DEMCO delegates learn how government works on Youth Tour trip to D.C.
Manager’s Report

By John Vranic
DEMCO CEO and General Manager

You are a member, not a customer

That’s the co-op difference!

Many businesses today use the word “member” to describe their customers.

Places like Sam’s Club or Costco and even American Express like to refer to their customers as members. You pay a fee to buy their goods and services, but that is really all you get out of your “membership.”

You have no right to vote for the Board of Directors that sets the policies and procedures of the business or to participate in any meaningful way in the organization.

In the case of cooperatives like DEMCO, membership really does mean something more than just the right to buy electricity.

Cooperatives of all types are founded on seven fundamental cooperative principles that give us guidance and strategic direction. Membership also gives you rights as an owner of this co-op.

Brett Fairbairn is the director of the Center for the Study of Co-operatives at the University of Saskatchewan in Canada. He makes the case that member relations is not just part of what cooperatives should be doing, but in fact is the fundamental core business of any cooperative.

Fairbairn further lays out the three strategic concepts that any co-op must bring about and maintain in order to survive and thrive for the purpose of serving its members a quality product at the lowest possible cost:

Economic linkage

DEMCO is directly connected to you. There is a business relationship that serves you (the member) and the co-op right there in the place where you live. Since co-ops are solely owned by people in the community, they have a mutual interest to ensure that both the co-op and the member do well and prosper by working to create new economic opportunities and improve the quality of life for all.

Transparency

You are an owner of the co-op, and therefore you have a right to know how it operates and how decisions are made that directly impact you and your family. If the co-op is transparent and combines this trait with integrity and fairness, it will build trust with the members.

As an example of our commitment to being open and transparent in our operation, you will find on Page 9 of this publication a summary of DEMCO’s 2015 Financial Statement. This information clarifies how your cooperative continues to be a trusted steward of your resources and your investment in the organization that is made each month when you pay your power bill.

Cognition

In this case, cognition is best defined as how your co-op thinks. It includes the current and historical identity that we have built over the course of nearly 80 years, the mission and the sense of shared values with co-op members. Research, education and training are critical functions that DEMCO must conduct on an ongoing basis to ensure that we always have the best information to make decisions.

DEMCO strives to be a member-owned co-op that gives you the best value of any utility.

The cooperative business model is the best one on earth, but like any enterprise, it is up to the human beings who work at the co-op, who serve on the board and the members like you to ensure that the principles and values do not fade over time.

First and foremost, DEMCO strives to be a member-owned cooperative that gives you the best value of any utility. When we succeed, our community thrives and you will always value being a member – not a customer.
In the searing heat of a south Louisiana summer, we all want to keep cool in the air conditioning and grab a cold drink from the fridge.

But remember that summer is the peak season of demand for electricity, and the appliances that help make summer bearable can also drive up your monthly electric bill.

**Keep Your Refrigerator Cool**

Summer especially puts pressure on your refrigerator compared to other appliances in your home.

In the season’s high temperatures, you’re more likely to open the door frequently for cool drinks and other cold treats to beat the heat.

Here are some tips to keep refrigerator energy use to a minimum:

- Locate the refrigerator away from heat sources—the oven, the dishwasher and direct sunlight.
- Keep at least a 1-inch space all around the outside of the unit to allow air circulation.
- Clean the condenser coils at least once a year.
- Check the tightness of the door seals by closing a dollar bill in the door. If the bill slides out easily, you may need to replace the seals.
- Keep the fridge’s power on the energy-saving setting.
- Use a thermometer to set the inside temperatures: Set the fridge at 36–38 degrees and the freezer at 0–5 degrees.

**Make Friends With Your Freezer**

- Keep the freezer as full as possible.
- Mark items for quicker identification to reduce door-opening time.
- Thoroughly clean the condenser coils and check the seals.

**Allow Your AC To Work Optimally**

Your air conditioner works hard all summer long. Follow these tips to keep it from heating up your electric bill:

- You will save 3–5 percent for each degree you raise the thermostat. Try setting the thermostat at 78 degrees.
- Use ceiling fans in conjunction with the AC to increase your comfort level.
- Don’t cool unused rooms in summer. If the kids are off at summer camp, close off the vents to their rooms until they return.
- When you set your system to bring in fresh, outside air, you use much more electricity. Unless you need to bring fresh air into your home, set your HVAC system to recirculate (already cooled) air within your home.
- Keep humidity levels in your home and in your bathroom as low as possible by always using an exhaust fan, if you have one, when taking a shower.
- Maintenance is important. Clean or change your air-conditioner filters regularly, and have your A/C units professionally cleaned, inspected and tuned every season to keep them running at peak efficiency.

Why is my electric bill more than my neighbor’s?

You have a TV, video game system, microwave oven, electric range and cooktop, refrigerator/freezer, heat pump and personal computer.

So does your next-door neighbor. So why is your electric bill almost twice as high every month? Consider this: How well are your walls insulated compared to your neighbor’s? Do you take longer, hotter showers?

Are you cooking gourmet meals and baking from scratch while your neighbor subsists on quick-heating TV dinners? Does the TV keep you company even when you’re not watching it?

No two families live alike. So no two electric bills are going to be the same. Comparing your bill to anyone else’s would be like comparing your weekly grocery tabs. Two families of four will never spend exactly the same amount on food because their tastes and habits are different.

Think about the conveniences you might be willing to pay for, even though your neighbor isn’t.

Are you more comfortable sleeping in an extra-cool house on hot summer nights? (Act. No. 3304501-001)

Maybe your neighbor’s set-back thermostat bumps the temperature up a few degrees at bedtime.

Do members of your family entertain themselves in separate rooms after dinner—watching TV or playing video games—while the folks next door gather in a family room to play a board game?

Another major factor in today’s electric bills is vampire energy loss. Virtually anything that’s plugged in is drawing some current—even when it’s off.

Experts estimate that standby energy drain accounts for 5–10 percent of an average home’s annual power usage. A plasma TV, for instance, can use $165 annually for power—when it’s off.

Consider unplugging items when they are not in use or using a power strip to disconnect several items all at once.

There are also “smart” power strips available that automatically cut power to devices in standby mode.

The way to lower your electric costs is to use energy more efficiently before the bill comes. Visit www.togetherwesave.com for tips on how to reduce your power consumption and lower your monthly bill.
DEMCO sponsored four local students as part of the 52nd Annual Electric Cooperative Youth Tour in Washington, D.C., in June.

Representing DEMCO were Jessica Litolf, John Wiese, William Hartmann and Kennedy Wilcher.

Since DEMCO began participating in the annual Youth Tour program, dozens of local students have benefited from what has often been described as a “life changing” experience.

For their trip to Washington, the local students joined a group of 28 other students and chaperones from electric cooperatives across the state and the Association of Louisiana Electric Cooperatives (ALEC) in Baton Rouge.

While in Washington, the students joined more than 1,600 others from 37 states for the annual program.

“The purpose of this worthwhile program 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.,” said DEMCO CEO and General Manager John Vranic. “We’re happy that these four local students had a great time in Washington and that the cooperative could make this once-in-a-lifetime event possible for them. I know they learned a lot and represented Louisiana well.”

Vranic said the cooperative is proud to continue supporting the worthwhile program that enriches the lives of each participant.

“Working with these young people is a real joy, to see them experiencing an important part of our national history and heritage for the first time and to know that something we are doing is making a difference in their lives,” he said.

During the week-long Youth Tour, the students learned about the history and purpose of electric cooperatives and visited Capitol Hill to meet with both Louisiana Senators and all six Representatives. They had the unique chance to act as lobbyists and voice their concerns and pose their questions directly to lawmakers.

Students also visited the Lincoln Memorial, the World War II, Vietnam, and Korean War Memorials, Arlington National Cemetery, the Smithsonian Museum complex, Mount Vernon and the Dulles Air and Space Museum.

In addition to taking in the many sights and sounds of the nation’s capital, all the various groups from participating states convened for National Youth Day on June 14 to hear from public figures and other inspirational speakers.

During their trip, the Louisiana students also visited the Washington Monument, the Jefferson Memorial, the Franklin Delano Roosevelt Memorial and the Martin Luther King Memorial.

The Rural Electric Youth Tour was inspired in 1957 by Senator and future President Lyndon B. Johnson. During an address to members of the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association, he urged attendees to send young people to the nation’s capital so they could see first-hand how the government works. (Acct. No. 80237245-001)

NRECA is the national service organization representing more than 900 private, not-for-profit consumer-owned electric cooperatives, which provide service to 42 million people in 47 states.

Each year, DEMCO covers all expenses to send delegates to the tour. In personal, hand-written notes sent from the nation’s capital, all the Youth Tour winners expressed their thanks.

To view a YouTube video of the trip, visit https://youtu.be/8kg520s9c9I.
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Payment Arrangements
Anytime

Through DEMCO's upgraded automated phone system, members can conveniently make payment arrangements 24/7*. That's just one more way DEMCO is making its members' lives a little easier.

225-261-1177
1-800-262-1170

*Certain restrictions apply.

THE NETWORKED GRID

Historically, the electric grid has been a one-way street with energy flowing from large power plants to your electric co-op, then to consumers. Advances in energy technology are likely to change that model in the coming years. The future grid will be a two-way network with consumers and local electric cooperatives working together to generate, deliver, store and use energy in smarter and more efficient ways.

Foundation accepting applications for school uniforms

The DEMCO Foundation, a charitable organization established to help DEMCO members in times of need, is now accepting applications to help families who have school-aged children purchase school uniforms for 2016-17.

“Many families find it difficult to make ends meet each month,” says Chanon Johnson, Case Manager for the DEMCO Foundation. “The expense of school uniforms and supplies can place a burden on families with low income.”

“Helping to purchase school uniforms is just another one of the many ways that the DEMCO Foundation provides assistance to DEMCO members and helps make our community a better place to live,” says Johnson.

Established in 1997, the DEMCO Foundation is funded through a program called Operation Round Up® where DEMCO members volunteer to “round up” their monthly electric bills to the nearest dollar.

The overage amount, which averages 50 cents per bill and only $6.00 per year, is then used by the DEMCO Foundation to assist other DEMCO members in their times of need.

To receive an application for assistance provided through the DEMCO Foundation, please call (225) 262-2141, or log on to www.demco.org, click “Community,” “DEMCO Foundation,” then “Application for Assistance.” Applications must be received by July 8, 2016.

The funds available through the DEMCO Foundation can be used in a variety of ways, such as helping members to pay medical or pharmacy bills, providing the resources to make a home handicap accessible or helping to purchase necessities like food and clothing.

Special assistance is also available in times of emergency such as in the aftermath of a hurricane, fire, flood or other natural disaster.

In 2001, the DEMCO Foundation established a new scholarship program designed to help DEMCO members who are seeking to better their lives through education.

The scholarships are valued up to $1,250 each and can be used by students to help pay for school tuition and book fees at any Louisiana college, university or trade school.
Protect yourself from bad guys lurking on the internet

A cybersecurity plan from the experts

Could a computer hacker shut down the nation’s electric grid?

It’s a question asked in popular books, congressional hearings – and it’s even the plot point in the 2007 Bruce Willis movie “Live Free or Die Hard.”

Most experts answer that question with, “probably not.” Part of the reason for that answer is there are a lot of people in government and the utility industry like Barry Lawson.

As Associate Director of Power Delivery and Reliability for the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NRECA), Lawson spends his time working with electric co-op utilities to try to protect utilities from digital hackers.

Lawson and several others at NRECA run cyber security training sessions, publish security safety materials and develop techniques and software not only to keep the nation’s electric supply reliable and secure, but to protect sensitive member, employee and co-op data and information from identity theft.

Lawson says co-ops make a high priority out of protecting themselves from the constant variety of cyber computer attacks by everyone from organized crime to hobbyist hackers, who are constantly launching attacks on every computer in the world.

“We’re all being hacked,” says Lawson. “As soon as you plug a new computer into the Internet, it’s being hacked by software that looks for Internet connections by the millions.” (Acct. No. 3226001-001)

Lawson says we can all use advice that’s the basis for how utilities protect themselves from cyber attacks: “try to make it as difficult as possible, and put in as many layers of protection as possible.”

Here are Lawson’s top four tips for protecting your computer:

1. Make sure you have antivirus software installed on your computer, and remember to keep it updated.
2. Don’t send e-mails containing personal information, like your date of birth or Social Security Number, because that increases opportunities for mal-actors to steal your identify. Be careful of typing a credit card number into a website—if you do, make sure that it’s a secure website. You can tell whether it’s secure by looking for the “s” at the beginning of the website address. Most begin with “http://.” A secure site will begin with “https://.”
3. Attachments or links in an email can contain malware that can infect your computer. Don’t open an e-mail attachment or click a link unless you know the person sending it, and you were expecting them to send it to you (hackers can take over an account and make it look like it’s from a friend.)

Exercise extra caution near DEMCO’s equipment

As you find yourself spending more time outdoors this summer, DEMCO reminds you to exercise caution near the equipment that is owned and maintained by your cooperative.

Often we are surrounded by electrical equipment in our daily lives without even realizing it, so look up and around to make sure you know the locations of poles, power lines, transformers and other cooperative property in your area.

Electrical substations and power lines carry extremely high voltages, and if contact is accidentally made with this equipment, the results can be dangerous—or even deadly.

Never climb trees that are located near power lines. If you make contact with a tree that is touching a power line, your body could become the path of electricity from the line to the ground.

If you encounter an animal that is trapped in a tree near power lines or inside a substation, do not attempt to remove it—no matter how furry and cute it may be! Call your co-op for assistance instead.

These days, we are seeing more remote-controlled toys, including drones and airplanes, which can be a great way to have summertime fun in the outdoors. But these entertaining gadgets also bring about a host of new safety concerns, as electric companies across the region and the nation are reporting expensive and inconvenient—and preventable—damage from drones flying into power lines or crashing into substation equipment.

Remote-controlled toys should never be flown near power lines, substations or other electrical equipment.

Please remember these safety tips when flying a drone or any other remote-controlled toy in the proximity of electrical equipment:

• Keep a safe distance from electrical equipment when you fly your toys. If contact is accidentally made with a power line or a transformer inside a substation, many members of your community could be left without electricity.
• Keep the remote-controlled toy in your line of sight at all times.
• Avoid flying if weather conditions are unfavorable. High winds could cause you to lose control of the remote-controlled toy.

We urge you to follow these guidelines because at DEMCO, your safety is important to us.
No matter how much people argue about gender identity and fuzz over which bathroom folks oughta use…the person who now goes by the name Caitlyn Jenner will always be Bruce to me. Bruce Jenner was the square-jawed, thick-mented, bodaciously buffed bronze god I’ll always remember as winner of the decathlon at the 1976 Olympics. I was 13 and certain I would become a professional track star someday, so I took a keen interest in the Summer Games along with the rest of the country as the U.S. battled the evil Soviet empire at the height of the Cold War.

At that time, we were celebrating our country’s bicentennial — even the fire hydrants were painted red, white and blue — and the mere mention of the communist Russians triggered the same visceral response ISIS does today. Imagine if our U.S. athletes were going up against ISIS in Rio. The patriotic fervor might be rampant enough to prompt The Donald and Hillary to fist bump.

With the entire country glued to our bulky old TV sets to see the drama play out over two days, Jenner was behind halfway through the competition. But he made up ground on the second day and had the gold well in hand when the gun sounded for the final event, the mile run. Jenner didn’t win that race, but he rolled up enough points to set a world record for the decathlon, earning the unofficial title, “world’s greatest athlete.”

During the wild post-race victory lap, someone stuck a small American flag in Jenner’s hand and he whipped it around high in the air. Then he trotted from the finish line and promptly glided around the track with the graceful stride of a gazelle. I would be a few seconds behind lurching through the dust and cinders flying off his spikes and whatever residual smoke was leaking out of his lungs.

I ran 5K events for many years after that but never came close to finishing first. When I was in my 20s, I figured I would stay in shape long enough so that when I was older I’d one day be capable of vanquishing the old codgers in my age group. But a glance at the results brought me to the sobering reality that I was getting toasted by AARP candidates and that I’d actually have to run faster at the age of 65 than I was running at 25.

An entire lifetime of futility on the oval was erased last month, however, when I witnessed a comeback win that made Jenner’s heroics seem pedestrian. When my 11-year-old son informed me he was the best half-miler in the fifth grade at Eastside Elementary, I had no idea how he would fare at the Livings- ton track meet against a wider range of competition.

I knew he always finished near the back when his baseball team didn wind sprints but I also knew he had pretty good endurance and a lot of guts.

He had always heard stories of how both his mom and dad ran track, and I also informed him that his grandfather was once a runner in high school.

On the morning of what would be Austin’s first meet — and the only one of the year for the mighty Eastside Patriots — I opened a briefcase containing some of his late grandpa’s personal effects and fished out an old first-place pendant that had won at Vigor High School in Mobile, Ala., back in the 1950s.

“All right,” I told him, “let’s pin that to your waistband so you’ll be reminded to do your absolute best and don’t ever leave anything out there on that track.”

One of the 18 kids in the race did exactly what you’d expect a kid to do — he peeled out in jackrabbit fashion, looking over both shoulders as he pulled away from the other kids. Near the end of the first lap, the kid maintained a sizable lead on his competitors while Austin was struggling to hold a full 30 yards behind the excited frontrunner.

But by the time the leader rounded the second turn of the second lap, Austin broke from the scrum and entered the backstretch in second place, still 15 yards behind. He continued closing in and caught up at the final turn. From there the two sprinted shoulder-to-shoul- der down the stretch and Austin edged him out by an untrimmed toenail.

When the AC was plugged in, there were no mistakes and Austin won.

So far, no one has called to offer that lucrative endorsement contract or a real-ity TV deal. And come to think about it, that’s probably a good thing.

The next meeting of the DEMCO Board of Directors is scheduled for Thursday, July 21, 2016, at 6 p.m. Board meetings are held at DEMCO’s headquar- ters facility located at 16262 Wax Road, Greenwell Springs, La.

Get Your Home Vacation-Ready
You’re ready for your vacation, but is your house ready? Follow these suggestions before you hit the road:

• If you’re not leaving any pets in the house, crank up your thermostat to about 85 degrees. Don’t worry about re-cooling your house when you get home; the energy you save while you’re away will exceed the energy it takes to cool the place off when you get home. A caution: Don’t turn the AC completely off. A home that gets too hot during the summer can invite mold and mildew.

• Close all of the windows, for safety’s sake. Draw the curtains, shades and blinds. They will block out light and heat from getting into your rooms and making your empty house hotter.

• Unplug the TV, computers, phone chargers and countertop appliances. Even appliances that are turned off use energy if they’re still plugged in.

• Leave a few lights on for safety but turn off the rest. Check ceiling fans, alarm clocks, coffee makers and other auto-on devices to make sure they’re out of com-mission while you’re away from home.

Recipe for Electric Appliance Safety Preparation Time: 5 minutes
Ingredients: Cords, hair dryers, curling irons, plugs, radios, toasters, microwaves, fuses and circuit breakers
Directions:
1. Check power cords and plugs for cracks, breaks, exposed wires or damaged insulation.
2. Check plugs to be sure they are in good condition. Plugs that were made with a grounding pin (the “third prong” on a grounded plug) should still have the prong attached.
3. Keep all appliances such as toasters, mixers, hair dryers, curling irons and radios away from sinks and water. Do not mix electricity and water!
4. If a circuit breaker keeps tripping or fuses keep blowing, first check to see if you have too many appliances on the circuit. Inspect cords and outlets for any signs of damage including bends or cracks, brown or burnt spots from over-heating, or loose wires.
5. If you see overloaded plugs and strips, redistribute the appliances plugged into them. If the problem persists, have the circuits inspected by an electrician.
6. Mix ingredients follow directions closely and cook up a recipe to save lives.

Dead Outlet? Check it out
When you plug a lamp or an appliance into a socket, you expect to be able to turn it on. Sometimes, though, you’ll find that the outlet is “dead.” Before you call an electrician, check a few things out:
1. If your “dead” outlet is a GFCI outlet, you might be able to solve the problem simply by pressing the “reset” button on the face of the outlet.
2. Plug something different into the same outlet. It could be that the problem is with the device and not the outlet. If this one turns on, then that’s the case.
3. If more than one device is plugged into the same outlet—or if a power strip full of plugs is plugged in there, notice whether everything else is working. If not, try this: Unplug one device at a time until something turns on. It could be that you’ve overflooded the outlet.
4. If nothing turns on at that outlet, check your circuit breaker. It’s usually in the garage, basement, laundry room or a closet. Open the door and notice whether a single switch is turned off; if so, turn it back on. If you can’t find the right circuit, turn off all of the breakers and then turn them back on one at a time.
5. If you plug the lamp back into the outlet and the circuit trips again, it’s time to call an electrician.

Lucky Account Number Contest
The Lucky Account Number Contest continues this month with four winners in this edition of Along These Lines. Before you continue looking through this edition for your winning number, look for your account number printed above your mailing address. Locate this number anywhere in this issue and win the $25 prize. To claim your prize, please call 225-262-3072.
The average family washes about 300 loads of laundry a year—all that laundry uses a lot of energy! However, there are easy ways to reduce your energy use.

Consider purchasing more efficient appliances: One of the biggest changes you can make is to buy a new ENERGY STAR washer and dryer. Washers with this certification use 40 percent less water and 25 percent less energy. ENERGY STAR washers can be top-loading or front-loading; however, front-loading machines are generally more efficient, helping offset upfront costs.

ENERGY STAR DRYERS use 20 percent less energy. Visit ENERGYSTAR.gov for more information about estimated water and energy comparisons.

Get out of hot water: The easiest source of efficiency in the laundry room is to stop using hot water. Almost 90 percent of the energy consumed by your washing machine is used to heat water—but most loads of laundry can be just as easily cleaned with cold water. Using cooler water is also easier on your clothes. If you need to use hot or warm water on a particularly dirty load, a well-insulated dryer can be top-loading or front-loading; less energy. ENERGY STAR washers generally more efficient, helping offset upfront costs.

Use your dryer’s features: If your dryer has a moisture sensor, use it rather than guessing how long each load of laundry will need to dry. A dryer’s cool-down cycle uses residual heat to finish drying, without using as much energy.

Dry like with like: Heavy fabrics, like towels and blankets, should be dried separately from lighter fabrics, like t-shirts. When using a dryer’s moisture sensor, it will keep running until the wettest (and probably heaviest) item is dry. Rather than one towel extending the drying time for each of your loads of laundry, dry the towels together.

Live lint free: Clean the lint trap on your dryer regularly to help air circulation. Periodically use a vacuum nozzle to clean the area under or behind the lint filter, where lint can also get caught. If you use dryer sheets, scrub the filter clean once a month—dryer sheets can leave a film that reduces air flow.

Remember safety: Inspect your own vent regularly to make sure it is not blocked, and periodically work with a professional to clean your ducts. Making sure the duct and vent are clear not only helps your dryer work more efficiently, but can also prevent a fire—more than 15,000 fires per year are sparked by clogged dryer ducts and vents.

### Choose the right bulb for the job

There are three primary types of lighting: ambient (general lighting), task lighting and accent lighting. As lighting technologies continue to advance, consumers should be open to trying new shapes and types of bulbs. The check marks below indicate appropriate locations for different types of bulbs on the market.

### BEST BETS FOR HOME LIGHTING

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<tr>
<th>Common Bulb Types</th>
<th>Ambient Lighting</th>
<th>Accent Lighting</th>
<th>Task Lighting</th>
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Meeting of May 19, 2016
The board of directors of DEMCO held its regular meeting Thursday, May 19, 2016. 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.

From the Purchasing Committee Randy Lorio, committee chairman, presented the report. Next the board resolved to authorize management to purchase three compact track loaders from Crawler Supply. The board then approved a resolution approving the surplus vehicle sales for 2016, followed by a resolution to sell all future fleet/surplus vehicles (small and large) at auction. Next the board approved a resolution for the purchase of small tools and supplies. Then the board resolved to approve rate increases for BHA, Inc.

The board then resolved to accept the Dixie Electric Membership Corporation 2015 Independent Audit Report from Mr. Chuck Pevey of Hawthorn, Waymouth & Carroll, LLP as presented.

The board approved a resolution reclassifying those accounts disconnected in January 2016, as uncollectable.

Danny Berthelot gave the ALEC report with no action taken.

Leslie Falks presented the Dixie Business Center and DEMCO Foundation reports with no action taken.

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

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

I CHANGED MY AIR FILTER.
AND MY WARDROBE.

Saving money on my electric bill seemed like a good enough reason to update my closet. Find out what you can do at TogetherWeSave.com.

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To view the image(s) in full detail, please use the provided PDF viewer.

Look at the pictures below and work with a family member to make a list of compound words that all start with S-U-N.

1. ____________
2. ____________
3. ____________
4. ____________
5. ____________
6. ____________
7. ____________
8. ____________
9. ____________
10. ____________
11. ____________
12. ____________

It Really Is a Small World

Compared to the sun, the earth is very tiny. If the sun were hollow, you could fill it with Earths!

The sun’s surface temperature is about ____________ °C.

It takes the Earth ____________ days to travel around the sun.

The sun’s diameter is about ____________ times that of the Earth.

Source: NASA

Sun News

Use Earth, the sun has an atmosphere—a mass of gases that surround a planet or star.

The outer layer of the sun’s atmosphere is called the corona and it’s a wild mass of activity. For years, scientists thought the corona’s temperature was much ____________ than they originally thought!

While the sun is nearly 900,000 miles ____________, the corona actually extends ____________ miles above the sun’s surface. In other words, the sun’s atmosphere is six times wider than the ____________ itself!

The discovery that the corona is so large is an important one. Before this recent discovery, scientists thought they had a pretty good ____________ where the sun’s atmosphere ended and where the rest of ____________ began. They couldn’t be happier that they were wrong.

That’s because NASA is working on a new ____________ that will travel to the sun. It will go closer to the sun than any previous mission.

When NASA started working on the spacecraft ____________, they weren’t sure if it would actually travel through the corona itself. With this new discovery, they now know for sure that it will!

SOLAR CODE:

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It takes the Earth ____________ days to travel around the sun.

The sun’s diameter is about ____________ times that of the Earth.

Standards Link: Language Arts: Use nouns, adjectives and verbs correctly.

Kid Scoop Together:

Write On!

Ode to the Sun

Its warming light makes day from night. Write a poem about the sun. It will be a lot of fun!
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