

SLECA announces 2011 Youth Tour winners

Paige Duplantis and Matthew Hymel have been selected winners of SLECA's 2011 Youth Tour Essay Writing Competition.

Matthew is a junior at Vandebilt Catholic High School and is the son of Dewayne and Donna Hymel. Paige is a sophomore at Central Lafourche High School and is the daughter of Christopher and Tiffany Duplantis.

The winning students will 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.

On their trip to Washington, Paige and Matthew will 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 38th National Rural Electric Youth Tour.

SLECA has held its Youth Tour Writing Contest for the past 29 years. (Acct. No. 951101)

"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.



Matthew Hymel



Paige Duplantis

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.

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.

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, 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

You can win a 46-inch 1080P LCD Sony giant screen TV at SLECA's 73rd annual meeting

South Louisiana Electric Cooperative Association (SLECA) members attending their annual membership meeting on April 15, 2011, 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 meeting that will feature a great meal 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 tribute 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, plus a great meal and much more.

This year, as in past years, 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 73rd annual membership meeting and be sure to bring the entire family!



Check your account names now to speed Annual Meeting registration

To help speed your registration at SLECA's Annual Meeting, 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. 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.

SLECA General Manager Michael Guidry named president of national board

Michael Guidry, general manager of SLECA, was named president of the board of directors of the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NRECA) in Washington, D.C., at the organization's annual membership meeting in March.

Formed in 1942, NRECA represents the national interests of rural electric distribution, generation and transmission cooperatives across the country. (Acct. No. 1232601)

NRECA provides legislative services, management training, insurance programs, public relations and other services to local electric cooperatives.

Guidry previously served as the NRECA board vice president. His term as president will span two years. He is the first Louisiana director to serve as NRECA board president in three decades.

As an NRECA board officer, Guidry helps carry out national policies and direct the

business of an organization that represents nearly 1,000 co-ops serving 12 million homes, farms, schools, churches and businesses and 42 million people in 47 states.

Guidry looks forward to his two-year term as president.

"Electric cooperatives like SLECA have greatly contributed to the quality of life for millions of electric consumers across the country," Guidry said. "I remain committed to the cooperative way of doing business."

In 1978, Guidry was hired by SLECA as a

member services representative. He served as assistant manager and general manager of Washington-St. Tammany Electric in Franklinton for a brief period and became SLECA's general manager in 1989. Prior to becoming manager he held various positions at the local cooperative, including manager of member services and district manager.

Since 1999, Guidry has been a member of the NRECA board representing Louisiana's electric cooperatives.

On the NRECA board, Guidry has served as former chairman of the International Committee, Administrative Committee and the Wood Quality Control Committee. He has also served on the Education and Training Committee and several ad hoc committees.

In 2007, Guidry served as NRECA secretary-treasurer before being elected vice president.

Guidry replaces "Wally" Wolski, the board representative from Wyoming.



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 15, 2011, 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 (Approximate)..... 8 p.m.
 Entertainment (Approximate)..... 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 2011 district meetings.
2. To transact any other business which may come before the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,
 Brian Rivet, Secretary

Across the Board

February 7, 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 January 3, 2011, 115 new members and the ALEC Report.

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. (Acct. No. 10209601)

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) Dwight Brown, CEO of Cobb EMC in Georgia, was indicted on charges of theft, fraud, racketeering, etc.; (3) SLECA's office will be closed on March 8 for Mardi Gras and will close at 3:30 p.m. on Friday, March 4 and Monday, March 7 due to parade traffic; (4) RUS has approved SLECA's loan request; (5) SLECA had a crew ready to go to Claiborne Electric to assist in winter storm restoration activity but the freeze line stopped just north of the cooperative; (6) SLECA ranked ninth in taxes paid to Terrebonne Parish; (7) Engineering employee Mike Dupre will not be able to resume his duties due to health reasons; and (8) SLECA's compliance procedures for NERC/SERC are in place and its "culture of compliance" is evident. SLECA has conducted Compliance Awareness Training in all safety meetings and has refined its AURORA risk assessment and carried out an analysis of its offices, substations and switches/reclosers. Also, NERC is working on a "Customer Outreach Package" that is intended to be used to inform SLECA's customers about AURORA risks.

The board then approved the following: (1) To go out for bids on two pick-up trucks to replace unit 221 and unit 217; (2) Accept the low bid to do the low-bay work in the Ashland Substation; (3) The manager's report and expenses; and (4) The safety report showing employees have worked 2,328,586 hours without a lost time accident since December, 1996.

After Mr. Guidry displayed charts detailing information for the rate request that compares SLECA's current rates with those under the proposed rate increase, the board granted its permission for Mr. Guidry to continue with the formula rate filing.

After the attorney's report and fees were approved by the board, Mr. Luke gave a brief overview of the recent Directors Conference that he and Mr. Doyle attended.

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.

NOTICE

SLECA's offices will be closed on Good Friday, April 22. A standby crew will be on call at all times to handle emergencies during the holiday. (Acct. No. 9106401)

Your Cooperative Connection

LOUISIANA COUNTRY

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Flat Screen TV!**
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**Annual Meeting
Special Insert
Included**

