Duke’s Seafood & Steakhouse captures the taste of Louisiana
Manager’s Report

By John Vranic
DEMCO CEO and General Manager

Federal government’s regulation will likely result in higher cost

The Environmental Protection Agency’s (EPA) regulation to limit greenhouse gas emissions from power plants will have a big impact here in Louisiana.

Labeled as the “Clean Power Plan,” the federal energy regulator’s new policy aims to reduce nationwide carbon dioxide emissions from power plants by 32 percent below levels recorded in 2005. Louisiana’s goal will be a 40 percent reduction from the current levels.

DEMCO, along with other electric utilities in our state, will have to work with the Louisiana Public Service Commission and other government agencies to comply with the mandate.

More than likely, power plants all across the country, especially those that use coal, will be forced to shut down before they have been fully paid for. In 2005, we’re probably the single most complex and far-reaching regulation. In fact, the commitment and dedication to our members that we demonstrate every day also applies when it comes to regulations and other policy changes that will increase the cost of electricity.

The potential cost increase is why we’ve been so engaged in this issue over the past several years: this mandate will impact each and every one of us. As the process continues to play out in 2016, we’re keeping up the fight and working for legislative and legal solutions in partnership with coops from around the country.

Our chief concern remains providing you, our members, with safe, affordable and reliable electricity. As always please contact us if you have any questions regarding these issues.

Did you know the clothes dryer is one of the biggest home energy users?

Here are some tips on how to use your clothes dryer efficiently:

- Make the most of the cycle and only dry full loads.
- Dry towels and heavier materials in a separate load from cottons in a separate load from synthetics.
- Do not overdry clothes. If your machine has a moisture sensor, use it.
- Clean the lint screen in the dryer after every load to improve air circulation and prevent fire hazards.
- Use the cool-down cycle to allow the clothes to finish drying with the heat remaining in the dryer.

Source: energy.gov

Along these LINES

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ALONG THESE LINES is a publication of Dixie Electric Membership Corp. It is written for and distributed to members of the cooperative nine times each year. Dixie Electric Membership Corp. is a non-profit rural electric cooperative providing service to 100,000 consumer-owners in seven Louisiana parishes. The cooperative headquarters is located at 16282 Wax Road, Greenswell Springs, LA. All comments, suggestions and requests for information concerning this publication should be addressed to Along These Lines, Dixie Electric Membership Corp., P.O. Box 15659, Baton Rouge, LA 70895, (225) 261-1221.

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Amberlight Media

ON THE COVER - Pictured in front of Duke’s Seafood and Steakhouse are Rudy Chandler, Loretta Chandler, Betty Landry, Jeremy Jeanson and Duke Landry. For more on this story, see page 4.
The annual membership meeting of DEMCO, when members of the cooperative vote for their board of directors and receive reports concerning the financial health and operation of their utility, is scheduled for Saturday, May 14, 2016, beginning at 10 a.m. The meeting will be held at DEMCO’s headquarters facility, 16262 Wax Road.

According to John Vranic, DEMCO CEO and General Manager, director elections will be conducted with a mail-in ballot.

“The mail ballot process has been utilized for many years by DEMCO and allows all members to have a voice in a convenient format,” he said.

Director elections are scheduled for East Baton Rouge Parish, District 3; East Feliciana Parish, District 6; Livingston Parish, District 9; Tangipahoa Parish, District 12; West Feliciana Parish, District 13. Randy Lorio, Glenn DeLee, Danny Berthelot, Eugene Traylor, and Freddy Metz currently represent the Board of Directors in these areas of the DEMCO system.

DEMCO members seeking positions on the board of directors must meet eligibility requirements as prescribed by the corporation’s bylaws (see notice to director candidates). According to Vranic, director candidates must also pre-qualify in person in order to be considered as a candidate and to receive an election petition. Candidates are advised to contact DEMCO regarding pre-qualification of director candidates and pre-qualification dates at their earliest convenience. (Acct. No. 80229921-001)

Louisiana law and DEMCO’s bylaws require a petition with 50 valid signatures, from within individual board districts, prior to placing the candidate’s name on the ballot. Louisiana law also requires 15 percent of the membership within individual board districts, register to pre-qualify, and of the bylaws of Dixie Electric Membership Corporation (DEMCO) to be found in your local newspaper and in future editions of Along These Lines.

Notice to DEMCO director candidates

Article IV, Section 4.04 of the bylaws of Dixie Electric Membership Corporation (DEMCO) provide that “no person shall be eligible to become or remain a director, who:
1. is not a member and bona fide resident in the district from which he is elected and whose principal place of residence is served by DEMCO; or
2. is in any way employed by or has a significant financial interest in a competing enterprise; or provides services or supplies to DEMCO; or
3. is an elected public official, or is the spouse of an elected public official, in connection with which a salary or compensation in excess of $100.00 per annum is paid, it being the intent of the members of DEMCO that the board of directors of DEMCO be free from the influence of political officials; or
4. is a close relative, as defined in Article IV, Section 4.09, of any board member, or any employee of DEMCO; or
5. is a convicted felon; or
6. is a current employee of DEMCO, or has been terminated from employment by DEMCO.”

Principal place of residence defined

To define the term “principal place of residence,” as used in the corporation bylaws, Article IV, Section 4.04, Board Policy 111.003 shall be the following:

The principal place of residence of a DEMCO member shall be his or her habitual residence in accordance with the laws of the State of Louisiana. A determination of principal place of residence of a DEMCO member shall be a finding of fact to be made by the Board of Directors of Dixie Electric Membership Corporation. In evaluating where a member’s principal place of residence exists, the Board of Directors shall consider the following:

1. Where the member usually sleeps;
2. Where most clothing, toiletries, household appliances, and similar personal property regularly used by the member are located;
3. Where the member is registered to vote;
4. Where the member, or a spouse with whom he or she lives, has a telephone in his or her name which is not usually on call forward to another residence;
5. Where the member directly receives most mail addressed to him or her; and,
6. Whether the member is free to enter the premises without notice to, or permission from others.

Close relative defined

Article IV, Section 4.09, of the bylaws of Dixie Electric Membership Corporation (DEMCO) provides the following:

Close relative shall mean the husband or wife, child, mother or father, step-mother or step-father, regular-in-law, father-in-law, sister or brother, brother-in-law, sister-in-law, daughter-in-law, son-in-law, aunt or uncle, niece or nephew, grandparent or grandchild.

Pre-qualification period

To establish an annual membership meeting pre-qualification period during which DEMCO shall have adequate time to investigate potential director candidates and determine eligibility, as prescribed in the corporation’s bylaws, prior to the issuance of a nominating petition, the following bylaws shall be followed:

A. Pre-qualification period for director candidates shall be established by the Board of Directors prior to the issuance of a nominating petition to ensure compliance with the corporation’s bylaws with reference to director eligibility.

B. The pre-qualification period shall be a three (3) day period during regular business hours, no more than 60 days, nor less than 45 days, prior to the date of the annual membership meeting as established by the Board of Directors.

C. Written notice of this policy shall be given to the membership annually in the corporation’s official newsletter, Along These Lines, and by inclusion in the “Calendar of Events,” published in the Official Journal of each parish where the corporation maintains service.

D. To pre-qualify, director candidates must appear in person, at the office of the Chief Executive Officer & General Manager, 16262 Wax Road, Greenwell Springs, Louisiana during the established pre-qualification period. Director candidates shall complete and sign a Director Eligibility Information form and Qualification Certification in order to pre-qualify. The following information must be provided and certified as true by the director candidate and spouse, if applicable.

1. Date of Birth
2. Louisiana Driver’s License Number
3. Social Security Number
4. Employer
5. Job Title
6. Telephone Number
7. DEMCO Account Number
8. Certificate of Qualifying Certification
9. Director candidates who fail to pre-qualify will be declared ineligible to seek a position on the Board of Directors and will not be issued a nominating petition.

Cool tips for your fridge

Did you know the refrigerator is one of the biggest energy hogs in your home? Use these simple tips on how to keep your fridge running efficiently.

- **REMEMBER TO COOL DOWN.** Warm food in the refrigerator forces the appliance to adjust the temperature, using more energy.
- **A FULL FRIDGE IS A HAPPY FRIDGE.** When your refrigerator and freezer are full, the appliance runs more efficiently.
- **KEEP IT CLEAN.** Remember to clean dust and dirt from the coils behind or underneath the refrigerator.
- **TAKE COVER.** Uncovered food and liquids release moisture and force the compressor to work harder.

Photo source: General Electric

Jan./Feb. 2016 • ALONG THESE LINES • Page 3
What’s the secret to becoming a national champion oyster shucker? Finding the sweet spot to make your opening and then taking your time to do it right.

At least that’s how Duke Landry describes the process he has used to become a five-time national champion and an international finalist.

Landry said he clocks in at about 12 oysters a minute, but he doesn’t claim to be the fastest. In the world of competitive oyster shucking, quality is paramount, and attention to detail can bring home the gold.

“Actually, a lot of the scoring is in the presentation – you have to keep the meat intact because the judges add seconds to your time if the oyster is cut up,” said Landry, who has traveled to Galway Ireland for the international competition and will return to Maryland next September for the annual Oyster Bowl as defending champion. “So, there are some who are faster than me, but I tend to take my time, pace myself, and make sure I finish with a quality product.”

It’s the same formula he applied when planning and opening his new business, Duke’s Seafood and Steakhouse, located at the intersection of Cane Market Road and Hwy. 16 in Watson.

Landry grew up cleaning fish, peeling shrimp, opening oysters and preparing meals at Don’s Seafood, the popular restaurant founded by his father, Roland, and his two uncles back in the 1940s. After more than three decades of commuting back and forth to Don’s, Landry decided it was time to open a restaurant of his own in the Watson community where he settled with his wife Betty nearly 40 years ago.

As with his well-practiced shucking technique, he took his time, developed a viable plan, relied on his experience and made sure to do it right.

One of the first steps was teaming up with long-time family friend Rudy Chandler and his wife Loretta. Chandler, a lifelong resident of Watson and seasoned businessman, owned a prime plot of land fronting Hwy. 16 and brought decades of construction expertise to the partnership. The two worked together with architects for nine months to see the 8,600-square-foot structure to completion. (Accnt. No. 7515101-002)

The result is a distinctive dining establishment that stands out on the Hwy. 16 corridor for its imposing exterior, natural South Louisiana interior décor and top-quality seafood and steaks.

The first thing a visitor notices when entering the front door is the lofty 26-foot ceiling over the main dining area. Next to capture the eye is the natural wood interior with beadboard, beams, columns and trimming that was salvaged from a 100-year-old cypress house in Plaquemine and reconditioned. Sinker cypress, artwork and a variety of marine and wildlife mounts also add to the Gulf Coast theme.

“Everything in here is real and has a story,” Landry said.

Chandler is particularly proud of the namesake “Silver Fox Den” full-service bar, which is located inside the restaurant and adjoins a screened-in patio area for outdoor dining at any time of the year.

For his part, Chandler said he “never in a million years” believed he would end up as part-owner of a restaurant venture.

“But everything’s been running smoothly. Duke really knows what he’s doing, and I’ve been in construction long enough to know it only takes a little bit extra to do things 100 percent right. I’d say it if this wasn’t our restaurant: This is one of the prettiest restaurants around,” he said.

Landry and Chandler have a tacit agreement that gets honored most of the time: Landry stays out of the construction projects while Chandler stays out of the kitchen.

“We’ve had a lot of fun laughing and joking along the way,” Chandler said. “I did get him involved in one project – learning how to shoot grade. Let’s just say he’s still got a lot to learn.”

Landry replied, “Yeah, I leave all of that to Rudy. If there’s a big dip out in the parking lot, it’s probably my fault.”

Also involved in operating the restaurant is Landry’s son-in-law Jeremy Jeansonne, who oversees many of the business details. He often takes time to visit with guests to make sure their experience has been satisfactory.

“There was a man and his wife who came in and said they always had to drive an hour across the Mississippi River to get a good steak. But once he had our ribeye, he said he wasn’t going to have to go across the river anymore,” Jeansonne said.

Landry said he and his partners and employees are eager to continue growing along with the Watson community.

“We’re always learning, always working to make the experience more enjoyable for our guests,” he said. “I’ve been here for 39 years and watched the community grow, with good schools, good teachers and more businesses coming in. Watson really needed a restaurant like this. It’s very exciting to be part of a community that’s growing the way

Landry is fond of his namesake ‘Silver Fox Den,’ located inside the restaurant; the interior décor captures the culture of South Louisiana.
A Mueller metal roof will shelter your family and your belongings in every kind of weather — from everyday exposure to extreme events like hail, high winds and storms. To protect what matters most, Mueller has you covered.

www.muellerinc.com
877-2-MUELLER (877-268-3553)
DEMCO sponsors 2016 Washington Youth Tour contest

Four students will win a free trip to our nation’s capital!

Now is your chance to be a part of history! You could be one of four students to win an all-expense paid trip to Washington, D.C.!

You’ll get to tour the capital, meet with your congressman, visit historical sites, see your government working and make lots of new friends from all around the country!

All you have to do to qualify is enter an essay in the 2016 Electric Cooperative Youth Tour Essay Contest, sponsored by DEMCO.

Contest Rules

• Only high school juniors who are DEMCO members in Ascension, East Baton Rouge, East Feliciana, Livingston, St. Helena, Tangipahoa and West Feliciana are eligible to enter (home schooled students of DEMCO members are also eligible).
• *Please note that although only DEMCO members are eligible for the trip to Washington D.C., ALL entering students are eligible for prizes to be awarded for the best written essays.
• Children, grandchildren, brothers or sisters of DEMCO employees or directors are ineligible.
• Candidates will compose a letter to a political leader (President of the United States, Governor of Louisiana, Mayor, Secretary of the Department of Environmental Quality, etc.; just to name a few). The letter should address any topic of concern that is important to the author.
• All essays should be legibly written in ink or typed double-spaced, not to exceed 750 words.
• Each essay must be accompanied by a cover letter including:
  – Student’s name, address, telephone number, email address, and age
  – Name(s) of parent(s) or guardian(s)
  – Name of school
  – Name of English teacher
• Essays must be typed or double-spaced, not to exceed 750 words.
• Essays may be submitted in one of three ways:
  – in person to any DEMCO office,
  – by mail to:
    • DEMCO Marketing Department/YT
    P.O. Box 15659
    Baton Rouge, LA 70895
  – OR entries can be emailed to davidl@demco.org
• Deadline for entries is Friday, Jan. 22, 2016. All essays submitted in this contest will become the property of DEMCO and will not be returned.

Judging

• Essays will be judged on originality, composition, how well they address the subject and neatness.
• 12 semi-finalists will be selected for final judging. Final competition will consist of an oral presentation of the written essay and a brief test on rural electrification knowledge.
• 4 winners will travel to Washington, D.C. in June, 2016.

Check out the official National Rural Electric Youth Tour website: youhttour.coop.

It’s almost tax time again

Before you run out and pay someone a high fee to prepare your tax return, consider getting it done FREE through the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance Program sponsored by the Capital Area Asset Building Coalition.

To find the nearest location to you, call 211.

You might also qualify for the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC). If you’re like millions of Americans, you work hard, but don’t earn a high income. You may qualify for the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) that can help you and your family. The EITC is essentially a tax credit for low-income workers who meet certain qualifications, which usually means more money in their pockets. If you qualify, you could pay less federal income tax, pay no tax or receive a refund.

Individuals must have a valid Social Security number, cannot file “Married Filing Separately” and cannot be someone else’s dependent. In addition, one must be a U.S. citizen, live in the U.S. for more than half the year, and follow the guidelines for a qualifying child of relationship, age and residency tests. The following are income requirements for 2015 tax returns:

A taxpayer’s total earned income must be less than:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Maximum Credit:</th>
<th>$14,820 with no qualifying child ($20,330 if married, filing jointly)</th>
<th>$44,454 with 2 qualifying child ($49,974 if married, filing jointly)</th>
<th>Investment income cannot be more than $3,400.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$14,820 with 1 qualifying child ($44,651 if married, filing jointly)</td>
<td>$47,747 with 3 or more qualifying children ($53,267 if married, filing jointly)</td>
<td>$53,267 if married, $6,242 filing jointly)</td>
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<td>$39,131 with 1 qualifying child ($44,651 if married, filing jointly)</td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

If you think you might qualify for EITC and would like assistance, you can call 1-800-829-1040 or go to www.irs.gov/eitc and select “EITC Assistant.”

Volunteers needed

Volunteers are needed to provide basic free income tax return preparation for eligible taxpayers. In just 30-45 minutes you can make a difference in the life of a struggling family in your community by helping them to claim thousands in tax credits. If you have a desire to serve your community and minimal computer skills, then you qualify. We need greeters, screeners, return preparers and quality reviewers. All training and certification is provided by the Capital Area United Way and the IRS. You will become proficient in preparing tax returns while helping those in your community that need it most. Contact Andrea Jones at 225-382-3507, andrea@cauw.org.
DEMCO employees recognized for reaching service milestones

35 Years

Guest Presenter Mike Landry (left) with 35-year employees Greg Carruth, Debbie Walker, Chuck Spillman and DEMCO Vice President of Human Resources Esther Tapia.

30 Years

Landry, 30-year employee Warren Jefferson and Tapia.

25 Years

Landry (third from left) with 25-year employees Shane Pendarvis, Penny Fruge, Doug Watson, Carl Watts, Jackie Purvis and Tapia.

20 Years

Landry with 20-year employees Devin Landry, Aaron Terrance and Tapia.

15 Years

Landry with 15-year employees Brandon Simon, Robby White, Jeremy Blouin, Richard Cutrer and Tapia.

10 Years

Landry with 10-year employees: Beau Caston, Danny Delatte, Shawn Little, Ray Hill, Chad LaCost, Buddy Thompson, Patrick Donohue, Eric Crain and Tapia.

5 Years

Landry with 5-year employees Betty Adams, Missy Knoblauch and Tapia.
Trying to concoct a Kodak moment has its potential for peril

The first rule of Kodak Moments is that they are most powerful when they are allowed to unfold spontaneously.

When you press the issue, the magic always seems to disappear, even before you break out the Instamatic.

I should have realized this when I tried to concoct a Kodak Moment during the Advent season last month.

The plan was to replicate those sweet, tender scenes we see in TV commercials during the holidays where the adoring husband surprises his loving wife by leading her out to the driveway to find a brand new car complete with a gigantic red bow affixed to the roof.

I probably should have hired a Hollywood screenwriter and a video production company because things didn’t really go as planned when I attempted to capture my wife off guard.

The scenario began several months ago when Wendy started dropping subtle hints she had grown tired of piloting her 2007 Dodge Caravan around town. You know, hushed messages such as, “That van is a death trap!” And, “If we don’t unload that heap, your wife and kids are going to get left on the side of the road and our rotting corpses will get picked over by vultures!” And, “It’s making strange noises and alien space monkeys could fly out from under the hood the next time I crank it up!”

My personal transportation policy dictates that when I buy a new car I keep the showroom floor of a car dealership. You know, the smart-money thing to do was to hang on by vultures!” And, “It’s making strange noises and alien space monkeys could fly out from under the hood the next time I crank it up!”

My personal transportation policy dictates that when I buy a new car I keep the showroom floor of a car dealership. You know, the smart-money thing to do was to hang

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

Winter Storm Safety

When winter temperatures drop and storms hit, it can be challenging to stay safe and warm. Winter storm severity varies depending on where you live, but nearly all Americans are affected by extreme winter storms at some point.

DEMCO cares about your safety, and we want you to be prepared.

Heavy ice can lead to downed power lines, leaving co-op members without power. During extremely low temperatures, this can be dangerous. During a power outage, our crews will continue to work as quickly and safely as possible to restore power, but there are a few things you can do to prepare yourself.

• Stay warm – Plan to use a safe alternate heating source, such as a fireplace or wood-burning stove during a power outage. These are great options to keep your and your loved ones warm, but exercise caution, and never leave the heating source unattended. If you are using gasoline-, propane- or natural gas-burning devices to stay warm, never use them indoors. Remember that fuel- and wood-burning sources of heat should always be properly ventilated. Always read the manufacturer’s directions before using.

• Stay fed – The CDC recommends having several days’ supply of food that does not need to be cooked handy. Crackers, cereal, canned goods and bread are good options. Five gallons of water per person should also be available in the event of an extended power outage.

• Stay safe – When an outage occurs, it usually means power lines are down. It is best not to travel during winter storms, but if you must, bring a survival kit along, and do not travel alone. If you encounter downed lines, always assume they are live. Stay as far away from the downed lines as possible, and report the situation to our dispatchers by calling our emergency phone number if possible.

Winter weather can be unpredictable and dangerous, and planning ahead can often be the difference between life and death. DEMCO is ready for what Mother Nature has in store, and we want you to be ready, too.

Ways to Train Your Brain

Many of us contend with information overload and hectic schedules, making it harder to stay focused on the task at hand. These simple principles can help:

• Take care of your mind and body. Get enough sleep and exercise; eat regular, nutritious meals and snacks. Manage your stress and moods to help keep your mind clear. Practice regular medication – it’s good for staying calm and relaxed.

• Reduce distractions. Identify one task to focus on and when possible ignore everything else, including your phone, email, visitors and interruptions. While tempting, multitasking often leads to working inefficiently and ultimately longer – the opposite of your goal.

Keep your mind sharp. Challenge yourself with brainteasers or puzzles. Develop new hobbies, study another language or take a class to earn something different. Being mindful of details in your environment can train your brain to focus.

• Match the task to the time. If possible, do complex assignments during periods when you’re most alert. Save routine or repetitive tasks for low-energy times, such as midafternoon.

• Take time between tasks. Stretch for a few minutes or move around a bit. Allow buffer time between jobs can prevent thinking about the next task before even finishing the current one.

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.

News Notes
DEMCO 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 14, 2016.

According to David Latona, Manager of Member and Public Relations, several scholarships will be awarded. “We will determine the number of scholarships awarded after the random drawing. How many students receive assistance will depend on whether the winners receive assistance through Louisiana’s TOPS program,” he said.

The scholarships awarded by DEMCO provide full academic tuition to a Louisiana public college or university for both the fall and spring semesters of the academic year provided the student is not enrolled in the Tuition Opportunity Program for Students (TOPS) program. Students eligible for the TOPS award or other scholarship assistance receive a $1,000 cash award to be used by the student as needed.

DEMCO 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.

2016 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 6, 2016. 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. 10 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 full tuition to students who DO NOT participate in Louisiana’s TOPS program or receive other scholarship assistance. Students who participate in Louisiana’s TOPS program, or receive other scholarship assistance, receive a limited scholarship award of $1,000 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. (Acct. No. 3120402-001)

Application for Scholarship Program

Students Name: ____________________________

Parents Name: ____________________________

Address: ___________________________________

E-mail Address: ____________________________

Telephone No.: ____________________________

DEMCO Account #: ________________________

Do you qualify for TOPS Assistance? Yes____No____

School you will attend: ______________________

(Complete this form and return it to DEMCO by May 6, 2016)
The board of directors of DEMCO held its regular meeting Thursday, November 19, 2015. 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.

As committee chairman of the Purchasing Committee, Randy Lorio presented the committee’s report. The board then resolved to approve Southeastern Data Cooperative Inc. (SEDC) for the purchase, licenses and installation of an imaging and retrieval system and the purchase of a Pure Storage Area Network from Venture Technologies. The board then approved a resolution accepting bids for the following: V-Tech, Inc. for the DOTD LA Hwy. 42 @ LA Hwy. 930 Underground; Chain Electric Company for the Grove @ Ascension Underground; CA-PAR Electric, Inc. for the Mockingbird Lane Tie-Line Part 1 Overhead; Chain Electric Company for the Mockingbird Lane Tie-Line Part 2 Overhead; Techline Utility Supply for the Marathon – Transformer 2000 KVA Two-Winding; Construction or Equipment Contract Amendment Request for Ellis Electric Company, Inc. – Oak Ridge Estates Phase 2; Construction or Equipment Contract Amendment Request for Ellis Electric Company, Inc. – Arbor Walk 3rd and 4th Filings; and Construction or Equipment Contract Amendment Request for Ellis Electric Company, Inc. – Bullion Crossing 4th Filing.

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 July 2015 as uncollectable.

The board then approved a resolution to ratify the action taken by management to reprice CFC loans.

The board then resolved to approve all forms associated with the 2016 Annual Membership Meeting process; a $100 payment and mileage at the standard IRS rate for members of the 2016 Nominating Committee; the 2016 Annual Meeting being conducted by mail ballot, the awarding of the DEMCO Scholarship(s) at the 2016 Annual Membership Meeting; and, the 2016 Calendar of Events with an Annual Meeting date of May 14, 2016.

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.
Search through the newspaper for the following numbers:
• Numbers divisible by 2
• Numbers divisible by 3
• Numbers divisible by 5

Standards Link: Number Sense: Students know rules of divisibility.

Oh no! A cold wind blew my display about weather fronts all apart! Luckily, I numbered each sentence. Do the math problem on each piece. Then use the answers to put the sentences in order from the smallest number to the largest.

Help Paula Predict the Weather
Look at the two weather puzzles. Which town is most likely to have stormy weather? Use the cold front and warm front symbols to help you predict.

Standards Link: Earth Science: Students understand how to read a weather map.

Standards Link: Number Sense: Students compute sums and differences, order numbers from least to greatest.

Standards Link: Earth Science: Students understand that weather can be observed and predicted; different conditions affect different results.

Try to use the word predict in a sentence today when talking with your friends and family members.

This week’s word: PREDICT

The verb predict means to figure out and tell beforehand.

Jeff was able to predict the outcome of the game by reviewing the statistics.

Find the words in the puzzle, then in this week’s Kid Scoop stories and activities.

1. Mix together:
• One 8-oz package of cream cheese, softened at room temperature
• 1 cup shredded Italian cheese blend

2. Divide
Divide the mixture into two parts and mold each into a small ball.

3. Roll & Chill
Roll each ball in grated Parmesan cheese and refrigerate until firm, at least four hours.

4. Stack ‘em Up!
Stack the two “snowballs” and decorate like a snowman. Ideas:
• nose: carrot
• eyes and buttons: raisins or nuts
• hat: stack some crackers (use cheese as glue)
• scarf: green onion, carrot or radish shavings
• mouth: red pepper


Standards Link: Visual discrimination.

Chill out while you find the two identical snowmen.

Standards Link: Visual discrimination.

Find the words in the puzzle, then in this week’s Kid Scoop stories and activities.


Mini Snowman Cheese Ball
Make this fun and tasty winter snack using fresh veggies for the finishing touches.
Do you have the write stuff?

Enter the 2016 Rural Electric Youth Tour Essay Contest, sponsored by DEMCO, and you could be one of four high school juniors to win an all-expense paid trip to WASHINGTON, D.C.! Now is your chance to be a part of history. Essays are due on January 22!

Visit demco.org for rules and information.

KEEPING CURRENT: TIP #1

DEMCO awards college/university scholarships each year at our annual membership meeting. Learn more at our website today.

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