

## New scammers on the prowl

The scam artists are at it again. Ratepayers in our area have recently reported being targeted by scam artists, including customers of Entergy and Cleco, as well as some members of SLECA.

The scam goes like this: Utility customers are contacted by telephone and told by a representative that their electric bill is past due. The caller says electric service will be disconnected within an hour unless the customer transfers funds electronically or gives their credit card information for payment. (Acct. No. 86753004)

Sometimes the customer is directed to call a number to purchase a credit card.

SLECA members are warned to be on the look-out for this latest scam. SLECA General Manager Joe Ticheli said SLECA member service representatives are authorized to receive credit card information over the telephone only if the member initiates the call and wishes to make a payment using their credit card.

"If someone claiming to represent SLECA calls you and threatens to disconnect your power if you don't provide your credit card information or your Social Security number or offers to sell you a credit card, you can be assured this is not a SLECA representative. The appropriate response would be to hang up and contact SLECA as well as local law enforcement authorities."



## Across the Board

June 3, 2013

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 Advisor to the Board, Lloyd Gibson. Also attending were Joseph Ticheli, general manager, James Funderburk, attorney, and Elaine Robertson, member services supervisor. After the invocation and pledge, the board approved minutes and summary of the May 6, 2013, meeting, the ALEC minutes and 166 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. (Acct. No. 201810001)

Following an update on upcoming schools, meetings and events, Mr. Ticheli reported on the following: (1) SLECA continues to have the lowest rates in the area; (2) SLECA's staff has begun preparations for hurricane season; (3) The medical alert list has been updated; (4) SLECA's annual Family Fun Day was a success with good attendance; (5) The Legislative Cookout at the state capitol went very well; (6) The ALEC Annual Meeting will be held Sunday-Tuesday, July 21-23, 2013, at the Hilton Capitol Center in downtown Baton Rouge; (7) Severe storm activity caused several outages in SLECA's service territory in May; (8) SLECA received a mineral royalty check; and (9) NERC filed an "Answer" to SLECA's "Answer" in its FERC appeal. SLECA did not file a response because the "Answer" repeated NERC's previous statements. We had no violations for the period.

The board then approved an NRECA resolution that would revise the Deferred Compensation Pension Plan and a resolution approving the 219 forms for May 2012 through December 2012, the manager's report, and the safety report showing employees have worked 2,724,935 hours without a lost time accident since December, 1996. The board then approved the attorney's report and fees. Following executive session, the meeting was 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.

# SLECA News



Low Rates. High Expectations.

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



## SLECA and Richard Development work together to help keep local economy humming

Everything that Henry Richard is passionate about in his life can be seen right there on his desk and along the walls in his office.

On his desk are brightly colored sales and information sheets promoting his growing list of residential and commercial development projects, including one of his latest gems located at 435 Corporate Dr., in Houma.

Lining the walls are dozens of images of him and his extended family members fishing, boating, horseback riding, vacationing, celebrating special events and otherwise engaging in all manner of outdoor fun and fellowship.

In Richard's case, the family and the work are intricately intertwined as his business partners include his two sons, Dustin and Ryan. A third child, Trisha, resides in Baton Rouge.

A burgeoning local economy and a robust family life with his three children and nine grandchildren are enough to keep Richard hopping. And whether it's family, business or both, Richard charges ahead at full speed.

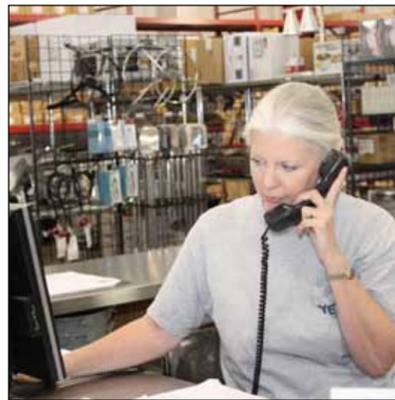
It's an energetic, confident pace that he learned from his father, who owned and operated a local fast food restaurant before the big chains began moving into town.

Richard followed his father in the restaurant business until he decided to venture into the restaurant supply side of the industry over 30 years ago. In recent years, Richard decided to branch out and become involved in real estate development, handling primarily light commercial projects with a few residential subdivisions added into the mix.

He jumped into the real estate development game with the same gusto and regard for great service and high quality as he demonstrated with his restaurant supply business.

For instance, when Richard set out to build the high-end Corporate Office Park in Houma, he sought out an architect who had worked on similar projects in Baton Rouge. He wanted a structure and facility more representative of commercial spaces found in the state's urban centers and unlike anything that had ever been developed in Terrebonne Parish.

Consequently, today Corporate Office Park is a stylish commercial setting where form meets function. The site features New Orleans French Quarter Creole style architecture constructed with old St. Louis brick, cement roof caps and copper porch roofs. Inside the office facilities are high ceilings, brick floors in the lobby and porch areas and custom



Clockwise from top, left: Donna Whited, inside sales manager at Richard's Restaurant Supply; SLECA General Manager Joe Ticheli and Henry Richard; Corporate Office Park in Houma; Richard Lynch, warehouse manager at Richard's Restaurant Supply.

wood doors, all intended to promote a comfortable and productive working environment. (Acct. No. 104782002)

The first three buildings in the design plan have been completed, while a fourth office building is planned for the near future. Richard has received interest from prospective tenants both locally and nationally.

"This is a type of office complex that's very unique to this area," Richard said. "Business activity in our parish is really growing and we're getting inquiries from many companies wanting to locate or expand here and they're looking for a space that reflects their level of professionalism and standards of success."

That's exactly what Richard was looking for when he was in the process of choosing a company to provide electrical power to his office park. In the end, Richard chose SLECA because of

its track record of providing reliable service and low rates.

"We don't have anything against the other providers in this area," he said. "But we've always been happy with SLECA. It's a locally-owned, locally controlled organization that puts the interests of its members first."

According to SLECA General Manager Joe Ticheli, both the cooperative and Richard share the common goals of working hard to see that the region's economic health remains sound and that its people and communities prosper.

"It's a real honor and privilege for SLECA to play a key role in contributing to our collective economic growth," Ticheli said. "We're happy that we can not only provide jobs and payrolls for our people here at SLECA but also deliver power to our commercial and industrial members that is reliable and affordable with some of the lowest rates

in the state."

While Richard has experienced success in his business endeavors, he has learned that the real gold is found in being able to work so closely with his two sons.

"All of my kids are smarter than me, more personable than me and more aware of what's going on than I am," Richard chuckled. "They really enjoy working on the construction side of things and using their talents to see something created out of nothing. Everybody contributes and brings something to the equation that is helpful and productive toward achieving our goals."

As for any advice he offers his sons: "I just tell them if you're going to do something, do it well. Be number one and don't be afraid. You can't just sit back and think you know it all. Get involved and be like a sponge and learn all you can."

## SLECA employees honored for working over 2.7 million safe hours

SLECA was recognized for logging 2,743,083 employee hours without a lost-time accident since December 1996 at a banquet held July 22 in Baton Rouge during the annual meeting of the Association of Louisiana Electric Cooperatives (ALEC).

SLECA's 89 employees working out of offices in Houma and Amelia were recognized for their consistent, professional performance on the job.

General Manager Joe Ticheli said all SLECA employees should be very proud of this achievement.

"Working safely is something our employees do not take for granted," Ticheli said. "We are determined to provide our consumers with the most reliable service possible and we are committed to do it in the safest possible manner."

Ticheli said SLECA is known as a leader in safety among the state's electric cooperatives. (Acct. No. 69793001)

"This is a real credit to the extensive training our employees receive," Ticheli said. "As everyone knows, the work of a lineman is dangerous, and this shows how alert, skilled and conscientious our employees are when they go about their jobs."



Shown above at the Association of Louisiana Electric Cooperative's Annual Meeting are (front row) Buffy Simmons, Joe Ticheli, Mike Bergeaux and Aaron Graham; (middle row), Danny LeBlanc, Bobby Dungan and Marc Caldwell; (back row) Aaron Duplechin. Shown at right are Dungan (representing SLECA's outside employees) and Simmons (representing SLECA's inside employees).



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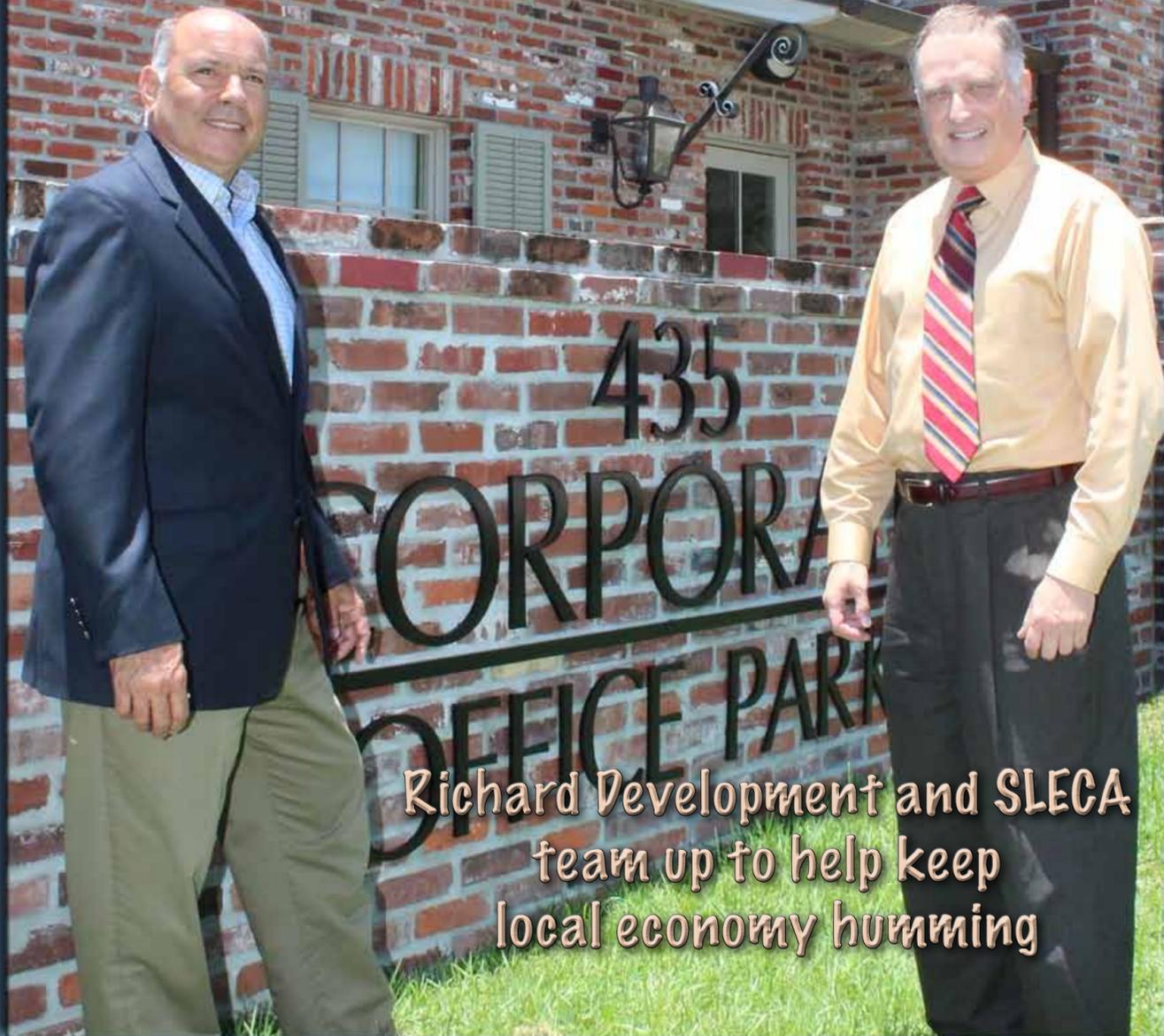
## SLECA SWEEPSTAKES

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Richard Development and SLECA  
team up to help keep  
local economy humming