DEMCO serves up a hot meal for Air Force Falcons
Manager’s Report

By John Vranic
DEMCO CEO and General Manager

Celebrate National Lineman Appreciation Day on April 10

Highlighted elsewhere in this publication is a story about DEMCO showing its appreciation to our military personnel by cooking for members of the Air Force baseball team on the LSU campus.

As the Tiger baseball season gears up, I am reminded of a long-running difference of opinion among sports fans. Some insist that the head coach of any sports team is the primary contributor to the team’s success on the playing field. Others contend that no coach can succeed without having good quality players to lead into the fray.

I suppose the truth lies somewhere in between and both are important contributors to building and sustaining a winning sports program, but we always have a fun time arguing our respective cases.

My opinion regarding sports teams is not so different from my view of our power delivery team here at DEMCO.

While it is obviously important that we have outstanding management to structure our work plans, formulate budgets, adopt policies and take responsibility for making sure all of those projects are implemented, we would not be able to accomplish much without our employees.

There are dozens of DEMCO employees, staff members and contract workers who carry out their assignments on a daily basis to ensure that you continue to receive the safe, reliable, affordable power you need and deserve.

But the employees who routinely assume the greatest risks of all are our line workers who stand in the very trenches of our power delivery system that spans more than 8,400 miles across seven parishes.

Please take a moment to mark down April 10, 2017, on your calendar – this is the day that has been designated as National Lineman Appreciation Day to recognize the hardworking employees who toil in challenging and often dangerous conditions to keep the power flowing when and where we need it.

The hazards of working around high voltage lines out in the elements are readily apparent, but never so obvious as when a natural disaster strikes our area.

In those times, such as the historic flood that visited our community last August, our linemen are proud to perform the task they are called to perform. It may be difficult at times like this, but it is what they are trained for.

Moreover, linemen will continue to participate in field trainings and keep up to date on the latest regulatory aspects of their profession. Although this training is expected, it is what best for the employee and the cooperative.

If you are grateful to enjoy the true benefit of electrical power constantly at your fingertips, take a moment to thank a lineman for all they do.

If you are grateful to enjoy the true benefit of electrical power constantly at your fingertips, take a moment to thank a lineman for all they do.

Thank you for powering our lives.

National Lineman Appreciation Day

April 10, 2017

#ThankALineman
Give your electric bills a spring break

Take steps to trim your electricity usage while you’re away

Taking some much needed time away from your hum-drum daily routine during spring break can be expensive.

A great way to save money is to make sure to give your electric bills a vacation, too.

There are several steps you can take to trim your electricity usage while you’re taking some time away from your home:

• Unplug some of your household appliances. Your house has many items that always use electricity when they’re plugged in, even when they’re turned off. Unplugging these items not only saves energy but also can prevent fires during your absence. Some of the more common items are:
  - Televisions, DVD players, cable TV boxes, microwave ovens, toasters and other small kitchen appliances.
  - Adjust the refrigerator control to a warmer setting. The fridge can be set as high as 40 degrees without spoiling food; the freezer can be set at 5 degrees.

On these settings, you can conserve up to 40 percent of the refrigerator’s electric usage.

If you are going on an extended trip, consider emptying the fridge and turning it off entirely. Remember to leave the door open to prevent mildew.

• Set the thermostat higher (or lower) than the typical comfort level. You should consider lowering your thermostat but to no lower than 55 degrees. Typically, you can save 10–30 percent on heating costs by doing this.

In warmer weather, you can shut off the air conditioner during your absence, or at least consider setting it to a higher-than-normal temperature, 80 degrees or above.

A programmable thermostat can make these adjustments for you automatically.

• Turn down the water heater. A large percentage of the cost of running a water heater comes from just keeping the water at the selected temperature.

If you are going on a lengthy trip, turn down the temperature to the lowest setting. This can save you up to $10 a month.

Consider using timers to turn lights on and off every night. Timers can save energy and also give an appearance that someone is home.

For the lights that will be on the longest—inside and outside—use CFL or LED bulbs.

These use at least 75 percent less power than traditional bulbs and last longer.

Follow these helpful tips while you’re away for spring break and put your mind at ease about electric bills. Then you can enjoy that vacation even more! (Acct. No. 1220203-001)

Plant the Right Tree in the Right Place

Trees beautify our neighborhoods, and when planted in the right spot, can even help lower energy bills. But the wrong tree in the wrong place can be a hazard... especially to power lines.

**LARGE TREES**
- Height/Spread of more than 40 feet, such as:
  - Maple
  - Birch
  - Oak
  - Sweetgum
  - Spruce
  - Linden
  - Pine

**MEDIUM TREES**
- Height/Spread of 25 to 40 feet, such as:
  - Washington hawthorn
  - Goldenrain tree
  - Eastern redbud
  - American arborvitae
  - Dogwoods

**SMALL TREES**
- Height/Spread of no more than 25 feet such as:
  - Star magnolia
  - Crabapple
  - Lilac

Be safe! Always call 811 before you dig to locate any buried utility lines.

For more tips on smart tree planting in your community, contact your local electric cooperative or visit www.ArborDay.org.

**BATTERY STORAGE**

An emerging technology

Electrical energy storage through the use of large batteries is an emerging technology that will be used by many utilities in the next few years. Batteries and associated equipment will be used to improve the operating efficiency of wind turbines, solar panels and other resources, and will be utilized to store energy that can be used at a later time to meet consumers’ power needs. As this technology advances, utilities will gain experience in using batteries for storage and learn the best applications for their consumers.

**Solar Array**

Substation

Battery Bank

Source: The Arbor Day Foundation and the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association
The LSU Tigers launched their 2016 baseball campaign recently with a victorious, ceremonious and patriotic series against the Army and Air Force service academies.

Ranked second in the nation, LSU swept a double-header against Army to start the season and then claimed a Sunday win over Air Force.

But the opening weekend was about much more than baseball.

There were standing ovations, salutes, streaming banners, musical performances, flag-waving, fighter jet fly-overs and other grand gestures of gratitude for the military personnel.

And DEMCO was there to close out the festivities by providing a meal to the Air Force players on Sunday afternoon before the team caught its military flight back to their home base.

DEMCO’s cooking crew served up heaping portions of pork chops, stuffed chicken breasts, sausage and “killer beans” to the delight of the visitors. For dessert was a large sheet cake decorated with the Air Force Falcons insignia and “Fly. Fight. Win.” slogan.

For Air Force coach Mike Kazlausky, ending the weekend with a hearty meal was a bonus, especially knowing that it was personally prepared and delivered by members of a non-profit organization still reeling from a natural disaster last August in which more than 50 employees sustained personal property damage.

Kazlausky, a 20-year military veteran who flew relief missions to New Orleans after Hurricane Katrina in 2005, said he was touched by DEMCO’s display of generosity, especially while attempting to rebound from the August flooding that caused an estimated $15 million in damage to its power delivery system.

“Seeing what happened after Katrina, it was one of the saddest times of my life to go down there and see the destruction that happened,” he said. “The core values of the Air Force are integrity first and service before self. And DEMCO demonstrates that not only in what they do every day for their members but by coming out here today and serving our kids. I can’t thank DEMCO enough.”

Kazlausky said his players were grateful for the hospitality they received at Alex Box Stadium on the LSU campus.

“This has just been really great for us. When our young men and women are at the Air Force Academy or West Point, there’s a higher calling about what they’re volunteering for and what they’re asked to do for our country, and the people of Baton Rouge understand that the sacrifices that they all make for the benefit of our country and the preservation of our liberties is something we should all be thankful for.”

The Air Force players were rapt when Bertman stood before them and delivered an impromptu inspirational speech. (Acct. No. 80128533-002)

“‘It’s a real honor to be able to do this for these folks,” Vranic said. “These players, their leaders and their families represent the best of America. The sacrifices that they all make for the benefit of our country and the preservation of our liberties is something we should all be thankful for.”

Mainieri and the legendary Skip Bertman also came to the DEMCO tent to speak with the Air Force players and personally thank them for their service to the country.

Vranic met with team members and later noted the considerable number of friends and family accompanying the Falcons on their trip to Baton Rouge.
Mueller custom buildings make beautiful living spaces. Our strong, engineered exteriors provide flexibility for you to design a completely customized interior, while supporting large spans and open floor plans. Create your own unique space to call home. Give us a call or drop by today, and find out more about custom metal buildings from Mueller.*

*Some exterior structures, such as carport & porches, were added post-engineering and not designed by Mueller. Please check local building codes before ordering.
Free tax filing software available through federal site

Taxpayers can get a head start on preparing their tax returns as free federal tax preparation and e-filing software is now available at www.IRS.gov/FreeFile to all Americans with a 2016 adjusted gross income (AGI) of $64,000 or less.

Powered by The Free File Alliance, a coalition of 12 industry-leading tax software companies partnered with the IRS, the Free File program gives eligible taxpayers free access to the industry’s most innovative and secure tax software in order to easily prepare and e-file their federal tax returns.

More than 70 percent of all taxpayers - 100 million people - are eligible to use Free File, which is available now at www.IRS.gov/FreeFile. Not only is the Free File income limitation $2,000 higher than last year for free federal tax services, but there are also more options for free state tax return preparation.

Taxpayers can visit www.IRS.gov/FreeFile and utilize the “Help Me Find Free File Software” tool to identify software options for free federal returns.

If your income is $64,000 or less, Free File is there to take the guesswork out of doing your federal tax returns,” said Tim Hugo, executive director of the Free File Alliance. “Our software offers step-by-step help to get your federal taxes done quickly, safely and at absolutely no cost, and we now offer more free state tax services than ever.”

New in 2017, active duty military personnel with incomes of $64,000 or less may use any Free File software product offered by the 12 tax preparation companies without regard to criteria.

Free File helps you navigate tax changes for 2017 as the Free File software does the hard work for you. For example, there are many tax changes that potentially affects millions of taxpayers.

The Free File Alliance and its members continue to make the protection of taxpayers’ personal information a priority through its participation in the Security Summit Initiative. The Alliance and its members, along with the IRS, state tax agencies and others in the tax industry, are active participants in the Security Summit Initiative in order to provide additional identity theft safeguards for tax filing.

Hugo continued, “The Free File program has provided over 49 million returns valued at almost $1.4 billion in free tax software over the last 14 years, and we hope to see even more taxpayers take advantage of the service in 2017. IRS.gov/Free File is the one place where taxpayers can choose from a variety of the industry’s most innovative and secure tax software options.”

Basic federal e-filing services, called Free File Fillable Forms, are also available regardless of income level. Free File Fillable Forms allows taxpayers who are familiar with tax law and need no preparation assistance to complete and file their federal income tax electronically.

By making industry-leading tax software available at no cost, Free File has introduced millions of Americans, many of whom could not otherwise afford tax software, to the efficiency and ease of e-filing. The program has continually advanced the IRS’ e-filing initiative, while meeting a critical need for affordable, quality tax software options.

**Public Service Commission lifts disconnect order after 2016 flood**

Measure implemented to assist victims of natural disaster

In order to provide relief to customers in parishes impacted by the August 2016 Flood in southern Louisiana, the Louisiana Public Service Commission (Commission) adopted orders that temporarily prohibited utility companies from disconnecting service for non-payment and from assessing late fees on past due balances during this period of hardship.

This temporary suspension was lifted, effective March 1, 2017.

To assist flood impacted customers in paying balances due as of March 1, 2017, the Commission has ordered that all regulated service providers, including DEMCO, offer a payment plan according to the terms listed below.

**Principal Balance Outstanding as of March 1, 2017:**
- Less than $100 - 6 mos.
- From $101-250 - 12 mos.
- From $251-500 - 15 mos.
- $501 or greater - 18 mos.

Alternatively, you may choose to pay the entire outstanding balance upon receipt of your bill.

To participate in the Commission approved program, consumers should notify DEMCO.

Should you select the above payment plan, the monthly amount will first be itemized on your April 2017 cycle bill and will be in addition to charges for services rendered in the previous month.

Failure to timely make payments subjects members to late fees and disconnection of service as well as the immediate payment of all past due amounts.

Thank you for being a DEMCO member. We look forward to the opportunity to serve you during this time of transition as we accommodate hardships you may have incurred because of the flooding.
Jefferson honored for 31 years of service to DEMCO members

DEMCO retiree Warren Jefferson was honored at a gathering of his friends and co-workers, who celebrated his 31 years of dedicated service to DEMCO and its valued members.

Know your limits when taking on DIY projects

Every year, thousands of people in the U.S. are critically injured or electrocuted as a result of electrical fires or accidents in their own homes.

Faced with declining home values, aging properties and flood-damaged dwellings, more homeowners are tackling do-it-yourself projects than ever before.

However, many do not have the training or experience needed to safely perform home electrical work. This increases the risk of immediate injuries and electrocutions, and potentially introduces new dangers into the home.

If you decide to undertake a home improvement project yourself, DEMCO strongly recommends that you do not attempt work beyond your skill level. Knowing when to call a professional can help prevent electrical fires, injuries and fatalities.

If you do engage in a DIY project, make sure you plan the project first and understand the electrical system, equipment and materials required. Make sure you use adequate personal protective equipment and follow manufacturer’s instructions for all tools used.

Power Tools - Many do-it-yourself projects involve the use of power tools. Working with power tools requires skilled instruction and training. They can be deadly if not properly used or maintained.

A common scenario for power tool-related electrocutions is when the equipment comes in contact with live electrical wires while it is being used.

Facts and Statistics - Nearly 400 electrocutions occur in the United States every year, according to the Consumer Product Safety Commission.

Electrical accidents with power drills, saws, sanders, hedge trimmers and other electric power tools account for 8 percent of consumer product-related electrocutions annually. An additional 9 percent are caused by accidents involving the use of lawn equipment, garden tools and ladders, which come into contact with overhead power lines.

Personal Protective Equipment - Safeguards on outdoor electric tools are there for a reason. Make sure that they are always in place before operating.

Invest in safety goggles, hearing protection, dust masks, gloves and other safety gear recommended for each tool. A few dollars now are well worth the lifetime of functional sight and hearing that they are protecting.

Wear the appropriate clothes for the job—boots, gloves, long pants and a long-sleeved shirt. Wearing sandals while mowing the lawn is just asking for trouble. Tie back long hair as well as hoodie strings, scarves and other items that could get caught.

Tips for Tool Safety - Use ground-fault circuit interrupters with every power tool to protect against electric shocks.

Do not use power tools with an extension cord that exceeds 100 feet in length. (Acct. No. 5083601-001)

Never use power tools near live electrical wires or water pipes.

Use extreme caution when cutting or drilling into walls where electrical wires or water pipes could be accidentally touched or penetrated.

Notice of holiday office closing

The DEMCO headquarters office located on Wax Road and all DEMCO branch offices will be closed in observance of Good Friday on April 14, 2017.

Visit us at the Building and Remodeling Show

The Capital Region Builders Association will present the 39th Building and Remodeling Show at the Lamar Dixon Expo Center 4-H Building on March 25-26, 2017. The annual show will feature hundreds of exhibitors, informative seminars, the newest products, landscape displays, wine tasting, and celebrity chefs! See you there!
Making a Rouses Supermarket run with a pescatarian in tow

Co-opLife

by Billy Gibson
Director of Communications
Association of Louisiana Electric Cooperatives
www.lacountryblog.wordpress.com

It was a typical Saturday morning in the Gibson household.

The sun was peeking over the eastern horizon as stiff bodies were emerging from their sleeping quarters like zombies shuffling through a graveyard. But it wouldn’t be long after a few cups of coffee, some oatmeal, some Cheerios and a few slices of king cake that the mad scramble would ensue for the next 10-12 hours.

When my wife finished her second cup of joe and shifted into Sgt. Carter taskmaster mode, she started divvying out assignments for the day.

My job was to make a run to the local Rouses Supermarket and pick up a fruit tray and some brownies for the party we were set to attend later that evening.

Having been married for nearly 17 years, I knew exactly how this was going to end even before I grabbed my car keys. I knew there would be approximately a 99.6 percent chance that I would come home with neither the right fruit tray nor the right kind of brownies.

The potential for error was enormous. I’d probably get the wrong kind of fruit, or the platter would be too big or too small. Or maybe they wouldn’t have any variety platters and I’d have to make a hasty decision under duress and come home with an outdated container of mushy cantaloupe or kiwi. Maybe I’d get the wrong kind of dipping sauce or forget the decorative toothpicks.

The potential for choosing the wrong kind of brownies was even greater. If I elected to go with pre-baked, then I would have opted for the box mix, and I’d get the wrong kind of dipping sauce or forget the decorative toothpicks.

I decided to just go with a box of Ding Dongs. It’s pretty much the same thing, right, a brown blob of dough with some dark icing?

And how was I possibly going to pick the right brownie mix? There’s Pillsbury, Duncan Hines, Betty Crocker, Ghirardelli. There’s fudge brownies, triple fudge, milk chocolate, dark chocolate, traditional, gluten free, sugar free. So what did I mean?

So, anticipating the inevitable, I fell into Trump mode and decided to make a deal. A huuuuuge deal: I’m telling you, the greatest deal in the entire history of deals, you can believe me. I agreed to make the Rouses run under one condition: that whatever I brought home would be accepted without questions, complaints, criticism or condemnation.

That caused a palpable pause in the proceedings. But after a few moments of contemplation and realization of how nice it would be not to have to battle the grocery store crowd, balanced against a brief imagining of what kind of wacky stuff I might bring back, we had a pact.

Watching the negotiation process was my daughter, who announced that she’d like to tag along. But right away I snuffed out her interest in this project. She wanted to shop the canned meat aisle, specifically, the sardine section. The last thing I ever thought I’d see my 15-year-old daughter nosh on, it would be sardines.

For the past 40 years, anytime I heard the word “sardine” I always thought of a story told by the late country comedian Jerry Clower. It’s the one where a fella named Louis gets a cravin’ flung on him after watching Bully and his buddy – both snocckered on pop skull whiskey – indulging in a can of mustard sardines outside the general store and getting yellow sauce all over their faces and all up in their eyebrows.

Casey isn’t so sloppy, but she’s one of the few people I know who actually likes sardines. One of those people is her grandfather, so I guess it’s hereditary.

When I saw her crack open her first can of sardines and dive right in, I wondered if she was running a fever. That’s when she pronounced that she was a pescatarian. Let me save you a visit to the dictionary – that’s a person whose diet consists primarily of fish.

I assumed this was some form of teenage rebellion and figured it wouldn’t take long before she’d be back to eating beef.

But it’s been a few months and I’ve seen her noshing on everything from tilapia to something that makes sardines sound succulent – squid pieces smothered in ink sauce. Yes, there’s such thing as ink sauce. I’m waiting for her to serve up a bowl of diced squid sausages and tentacle tips before it’s all over.

When we got to the store and found the canned fish section, a broad smile settled over her face. There was tuna, mackerel, cod, sardines, caviar, herring, salmon, mussels, anchovies, and something called kipper sticks. I was afraid to ask. She picked out some sardines in tomato sauce and squid and was happy as a clam, which by the way, is also on the official pescatarian diet list.

Then we turned our attention to the fruit tray and brownies. We made the decision to go the safe route and grabbed two boxes of Duncan Hines traditional brownie mix, but the fruit tray proved a bit more problematic.

That’s because there wasn’t one.

There were several clear containers of various fruits but nothing that looked like a platter, although I spied a big hole where it looked like a platter used to be. Either someone had gotten up early and snatched my platter or the clerks hadn’t put one together yet.

I turned to a young man stocking the refrigerated area and told him what I needed. He said he would fix it up in no time. Soon, while we were in the bean chip section – another of Case’s favorites – I found the guy wandering through the store with this behemoth fruit tray tracking us down. I thanked him and wondered if I should put it in our cart or start bench-pressing it.

Turns out that my wife held up her end of the bargain. No comments about our purchases, no complaints and no second-guessing. All good. Wedded bliss. Although I did see her flinch when I handed her the receipt.

Otherwise, it was mission accomplished. You know what they say… happy wife, happy life.

The next meeting of the DEMCO Board of Directors is scheduled for Thursday, March 16, 2017, at 6 p.m. Board meetings are held at DEMCO’s headquarters facility located at 16262 Wax Road, Greenwell Springs, La.

Small Steps to Big Savings

Life costs money, but small steps can lead to significant savings. Here are a few tricks you can use to help you save your pennies now, turning them into dollars later.

Pay yourself first: If you receive your pay through direct deposit, deposit it in a workable account of the paycheck into a savings account.

Value yourself as a customer: Move your money into accounts at a bank or credit union that offers higher interest rates. Pennies per purchase: Round up purchases to the next dollar, and save the change. Some banks provide this service for customers, but you can do it yourself for cash purchases (toss your change into a jar) and debit and credit card purchases (track your purchases, add the “round up” amounts and transfer the total into your savings).

Make do: If you get a raise, put the difference in each paycheck directly into your 401(k). If you pay off a loan or credit card, start paying yourself that amount, either by increasing your 401(k) contribution or depositing it into your savings account.

Cut the cord: TV has two purposes: entertainment and to sell you things. Cutting or minimizing your cable subscription will save you money on your bill and by reducing the effects of advertising on your budget.

Remove credit cards from online accounts: It’s a simple psychological trick, but having to find your wallet, dig out your card and enter the information is often just enough to keep you from making an impulse purchase.

Wait a moment: Enact a mandatory waiting period before making purchases. Living without and having time to contemplate the necessity of an item will often keep you from purchasing it.

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DEMCOR OFFERS SCHOLARSHIPS TO AREA STUDENTS

One-year scholarships to students attending a Louisiana public college or university will be awarded in a random drawing highlighting DEMCO’s annual membership meeting on May 13, 2017.

According to David Latona, Manager of Member and Public Relations, several scholarships will be awarded. “The number of scholarships awarded will be determined by the budget. This budget fluctuates from year to year as funds permit,” he said.

The scholarships awarded by DEMCO provide assistance to help students with academic tuition to a Louisiana public college or university for both the fall and spring semesters of the academic year. Students will be awarded $1,250 cash award to be used by the student as needed.

DEMCOR is allowed to use unclaimed deposits, refunds and other monies owed to former members to provide funding for the scholarship program. Complete eligibility requirements are listed below.

2017 Scholarship eligibility requirements

1. Applicant must be a DEMCO member, child or the legal ward of a DEMCO member who has been a member in good standing for at least 12 consecutive months as of the application deadline, May 5, 2017. Only one scholarship will be awarded per family per academic year.

2. A student can receive the DEMCO scholarship one time. It is not renewable. The term of the scholarship will be for one continuous academic year beginning with the fall semester (or quarter). The scholarship does not include summer sessions.

3. The scholarship money can be used by an undergraduate student to attend, on a full-time basis, any Louisiana Public university. The scholarship will not be awarded to a student attending a private university or vocational/trade school of any kind.

4. A first-time college student applying for the DEMCO scholarship must: a) have graduated from high school with at least a B average (3.0 GPA on a 4.0 scale, or the equivalent); or, b) have graduated from high school and received a minimum ACT score of 21. High school applicants must be seniors.

5. An undergraduate college student seeking the scholarship must have achieved a minimum of 2.5 (on a 4.0 GPA scale) on all prior college work.

6. A scholarship application must be completed and returned to DEMCO.

7. Scholarship recipients will be chosen in a random drawing at the annual meeting of the DEMCO membership.

8. The scholarship recipients will be required to provide DEMCO with an official transcript verifying his/her eligibility within 10 days after the drawing.

9. The scholarship funds will be paid to the recipients at the beginning of each semester (or quarter) upon presentation of an official receipt for the payment of full-time undergraduate tuition (see No. 11 below). To receive the second semester (or quarter) payment, the student must provide evidence that he/she successfully completed at least 12 semester hours (or 9 quarter hours) and that he/she maintained a minimum cumulative grade point average of 2.5 (on a 4.0 scale).

10. The scholarship provides a limited scholarship award of $1,250 per semester.

11. Members of the DEMCO Board, employees of DEMCO (including part time employees, students, and temporary employees) and children of the Board of Directors and employees are not eligible for this scholarship.

APPLICATION FOR SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

Students Name:
Parents Name:
Address:
E-mail Address:
Telephone No.:
DEMCOR Account #:
Do you qualify for TOPS Assistance? Yes___No____
School you will attend:
(Complete this form and return it to DEMCO by May 5, 2017)
DEMCO Board members receive committee reports

Meeting of December 8, 2016

The DEMCO Board of Directors held its regular meeting on Thursday, December 8, 2016. Board President Richard Sitman called the meeting to order at 7:20 p.m. Director Freddy Metz was unable to attend the meeting. (Acct. No. 80281602-001)

The board approved a resolution not to disburse capital credits payments for 2015 based on current RUS guidelines. The board then approved resolutions to re-appoint current members of the DBC and DEMCO Foundation Board of Directors. Next the board updated the parameters of the DEMCO Scholarship to award the board updated the parameters of the DEMCO Scholarship to award the board updated the parameters of the DEMCO Scholarship to award the board updated the parameters of the DEMCO Scholarship to award the board updated the parameters of the DEMCO Scholarship to award the board updated the parameters of the DEMCO Scholarship to award the board updated the parameters of the DEMCO Scholarship to award

DEMC0 held its regular meeting Thursday, January 19, 2017. Board President Richard Sitman called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

The board then approved the minutes of the previous meetings, new member list, Treasurer’s report and Operations Committee report as written. Next the board ratified the action taken by Mr. John Vranic as he was required to execute Amendatory Agreement to Contract 439 between the United States Department of Energy represented by the Secretary of Energy, acting by and through the Administrator, Southwestern Power Administration and DEMCO for an extension of the term of Contract-439 for fifteen (15) years through May 31, 2032. The board then approved the Load Forecast Study dated October 2016 for 2016 - 2040 projections as prepared by DEMCO staff and consultant Power Stat, LLC.

From the Purchasing Committee Randy Lorio, committee chairman, presented the report. Next the board resolved to approve the following from bids received: ICI Building Services for janitorial services at DEMCO’s headquarters building and Jani King for janitorial services at DEMCO’s Livingston District Office. Also the Right of Way 2017 Hourly Rate Schedule for Asplundh was set.

From the Finance Committee report Steve Irving, committee chairman, reviewed the Interest, Fuel Cost Adjustment and Financial Summary reports. The board approved a resolution reclassifying those accounts disconnected in August 2016 as uncollectable. They then adopted a resolution to authorize management to submit the 2017 Operations and Capital Budget at the February 9, 2017 Finance Committee meeting for recommendation.

Danny Berthelot gave the ALEC report with no action taken.

Leslie Falks presented the Dixie Business Center and DEMCO Foundation reports. The board then adopted a resolution to elect Ms. Vera Easley to serve on the DEMCO Foundation Board of Directors to fill the vacancy created by Ms. JoEllen Carruth’s resignation.

John Vranic presented the Manager’s report with no action taken.

Jim Ellis presented the Attorney’s report with no action taken.

Altec Scholarship Program

Altec Industries will award a $500 Scholarship at the ALEC annual meeting for the fall semester of 2017.

The award is open to all children of active ALEC member cooperatives.

The following rules will apply:

1. Recipient must be a high school graduate in the class of 2017.
2. Recipient must be a high school graduate in the class of 2017.
3. Recipient must provide verification of a minimum 2.5 GPA before March 2017.
4. The award can be used for any college or university.
6. Mail applications to: Ed Amedee, 1443 City Place, Gonzales, LA 70737.
7. Must be postmarked by June 26, 2017. Altec will not be responsible for mail delivery.
8. Applicant must be the child of an ALEC member cooperative.

Application for Scholarship Program

Applicant’s Name:_________________________ Parents or Guardian:_________________________
Member Co-op:___________________________ Home Address:___________________________
City:___________________________ ZIP:___________________________
Telephone No.:___________________________
High School No.:_________________________

Please supply a copy of your high school transcript to verify the 2.5 GPA.
Bullies in the News

Bullying? Identify who in the article you think is hurting other people. Could this also be called portraying a person or a group of people who are depressed, helpless. These feelings can scare people.

Many, many children are bullied and safety issues that support mental and emotional health.

What else have you seen bullies do?

• Say mean things about someone.
• Call others bad names, tease or look. You can tell who is a bully by
• Get angry and pretend not to hear.
• TEASE
• Threaten a kid out of a game on purpose.

Many, many children are bullied everyday. These children can feel lost in a maze made up of bad feelings – sad, stressed, embarrassed, nervous, depressed, helpless. These feelings can make it hard to do well in school and to make friends. Experts say that there is something that can help a child who has been bullied. To find out what that is, complete the maze. The letters along the correct path of the maze spell the answer!

Bully makes playgrounds, schools and even neighborhoods feel unsafe for some children.

Kid Scoop looks at ways children can help themselves and others be safe on the playground.

Find the Bully

You can’t tell a bully by his or her looks. You can tell who is a bully by the way he or she acts. Here are some of the things a bully might do:

• Hit, kick or push to hurt people.
• Call others bad names, tease or scare people.
• Say mean things about someone.
• Grab someone else’s stuff.
• Leave a kid out of a game on purpose.
• Threaten another kid.

What else have you seen bullies do?

A World of Bullies

Bullying is a problem in schools all around the world. Kid Scoop found information from anti-bullying programs in Scotland, Australia and Canada as well as the United States.

Standards Link: Health: Identify support systems.
Get on the scholarship!

DEMCO awards academic scholarships annually to its member-students who attend a public Louisiana college or university. These scholarships are worth $1,250 per semester for both fall and spring semesters of the academic year. Apply today!

Visit demco.org for rules and eligibility.

KEEPING CURRENT: TIP #102

Wait to wash your student’s laundry until you have a full load, instead of washing smaller loads more frequently. If a small load is necessary, adjust water levels accordingly.

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