The Francis Southern Table and Bar is a welcome addition to St. Francisville’s small town charm and character.

Co-owners Jason Jackson and Greg Martinez invite diners to visit the new restaurant and bar.
In 2015, DEMCO continued to maintain a healthy pace of prolonged system growth and vitality. Your board of directors and employees alike understand the value of constantly increasing our productivity while expanding and improving our power delivery infrastructure for the benefit of both our residential and commercial consumers.

As a member-owned business organization, positive growth enables us to contain costs through economies of scale and helps us achieve our goals that are clearly and succinctly spelled out in our mission statement: to provide safe, reliable and affordable power.

Throughout 2015, we made every effort to deliver on this commitment not only by working hard but also working with a purpose to achieve specific goals outlined by our board and management.

Your locally-owned electric cooperative continues to provide reliable, affordable power to over 106,000 meters on a system that spans seven parishes. And like every successful business, we are striving to expand our reach by taking our quality service to even more cities, towns and rural communities in the future.

As we continue to seek more opportunities to serve our members, we take note that our lengthy legacy of community involvement is solid and our future is bright as we seek to partner with communities, businesses and industries that share our vision of civic leadership, increased employment and substantial investment in the education of our children.

Looking back over the seven decades of growth we’ve already experienced, we find reassurance in the fact that as our number of members has gone up, we have always remained focused on our members. From our employees, to our executive management team, to the 13 members of our democratically elected board of directors, our main priority has always been - and will always be - you.


The number of members billed increased from 105,137 in 2014 to 106,226 in 2015. Total miles of line in operation showed an average of 8,330 miles by the end of 2014, and by the end of 2015 totaled 8,406 miles.

Your board of directors considers it a great honor to represent the valued membership of DEMCO during another successful year and we look forward to representing you for years to come.

In closing, I would like to congratulate Daniel Berthelot, Glenn DeLee, Randy Lorio, Freddy Metz and Eugene Traylor for their reelection to another three-year term to serve the DEMCO members residing in their respective districts. It is also my pleasure to serve the membership as the president of the board once again. (Acct. No. 80026616-002)

I also want to thank you, the members of DEMCO, for your continued commitment to this organization and the support you have shown this board of directors.

Looking back over the seven decades of growth we’ve already experienced, we find reassurance in the fact that as our number of members has gone up, we have always remained focused on our members.
DEMCO board elects slate of officers at annual meeting

DEMCO’s Board of Directors elected its officers at an organizational meeting immediately following the conclusion of the 2016 annual membership meeting.

Richard Sitman, St. Helena Parish, will continue to serve as president; Steve Irving, East Baton Rouge Parish, vice president; and Dennis Lott, Livingston Parish, secretary-treasurer.

Sitman joined the DEMCO Board of Directors in 1987 and has served as the Board’s president since 1998. Prior to his appointment as president, Sitman served on numerous standing committees.

Besides his interest in DEMCO, Sitman is also a member of the CoBANK Board of Directors. CoBANK, a financial institution based in Denver, is one of the nation’s largest financing agencies for agriculture-related cooperatives.

Sitman is a native of St. Helena Parish and a graduate of Southeastern Louisiana University. He is the owner and operator of a small business in the Town of Greensburg.

As president of the DEMCO Board, Sitman is the principal executive officer of the corporation and presides over all meetings of the membership and the Board of Directors.

Elected to the position of vice president is Irving. Steve Irving was elected to the DEMCO Board of Directors in 1987. A native of Alexandria, he attended LSU-A and the University of Alabama. Irving currently serves as chairman of the Finance Committee and is a member of the Strategic Planning Committee.

In 1971, Irving moved to Baton Rouge and enrolled at LSU Law School. In 1981, he entered his private law practice in Baton Rouge on a full-time basis. He has been widely recognized for his efforts on environmental cases.

Lott was elected secretary-treasurer of the Board. Lott was appointed to the DEMCO Board of Directors in March of 2009 and later received his Director Certificate from the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NRECA).

He is currently a member of the Board’s Finance Committee and the Rate Committee.

Lott is a lifelong resident of Livingston Parish and retired as an employee at DEMCO in March of 2007 after 35 years of service to the membership.

He and his wife, Darlene, have two children and six grandchildren.

DEMCO linemen excel in statewide training program

DEMCO places a premium on safe operations at all times and in all working conditions. To make sure employees are fully prepared to perform their assignments with professionalism and competence, DEMCO linemen participate in the four-year Louisiana Lineman Training Program (LLTP) administered by the Association of Louisiana Electric Cooperatives in Baton Rouge. Congratulations to those employees below who are successfully advancing through the various stages of the LLTP program.

Completing Module 1, Group 1, are (left to right) Mike Knight, Larry Stewart, Bodhi Wright, Freddie Moreno, Andrea Johnson and John Ervin.

Completing Module 1, Group 2 are Jeremy Jett, Andrew Arnold and Blake Sullivan.

Completing Module 3, Levels 1-5 are Chase Broussard, Nick Carruth, Kaleb Lee, Cade Felps and Jacob Parker.

Completing Module 4, Levels 1-5, are Josh Prestridge and Frank Fowler.
The Francis adds to St. Francisville’s cultural flair

Last fall, motorists topping the hill while traveling northbound on Hwy. 61 approaching the small town of St. Francisville got a new addition to their panoramic view of the local landscape.

Today, the most prominent feature leading into town is The Francis Southern Table and Bar, located on the west side of the roadway adjacent to the popular Francis Smokehouse. The new restaurant’s shiny reflective metal roof and decorative facade loom 45 feet above the ground at the corner of Hwy. 61 and Commerce St.

The message sent by this imposing structure is unmistakable: St. Francisville is open for business and is embracing a period of growth and revitalization.

Operations Manager and Co-owner Jason Jackson said the building’s strategic position beside the highway was intentional.

“We purposefully set the building at an angle against the road so that folks coming over the hill into town would know that while we’ve always been a tourist town we want people to stop, enjoy a meal, and explore everything we have to offer,” he said.

Jackson offered assurances that the large live oak tree that motorists were accustomed to seeing at the intersection still stands as the restaurant has incorporated the familiar iconic oak into its rustic design.

In fact, that stately oak tree is the centerpiece of the restaurant’s outdoor terrace where friends can gather to share a meal and enjoy selections from a full list of wine, beer and other libations.

“The whole project really revolved around that tree, so we do everything we can to make sure it stays healthy,” Jackson said. “Live oaks are such a recognizable symbol of Louisiana, so we wanted to do our best not only to preserve the tree, but also to make it beneficial to our use. People love to come here and eat and have a few drinks under the canopy. The temperature under the tree can be 10 to 15 degrees cooler and it makes for a very enjoyable, unique atmosphere.”

The restaurant is segmented into two separate wings that curve around either side of the live oak tree. The outdoor bar area is unique in that it completely encircles the trunk of the tree. (Acct. No. 7541201-002)

While the outdoor terrace seats 60, the indoor restaurant section offers seating for 150-200 on two levels with additional seating on a front balcony for 30 more.

Jackson and co-owner Greg Martinez had a grand vision for the restaurant’s physical structure, appearance and ambience, but they really shot for the stars when crafting the dining menu.

Emphasizing the “Southern” in the restaurant’s title, the roster offers a sizeable range of tantalizing entrees such as the grilled redfish topped with jumbo lump crab, and the barbecue shrimp and sweet corn grit cake.

Unique selections that unfailingly deliver authentic Louisiana flavor include the crawfish bisque that comes complete with stuffed heads, the shrimp/crawfish/andouille pasta and the crawfish etouffee.

The zesty appetizer menu includes hot sellers such as the Southern fried boudin balls, Louisiana jumbo lump crab cakes, handmade duck confit egg rolls, Feliciana frog legs and Louisiana oysters served raw on the half shell or chargrilled.

“We have a little bit of everything on our menu, and a lot of it you can’t find anywhere else,” Jackson explained. “It’s all homemade cooking and the recipes come from family members and friends that are tried and true through the generations.”

Jackson began his career in the restaurant business at the age of 19 when he joined the staff at Calender’s Restaurant. For more than 20 years he has been working diligently to figure out what pleases the palates of diners in South Louisiana.

Jackson said he feels fortunate to be part of a successful team that has gotten the restaurant off the ground and is embracing a period of growth and revitalization.

“It’s all homemade cooking and the recipes come from family members and friends that are tried and true through the generations.”

For more information about the restaurant, call (225) 245-5046 or visit www.thefrancissoutherntable.com.
HARD HATS FOR THE JOB. SOFT HEARTS FOR THE COMMUNITY. The linemen of your electric co-op are proud to have helped members pass along reliable electricity and community values for generations. Learn more about the power of your co-op membership at TogetherWeSave.com.
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.”

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.

“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.

DEMCO Foundation accepts scholarship applications for fall 2016

In 1997, DEMCO established the DEMCO Foundation, a charitable organization dedicated to assisting DEMCO members in need. Since its inception the Foundation has provided assistance in many ways and has impacted the lives of families and individuals throughout DEMCO’s seven-parish service area.

As part of its continuing mission, the Foundation initiated a scholarship program.

PURPOSE
The purpose of the DEMCO Foundation Scholarship Program is to provide assistance to DEMCO members who are seeking to better themselves through attending a university, trade school, vocational or technical schools, community college and/or other forms of educational programs in the state of Louisiana.

TERMS
The deadline for scholarship applications is the third Thursday in June for the Fall Semester and the third Thursday in December for the Spring Semester. The DEMCO Foundation will award several scholarships in the amount of $1,250.00. The number of scholarships awarded will be determined after all scholarship applications are received. Funds are to be used for payment of educational expenses such as tuition, books, and fees. Payment of scholarships will be made directly to the applicant’s school of attendance.

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS
- Applicant must be a DEMCO member, as defined by DEMCO Foundation Bylaws (see definition below).
- Applicant must possess a high school diploma or equivalent.
- Applicant must plan to attend a trade school, vocational or technical school, community college or other such Louisiana institution.
- Applicant must submit a completed DEMCO Foundation Scholarship Application and all supporting documentation to the DEMCO Foundation office. The application package should include the following:
  - an official transcript including the most recently completed coursework
  - a 2.5 cumulative GPA on an overall 4.0 scale
- a minimum of three (3) letters of recommendation of which none can be from a family member, DEMCO board member or DEMCO Foundation board member.
- an acceptance letter from the school of choice for first time or transferring students
- a cover letter by the applicant detailing reasons for consideration

SCHOLARSHIP LIMITATION
Recipients are eligible to apply for a maximum lifetime scholarship award of four (4) semesters per individual.

Excerpt from ARTICLE II, DEMCO Foundation Bylaws
Definition of DEMCO Member:
“For the purposes of these Articles of Incorporation, DEMCO members are defined as those individuals who are members of Dixie Electric Membership Corporation and the members of their immediate family. Members of the immediate family shall mean those natural persons regularly residing in the member’s home which is served by DEMCO.”

DEMCO FOUNDATION
1810 S. RANGE AVE, SUITE 2
DENHAM SPRINGS, LA 70726
PHONE: (225) 262-2141
Take a healthy break from technology this summer

We all know that it is becoming more difficult these days to escape the pull of technology. All you have to do is watch people stumble down the sidewalk or swerve down the street, faces buried in their cellphones, to realize that as a society, we are becoming dependent on our devices for nearly everything we do.

Device dependence has become so severe that even leaders in the technology industry have started taking measures to wean themselves from their devices. Have you ever read a sentence in a book—or an email or a document for work—and a minute later, you can’t remember its content? Well, device dependence could be to blame.

Your brain is like a muscle; after it is used, it needs time to recover. Without that time, it might not be able to “soak up” and process the information it receives. (Acct. No. 1044001-002)

Many of us go from one task to another, only taking a break to respond to a text, check Facebook or send a tweet. But research has shown that taking time to rest your brain between tasks can increase your cognitive abilities.

Device dependence isn’t only detrimental to our brain’s development; it can also strain our relationships by contributing to sensations of distraction, jealousy or isolation. There are many strategies you and your family can use to keep device dependence at bay.

The next time you finish a task, instead of immediately getting online or checking your phone, instead take a walk in a quiet place, or simply sit back and let your mind wander (some call this daydreaming, and it is actually a great way to rest your brain throughout the day).

Set up gadget-free zones throughout your home. It goes without saying that the dinner table should be one, but try creating a gadget-free zone in the bedroom or living room, as well.

Many of us use our devices to listen to music, read books or even take notes during meetings. Try turning your device on in airplane mode when using it for those purposes. If you need Wi-Fi or a mobile connection to perform these tasks, disable all of your push notifications so that they don’t distract you from the task at hand.

You might be thinking there is no way you will be able to coax your kids to put down their devices. Here is a solution:

Start a contest in your family to see who can go the longest without checking their phone or playing a video game. Make the prize a fun treat to give them something they can look forward to. Of course, your children will have to rely on their other senses to make it through the contest.

On family vacations, make a rule that devices can only be used to check in with those who need to know how things are going. Then stare up at the stars, not at your screens.

We all need time to unplug and give our brains a break. By unplugging more often, you can even save on your electric bill. Don’t worry; Facebook will still be there when you return.
What it’s like to give the worst speech in the history of oratory

Co-op Life

by Billy Gibson

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

Among the items left behind by my late father is a black briefcase that holds an assortment of his personal effects.

There are rings and necklaces, tie-pins, belt buckles, photos, pocketknives, postcards, wristwatches and other stuff.

But there’s one thing that stands out: a fancy red pen that pretty much encapsulates his personality.

The pen is an accolade he received back in the 1950s when he completed the Dale Carnegie business training program and was recognized for his high achievement.

Without a doubt, Dad had the gift of gab, a charismatic charmer with a bright smile who never met a stranger.

I’m not sure if this is an asset he inherited or learned by taking that Dale Carnegie course. But I do know that in my case when it comes to charm, the apple didn’t just fall the farthest possible distance away from the tree branch but rolled down the hill, dropped into the ditch, floated downstream and became mired in the muck where it fostered into a shriveled up gob of gelatinous goo.

Unlike my father, I haven’t advanced a shriveled up gob of gelatinous goo.

Unlike my father, I haven’t advanced a shriveled up gob of gelatinous goo.

Do-it-yourself dads appreciate the gift of futility at the annual 4-H Co-op Leadership Conference held recently at Camp Grant Walker near Alexandria.

For the past few years, I’ve been assigned to deliver an “inspirational presentation” on the final morning of the camp. And every year, like Charlie Brown charging toward that football, it’s the same disastrous result.

Well, this year, I decided that if I was going to go down in flames, I was going to plummet in dramatic fashion and deliver the worst speech in the history of verbal communication.

I decided to launch a double-barrel diatribe about the deleterious effects of too much screen time in our society…to a bunch of teenagers…during an event that is supposed to be fun. Now that’s a sure-fire formula for disaster. I don’t think Tony Robbins or Winston Churchill could have pulled that off.

For a full 30 minutes, I piled it on with as much passion and vigor as I could. Old-timers would call it “shelling down the corn.”

Hoping to connect with at least one of these 60 campers, I employed what I thought would be an effective strategy by reminding them of something they had heard the previous day.

Two co-op linemen from Northeast Louisiana Power in Winnsboro brought their bucket trucks and tools to show the students how they serve electrical power to their co-op members. They told the students the thing they fear most is not the fact that they often come in close proximity to 70,000 volts of electricity or work in a bucket 45 feet in the air.

What they fear most, they explained, is people driving cars and entering a work zone with their heads buried in their smart phone screens. I figured for two grown men to admit they’d rather risk getting electrocuted than getting t-boned by a distracted driver would make a dramatic impact on the students.

So I used the comments of these linemen in my introduction and went straight into making my case for using smartphones wisely and challenging the students to minimize their use of electronic devices as they face more pressure to get vapor-locked into computer screens as they go through their lives.

After asking how many have ever completely read the software application user agreements they’ve all clicked on, I tried to make them aware of all those agreements they’re being data-mined almost second they’re logged on.

I pointed out that the quid pro quo for being able to use all those cool smartphone apps is the information about themselves that they’re voluntarily handing over to companies such as Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, etc., which is then sold to marketers and other businesses for huge profits.

And I’m pretty sure I came off as the most pathetic type of fossil when I noted that it used to be considered rude to stick your mug into a screen in the presence of other human beings. Nowadays, I think it’s somehow considered rude if you don’t.

I even went so far as to trot out all the research documenting the addictive draw of smart phone use, how screen time is destroying our personal relationships and the multitasking that we think is beneficial is actually producing a generation of scatter-brains.

Just about the time I gathered up a good head of steam, it was time to wind down and move to the next part of the program. I looked up and noticed that more than a few of the students were actually immersed in their smart phones even as I was inveighing against the perils of smart phone use. Naturally.

After stepping down from the podium, I got that familiar feeling that has followed every presentation I’ve ever delivered over the course of three decades: Wow, what a complete disaster!

I won’t be leaving my own children a legacy of outstanding oratory skill, but maybe years from now after hearing me squawk about the ill effects of too much screen time they’ll at least be able to hold an intelligent face, respectful conversation with another human being when they reach adulthood.

But then with all the pressure kids face today to spend their wakeful hours in cyberspace, and with a multitude of social media Svengalis dead set on driving humankind into the ether, I’m not sure I’d bet two bits on it.

The next meeting of the DEMCO Board of Directors is scheduled for Thursday, June 16, 2016, at 6 p.m. Board meetings are held at DEMCO’s headquarters facility located at 16262 Wax Road, Greenwell Springs, La.

Put the “Happy” in Father’s Day

Do-it-yourself dads appreciate the gift of power tools on Father’s Day. This year, though, insist that he read the instructions.

Amateur handymen—and plenty of pros, too—never read instructions that come with new tools because they figure they already know how to use them. It turns out, those guys are just as likely to injure themselves as the ones who don’t know anything.

Give Dad a few tips when he opens his brand-new power tools:

• Dress for the job. Ditch loose-fitting clothing, neckties and watches. Tie long hair back. Wear nonslip shoes or boots. Put the job off if you’re not feeling tip-top. Operating a power tool while tired or tipsy usually doesn’t end well.

• Light the workspace adequately to see the job, and protect eyes with goggles or glasses.

• Double-check that the tool is turned off before plugging it in.

• Try out the new tool in a dry area. Water and electricity, you can remind Dad, don’t mix.

• Three-pronged plugs go into three-pronged outlets. Never, never, never cut that third prong off.

• Keep blades and cutters clean. After each use, unplug, clean and store the tool in a dry place out of reach of precious children and grandchildren.

Put Your Computer to Sleep

In the same way that apps and graphics eat up the battery power on your cellphone, extra features on computers can unnecessarily use energy inside your home.

That could be costing you extra on your electric bill.

If your home has multiple computers, don’t let them waste energy. Here’s how to start conserving your dollars digitally:

• Delete extra applications and programs from your computer that you don’t need, especially those that run “in the background” even when you’re not using them. If you’re unsure which ones are safe to uninstall, consult an expert first.

• Unplug seldom-used computers. Even when they are shut down, they continue to draw small amounts of electricity as long as they are plugged into the wall.

• Move the computer and printer in each room near the TV and phone charger, and plug all the devices into a power strip. That makes it easy to switch them all off when you leave the house for the day or turn in at night. The Natural Resources Defense Council estimates that devices that are always turned on use up to 23 percent of a home’s electricity—even if the appliances are rarely in use.

• Set each computer to “sleep” mode. That slows down the processor when it’s not in use, so the entire module uses less electricity. Program the “hibernate” function on your computers to turn them off when they’re not in use for more than 30 minutes. This setting is especially useful because it shuts the device down but makes it easy to recover everything you were working on when you switch it back on.

• Get rid of screen savers; they turn your computer monitor into an energy hog. It’s better to set the monitor to sleep after 10–15 minutes of inactivity.

• Switch to a laptop or mobile device. Portable devices like tablets and e-readers use up to a third less energy than a big desktop computer and monitor.

• The next time you’re shopping for a new computer, buy an Energy Star-rated machine. This designation guarantees that the machine is energy efficient.

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

The Lucky Account Number Contest continued 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.
Community-minded volunteers needed for 2017 VITA program

If you have a heart to serve people and are willing to give a few hours of your time each week, there is a perfect volunteer opportunity available for you.

Beginning next January through April 2017, FREE Income Tax Preparation sites will open again.

This service is offered through the Capital Area United Way and the Internal Revenue Service.

Volunteering with the VITA Program can be a very rewarding experience and sometimes a bit challenging, but when you see the spark in someone’s eyes as you tell them of the refund they are getting, then it makes it all worth it.

And the best part is that the service is free! (Act. No. 4510301-001)

Many people live from pay check to pay check and the high cost of tax preparation fees really puts a dent in their budget.

All volunteers must take a classroom tax law course and certify in tax law. Classes will begin in the fall. There are also online courses offered through www.irs.gov.

As a VITA Volunteer you have to take a Standard of Conduct course and then sign a Volunteer Agreement basically stating that:

• You will treat everyone professionally and courteously.

• You will adhere to the tax laws accurately.

• You will use the Intake/Interview and Quality Review process.

• You will not solicit business from anyone you assist or use knowledge about them for any direct or indirect personal benefit.

• You will adhere to the privacy and confidentiality rules.

• You will not do a return out of your certification level.

• You will not accept payment for doing a return.

For more information please contact Diane Denton, Sr. Tax Consultant with IRS at 225-241-5161 or Lynda.D.Denton@irs.gov.

DEMCO Year in Review: 2015 marked by community service

January 2015
LSU baseball and Major League Baseball greats partnered with DEMCO to support the 2 Seam Dream Foundation and their efforts to strike out cancer at the organization’s annual home run derby.

February 2015
DEMCO joined community leaders in Livingston Parish as they performed a ceremony celebrating the opening of the new courthouse that the cooperative is honored to serve.

March 2015
In support of the cause of breast cancer awareness at the Susan G. Komen Race for the Cure, more than 70 runners, joggers and walkers participated on DEMCO’s team. The team is made up of employees, their family and friends.

April 2015
Ascension Parish director Clarence Brock, Livingston Parish director Leslie Falks, East Baton Rouge Parish director Ann Samuel, and St. Helena Parish director Joe Self all returned to the DEMCO Board of Directors as each was re-elected for a three-year term.

May 2015
DEMCO was honored at the 2015 Connect Conference hosted by the National Rural Electric Cooperatives Association to receive a national award on behalf of DEMCO. The cooperative won the Spotlight on Excellence Award for best Total Communication Program.

June 2015
Local high school students Brooks Courtney, Anna Jolibois, Molly Magee and Thomas Wolff each won an all-expense paid trip to Washington, D.C. The four were winners in the 2015 DEMCO Rural Electric Youth Tour essay contest, and joined other Louisiana winners on this trip of a lifetime.

July 2015
DEMCO held its underground power distribution training class at its state-of-the-art field training area located at co-op headquarters on Wax Road. DEMCO provides employees with the technical knowledge and skills to perform their work as safe and efficient as possible.

August 2015
DEMCO sent 10 college students off to pursue their dreams with a two-semester scholarship. The cooperative awards scholarships to members (or their children) through a random drawing each year.

September 2015
DEMCO continued its service to the communities it serves by appearing at several area schools to promote electrical safety. The message is a great one and the bucket truck always steals the show.

October 2015
For the second year in a row, DEMCO employees donned their pink hardhats to commemorate Breast Cancer Awareness Month. Field personnel used the pink personal protective equipment throughout the month to show their community spirit and support for the cause.

November 2015
At the end of another Hurricane season, DEMCO was glad to have reported no major incidences caused by tropical weather. However, each year the cooperative refreshes a detailed emergency response plan to prepare each department and employee for a situation that may warrant a large-scale response.

December 2015
Throughout 2015, DEMCO shared in the celebration of 15 employees as they made a decision to retire from service to the cooperative. When these members of the working family decided to retire they finished with 492 years of experience and quality service to the members of DEMCO.
Meeting of April 28, 2016

The board of directors of DEMCO held its regular meeting Thursday, April 28, 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. The board then approved the DEMCO 2016 Emergency Response Plan as submitted by management and authorized John D. Vranic, CEO and General Manager to certify that the plan was updated.

From the Purchasing Committee report Randy Lorio, committee chairman, presented bids received. The board then approved resolutions for the following: Chain Electric Company for the Antioch Villa Pump Station Underground, 2016 Mechanical Right-of-Way (ROW) Circuits – Retrimming, purchase of three (3) compact track loaders from Crawler Supply. Next the board authorized management to purchase communications equipment from Deep South Communications. Next the board resolved to extend the December 2015 Blanket Bid Ending Date from May 31, 2016 to December 31, 2016 for the following Vendors: Techline, Inc., Stuart C. Irby Company, GRESCO Utility Supply, Reulet Electric Supplies, and Wesco Distribution, which includes Lighting, Metering, Transformers, Underground Material, and Pole Line Hardware.

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 December 2015 as uncollectable. They then adopted a resolution ratifying the action taken by management to refinance/reprice CFC loans held by DEMCO. Next the board resolved to authorize John D. Vranic, CEO and General Manager as the Certifier on behalf of the Corporation, who shall be responsible for submitting and certifying to the Rural Utilities Service, an agency of the United States Department of Agriculture, and any and all data required by the RD Apply Intake System.

Next the board resolved to authorize John D. Vranic, CEO and General Manager as the Certifier on behalf of the Corporation, who shall be responsible for submitting and certifying to the Rural Utilities Service, an agency of the United States Department of Agriculture, and any and all data required by the RD Apply Intake System.

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

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.

The board then resolved to accept the CEO and General Manager’s Evaluation as presented and furthermore renews Mr. Vranic’s CEO and General Manager Contract with an effective date of January 1, 2016.

If you’re moving dirt, 811 is the number to know.

Use it at least two full work days before you begin work.

That’s all it takes to notify LA One Call members so that they can mark their nearby cables and pipelines.

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Kid Scoop Together:

**Super Saver**

Roger is a collector of __________ ADJECTIVE __________. He imagines, such a collection is __________ ADJECTIVE __________. To save money, Roger always looks for the best __________ NOUN __________ when shopping. He’ll often compare __________ PLURAL NOUN __________ between products to see which one is a better __________ NOUN __________.

At the grocery store, he doesn’t just __________ VERB __________ his basket with __________ PLURAL NOUN __________. Instead, he writes __________ VERB __________ out of the newspaper to save __________ PLURAL NOUN __________. He checks the newspaper’s Web site for special __________ PLURAL NOUN __________.

Roger buys __________ __________ in bulk. He will __________ __________ them with his friends and family if he has extras. He saves a lot of __________ __________ money by choosing __________ __________ instead of more __________ __________.

Roger also checks the classified ads for __________ __________ when he needs new ones. He bought a very reliable car that way that doesn’t use a lot of __________ NOUN __________.

“Thanks to the money I’ve saved with the newspaper, I am about to start a new collection of __________ PLURAL NOUN __________,” says Roger.

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**Kid Scoop Puzzler**

What’s the real deal?

Circle the coupon that offers the best buy on each product.

- **Kid Scoop Together:**
  - **Vocabulary Builders**
    - This week’s word: __________
      - An incentive is something that encourages or motivates someone to do something.
    - The trip to the book store was an incentive to get John to complete his assignment.
    - Try to use the word __________ in a sentence today when talking with your friends and family members.

- **Shopping Math**
  - Write on!
    - **Kid Scoop Puzzler:**
      - What’s the real deal?
        - Circle the coupon that offers the best buy on each product.

- **Double Word Search**
  - Find the words in the puzzle. Then look for each word in this week’s Kid Scoop stories and activities.

  - **Vocabulary Builders:**
    - This week’s word: __________
      - An incentive is something that encourages or motivates someone to do something.
    - The trip to the book store was an incentive to get John to complete his assignment.
    - Try to use the word __________ in a sentence today when talking with your friends and family members.

- **Shopping Math**
  - Write on!
Check around & stay prepared!

HURRICANE PREPARATION CHECKLIST

- 3-day supply of water & non-perishable food
- Spare clothing, blankets and pillows
- Toiletries, first-aid kit and prescription medicines
- Special items/food for babies and the elderly
- Special items for your pet including vaccination records, toys, food and a cage/crate
- Flashlights, portable radio and extra batteries
- Extra set of car keys, credit cards and cash
- Important documents kept in a waterproof container or watertight plastic bag
  - Identification, copy of birth certificate, marriage certificate and Social Security card
  - Insurance documents and medical records
  - Bank account numbers, online passwords and log-in information
  - Emergency contact list
- Emergency tools

KEEPING CURRENT: TIP #39

Never operate a portable generator inside your home, garage or other enclosed areas. Only use your generator outdoors, away from open windows, vents or doors. And, always follow manufacturer’s guidelines for proper use.

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