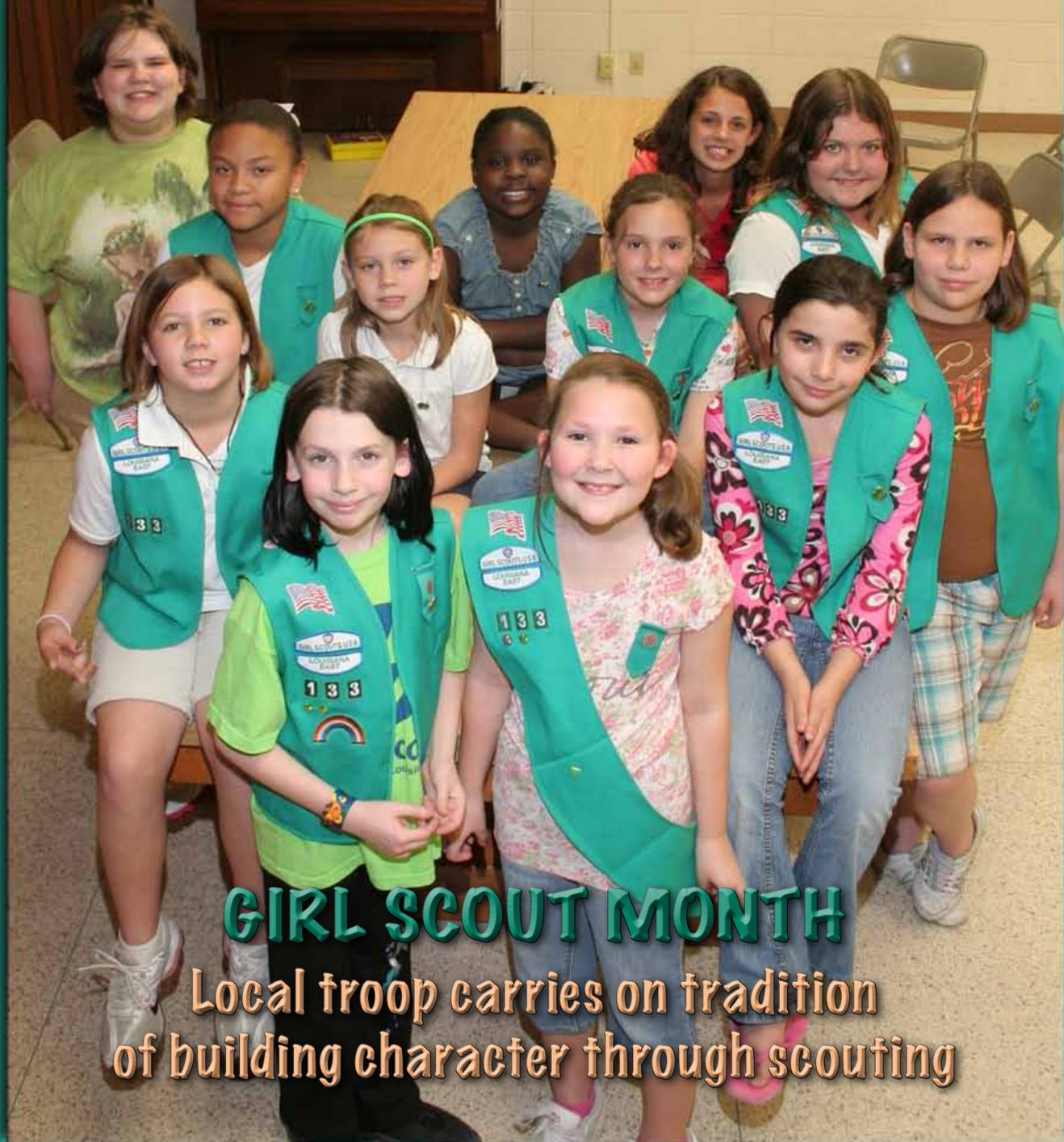
The meeting was then adjourned.

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

# LOUISIANA COUNTRY

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## GIRL SCOUT MONTH

Local troop carries on tradition  
of building character through scouting