

# You can win a Youth Tour EXPERIENCE!

Two local SLECA students will have the opportunity to be winners of the 2015 SLECA Youth Tour Contest and spend a week with about two dozen other students from across Louisiana on a "Government in Action" Youth Tour of Washington, D.C.

The trip to Washington, D.C., has been described as "the experience of a lifetime" by past winners, offering an opportunity to learn about our government and meet many important figures while making a lot of cool, new friends. For over 32 years, SLECA has reached out to local students, offering them the opportunity to participate in the Youth Tour Program. If you are interested, this is what you need to know:

### Eligibility Requirements

- High school sophomores and juniors are eligible.
- Electricity to your residence or parent's business must be provided by SLECA.

### Youth Tour Contest Guidelines

1. Students must write a letter approximately 500 words long to an elected official. The entry must be submitted in the proper letter format to be eligible.
2. The students should voice their opinion (positive or negative) to the local, state or federal official in a letter format on any issue, problem or matter they believe to be critical to South Louisiana.
3. The topic of concern should be stated and thoroughly discussed and the letter should be addressed to the official the student has selected.
4. On a separate sheet attached to the essay, the student must write his/her name, Social Security Number, name of school, grade level, parents' names, address and phone number.
5. All entries must include a current photo with their submission for use in news releases at the conclusion of the contest.



Entries should be mailed to Youth Tour Essay Contest, c/o SLECA, P.O. Box 4037, Houma, LA 70361, or delivered to SLECA's main office at 2028 Coteau Road, Highway 660, Houma, LA, or SLECA's branch office in Amelia, 2903 Lake Palourde Rd., Morgan City, LA 70380; P.O. Box 1126, Amelia, LA 70340.

All letters become the property of South Louisiana Electric Cooperative Association. ENTRIES MUST BE POSTMARKED NO LATER THAN Feb. 2, 2015.

A judging committee will select two top letters and one alternate. Letters are judged on knowledge of subject, originality, composition, neatness and grammar. For more information, contact SLECA at 876-6880 or 1-800-256-8826. (Acct. No. 107044001)

## Across the Board

September 8, 2014

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, Jamie Funderburk, attorney, and Yolanda George, member services supervisor.

After the invocation and pledge, the board approved minutes and summary of the regular meeting dated August 4, 2014, the ALEC minutes and 172 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. Ticheli reported on the following: (1) SLECA continues to have the lowest rates in the area; (2) Employees have worked another quarter year without a lost-time accident as of July 31, 2014; (3) Location and date need to be made for the Board Christmas Dinner; (4) SLECA received a dividend check from Federated Insurance in the amount of \$37,189.00; (5) Louisiana residents use more electricity and pay less for it per month than anywhere in the country; (6) Repairs have been made to the Ashland Substation following a May 22 outage caused by a snake; (7) The consultant working on SLECA's formula rate plan annual report and storm rider has finished his reports. The formula rate plan annual report and storm rider will most likely be on the PSC October meeting agenda.

The board then approved the renewal of SLECA's medical insurance premium at an increase of 6.6%; selected the voting delegate and alternate for the CFC member meeting; approved going out for bids to replace Unit 355 which is a Houma bucket truck; the safety report showing employees have worked 2,935,551 hours without a lost time accident since December, 1996 and the attorney's report and fees.

Following executive session, the meeting was adjourned. (Acct. No. 96783001)

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



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



## Local Marines make sure every Tot has a Toy

Although MGySgt. Linwood P. Liner (USMC Ret.) is no longer on active duty, he still has a mission.

Every year since 1960, Liner has marshaled the forces required to carry out the annual Marine Corps Reserve Toys for Tots program in the Houma-Terrebonne area.

The program distributes more than 12,000 toys to roughly 5,500 children during the holiday season.

The mission, he said, is much like the one that inspires the Marine Corps tradition of duty and commitment.

"Our mission is that any kid who needs a toy for Christmas will get one. We leave no kids behind," he said. "We don't want any kid to wake up and not have any toys on Christmas morning."

Liner, 73, became involved in Toys for Tots back in 1960 when he was on a 15-day leave from boot camp at Parris Island, S.C., and his buddies talked him into participating. At that time, the organization was more involved in collecting, repairing and delivering used toys to the doorsteps of those less fortunate.

"I saw it as a worthwhile cause, so I just stuck with it," said Liner, who is also an ordained deacon for the Diocese of Houma-Thibodaux. "When I was a boy, I could never imagine not having a toy on Christmas. I started praying for a bike in August!"

Toys for Tots receives donated items from more than 40 businesses and organizations that serve as collection points. The thousands of toys are received by local charities and schools to present to the children.

The toy drive starts in November and continues through Christmas. Each year, Toys for Tots holds a special collection day in the Walmart parking lot with a live radio feed to encourage people to donate an item. Shoppers often buy toys inside the store and place them in the collection bins.

"We always get so much support. Ev-



CW02 Tim Soignet (USMC Ret.), SLECA employee Yolanda George and MGySgt. Linwood Liner (USMC Ret.) are all proud to support the annual Toys for Tots program.

erybody's behind us, and that's really what makes it work because we couldn't do it without all the help we get," Liner said. "The schools, the businesses, the carnival krewes, everybody in the community supports us. People in this area are always thoughtful and considerate of those who are less fortunate than they are."

And grateful, too. Liner recounted a story of a bed-ridden man who sustained a head-and-neck injury in a rig accident and was unable to provide toys for his children at Christmas-time. The family received gifts from the Toys for Tots program, and several years later Liner was working at the organization's booth in Southland Mall.

"He came up to the booth and talked to me. He told me how he had been to his house and if it wasn't for us his children wouldn't have had any toys that Christmas," Liner recalled. "By that time he was healthy again and told us he remembered

what we had done for him and he wanted to volunteer to help with the program."

In another instance, a local man who died left a request for friends and family to donate to the Toys for Tots program in lieu of flowers or other gifts. Liner said two empty collection boxes were taken to the wake at Chauvin's Funeral Home and filled up in a short time. The next day, two more boxes were taken to the church service and filled to overflowing.

Also inspired to help was CW02 Tim Soignet (USMC Ret.) Chief Warrant Officer. Soignet, currently a training director for the Terrebonne Sheriff's Office, served under Liner when he was a private and got involved in the program about four years ago. (Acct. No. 41968001)

Soignet said the mission of Toys for Tots is similar to the mission that inspired the Marine Corps.

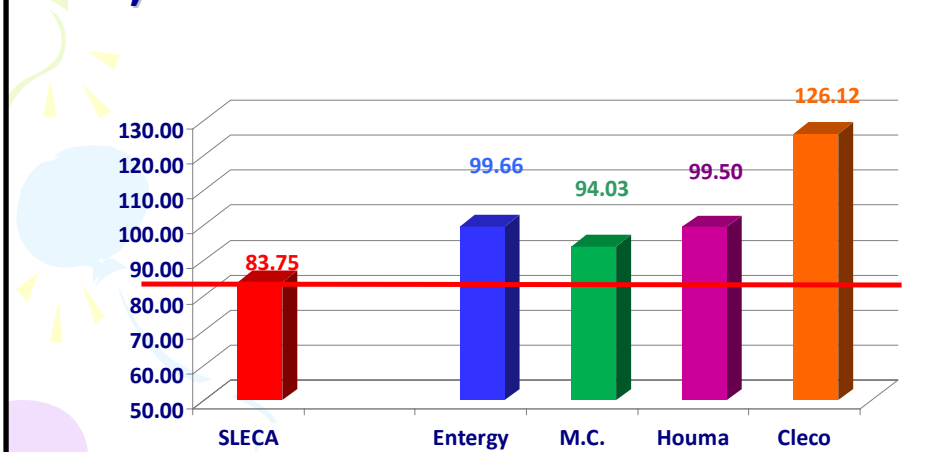
"It's the same basic principles we believe in, to serve a cause higher than

ourselves. Marines put others ahead of themselves and that's what Toys for Tots does. It's just another way of doing it." Soignet said after spending many years in the military service, he's happy to be able to serve in this capacity during his retirement.

"I've been to plenty of countries, and I can tell you this is absolutely the greatest country in the world...just the fact that we have the freedom to do something like this," Soignet said. "Despite who we've elected into political office or whether or not you don't like some of the things that are going on, the backbone of this country is strong and intact."

SLECA General Manager Joe Ticheli said Toys for Tots collection bins will be placed in the lobbies of both the Houma headquarters location and the Amelia branch office. He encourages employees, members and the general public to drop off a new, unwrapped toy.

## Rate Comparison for 1,000 KWH for October 2014



## Storm rider applied

At its October meeting, the Louisiana Public Service Commission unanimously approved a "storm rider" mechanism to enable SLECA to recover un-reimbursed expenses from hurricane damages sustained over the past nine years.

SLECA General Manager Joe Ticheli said the rider will result in an adjustment of approximately \$1.81 for every 1,000 kWh of power purchased. He emphasized that the adjustment is temporary and would be eliminated after SLECA recovers \$2.1 million in un-reimbursed expenses. Depending on the amount of power sold, he said the rider would be in effect for two years or less.

The rider adjustment will appear on bills mailed to members in January, reflecting power consumption during the previous month.

## Enter SLECA's Christmas Lighting Contest

Light up your home this Christmas and win a \$100 Cash Prize! Entries will be accepted through December 12, 2014.

### RULES:

1. Contest open to SLECA residential members only.
2. SLECA directors, employees, retired employees and/or their families are not eligible to win.
3. Electricity is required. Outdoor lighting only.
4. Suggested themes: Religious, Contemporary, Novelty.
5. Entries must be received at SLECA by December 12, 2014. Judging to be held December 15.
6. Winners will be notified by telephone.
7. 2013 winners are ineligible.
8. Cash Prizes (\$100 in each of SLECA's nine member districts) will be awarded.

To enter, complete this form and return by December 12, 2014, to SLECA, P.O. Box 4037, Houma, La 70361. (Acct. No. 66629002)

### SLECA's Christmas Lighting Contest

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Account No.: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_

Or simply call SLECA's office in Houma, 876-6880, 1-800-256-8826; or Amelia 631-3605, 1-800-256-8836.

## KIDS...Christmas is almost here Draw a picture and win a prize!

We're having a Christmas contest for kids. And the prize is a \$50 Christmas gift certificate to either Southland Mall or Walmart.

All you have to do to win is draw a picture of your favorite Christmas activity. It can be anything you like to do at Christmas time, such as decorating the tree, wrapping gifts, Christmas shopping or going caroling...Anything!

Here is what you need to know:

- You must be 10 years old or younger.
- Contest is open to SLECA members only.
- Entries must be submitted on one 8-1/2 x 11-inch sheet of paper.
- Any medium (crayons, markers, watercolors, etc.) may be used to draw your picture, but the picture MUST be in color.
- The entry form must be attached to the back of your drawing.
- Previous winners are ineligible.
- Employees of SLECA will judge all entries.
- You should mail your entry to SLECA, P.O. Box 4037, Houma, LA 70361, or you can drop it off at the Houma office at 2028 Coteau Rd. in Houma or at the Amelia office.
- Deadline to receive entries is November 14, 2014.

### ENTRY FORM

Attach this form to the back of entry.

Child's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent or Guardian: \_\_\_\_\_

Child's Age: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

SLECA Account Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Your Cooperative Connection

# LOUISIANA COUNTRY

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## TOYS FOR TOTS Marine Corps Reserve leads annual drive

Don't sweat it

### Hurricane season is here.

Hurricane season begins  
Many of us don't sit  
still, but NOW is the

Work outdoors  
or evening up  
Prepare light  
plenty of liquid  
Use the mist  
Instead of your  
conventional  
Use fans to supply  
air conditioning.  
If you don't have

Do you  
hit for y  
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