

# SLEMCO POWER

MARCH/APRIL  
2011

## FLIGHT TIME!

On weekends a Crowley  
RC club takes to the air

PAGE 4



The Official Publication of the Southwest  
Louisiana Electric Membership Corporation  
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Cover photo by P.C. Piazza



# TakeNote

## MAKE PLANS TO ATTEND OUR JUNE 4 ANNUAL MEETING



Photos by John Rowland

SLEMCO's 74th Annual Membership Meeting will be held on Saturday, June 4, at Lafayette's Cajundome. Attendees will have a chance to win one of 27 prizes, including a new 2011 car or truck. Drawings will also determine who will receive \$40,000 in college scholarships (Lucky Account Number 1414165000).

The morning has a full schedule so our day begins early. Doors open at 6 a.m., with plenty of hot Community coffee as you visit with your friends and neighbors. Coffee is free and the Cajundome will have other refreshments available for purchase.

Jamie Bergeron and the Kickin' Cajuns will kick off musical entertainment beginning at 6:30 a.m., so wear your dancing shoes. United Blood Services will hold their ninth annual blood drive at our meeting. Your continued generosity is appreciated because of increased demands

SLEMCO's annual meeting will offer a Saturday morning full of activities, so bring the family!

for blood and reduced donations during summer.

Prize drawings begin at 8 a.m., and winning names will be drawn from the prize barrel until our business meeting begins at 10 a.m. Brief reports from the company's officers and legal counsel will bring members up to date on SLEMCO operations.

When the business portion concludes, our scholarship drawing will award college funds of \$2,000 each to 20 lucky students. Then, to end our meeting on a high note, our grand prize drawing will allow one lucky winner a choice from among five new vehicles.

## COMMERCIAL CUSTOMERS CAN ENTER PRIZE AND SCHOLARSHIP DRAWINGS

SLEMCO commercial customers wishing to participate in the prize drawings should drop off a letter naming their company's authorized representative to SLEMCO's main office by June 3. After presenting ID on the day of the meeting, that representative will receive a card for the prize drawing (Lucky Account Number 2059685000).

Owners of commercial establishments who are SLEMCO customers may also sponsor their children, themselves or a spouse for the scholarship drawing, but only if they own more than 50 percent of the company, corporation or partnership. Proof of ownership is required whenever a commercial business sponsors a scholarship applicant.

# APPLY NOW FOR A CHANCE TO WIN A SCHOLARSHIP

A total of \$40,000 in college scholarships will be given away at our 74th annual meeting on Saturday, June 4. Twenty students will each win \$2,000 to help pay for their college education. The process is easy, but you must apply before the meeting.

Members connected to SLEMCO for one contiguous year prior to the May 5 entry deadline can sponsor themselves, a spouse, dependent children or legal wards. Grandchildren are eligible only if they are the legal dependents or wards of members.

Applications for the 2011 SLEMCO scholarship program will be included with all February and March SLEMCO bills (Lucky Account Number 1211450009).

You can also download the application from our website, [www.slemco.com](http://www.slemco.com). This electronic version of the application is in PDF format. After filling it out, follow the directions on our website to e-mail it to SLEMCO or print a copy and submit it by mail.

Read the application carefully and follow all instructions.

Applications for the scholarships will be accepted until Thursday, May 5. Delivered entries and electronically submitted entries must be received by 4:30 p.m., May 5, and mailed entries

must be postmarked by that day. Entries can be mailed to the SLEMCO Scholarship Program, P.O. Box 90866, Lafayette, LA 70509.

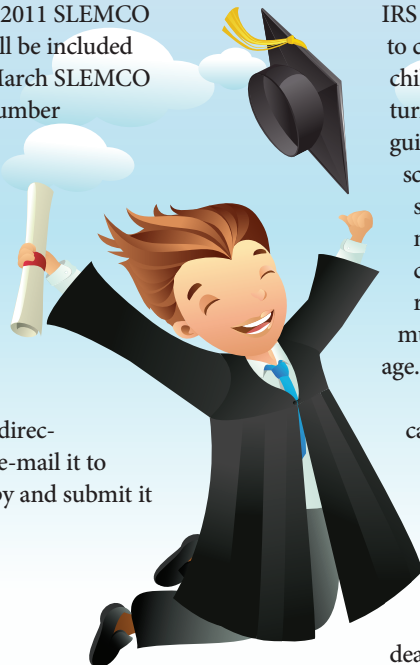
These funds can be used to attend any Louisiana public university to pursue an undergraduate degree beginning this fall. Winners must have at least a 2.0 cumulative grade point average and plan to attend on a full-time basis (at least 12 hours) this fall. Technical colleges or private universities do not qualify and students must be at least high school seniors to enter.

IRS guidelines allow a parent to claim their college student child until the year he or she turns 24. We follow the same guidelines for awarding these scholarships. In order to sponsor a child, parents must still claim the applicant on their income tax return and the applicant must be under 24 years of age. Proof will be required.

Only one family member can win per year, but any eligible family member can enter every year.

Winners aren't eligible to receive the scholarship again.

Even though the entry deadline is not until May, it's a good idea to get your application in early so you don't forget. We've already received several hundred entries, so don't delay. If you have any questions, call SLEMCO at 896-5384. ●



## ENERGY SAVING IDEAS

### ENERGY EFFICIENCY IN THE KITCHEN

Ovens and stoves last for many years, so their energy efficiency is important. For example, gas burners with electric ignition use half the energy of burners with pilot lights. According to information from the American Council for an Energy-Efficient Economy (ACEE), it's not only what we choose, it's how we use it.

For electric cooktops, a wide array of burner types are available and the fancier solid disk, halogen or induction elements are hard to justify on energy savings alone. The most cost-effective solution is a plain-jane electric coil or radiant element with the savings invested in better cookware, ACEE advises (Lucky Account Number 2316871501).

Cookware plays an important role in energy efficiency. On the range, copper-bottom pans not only cook more evenly, they heat faster than ordinary pans. According to ACEE, the ideal pan has a slightly concave bottom. As it heats on an electric burner, the metal on the bottom actually flattens out a little and makes better contact with the element. Good contact can cut energy use by as much as half.

In the oven, glass or ceramic pans are usually superior to metal. Glass or ceramic cooks food just as fast but at oven temperatures 25 degrees lower than with a metal pan.

If you're shopping for a new oven, be aware that convection ovens are usually more energy efficient because the circulation of heated air around the food reduces cooking time and temperatures. ●

## APPLY FOR COLLEGE ASSISTANCE EARLY

SLEMCO scholarships are just one opportunity to help pay for your college education. High school seniors can often begin applying for many forms of college assistance as early as January of their senior year (Lucky Account Number 1305686000). Check with your high school guidance counselor to see what grants, loans or scholarships are available. See page 7 for more information on obtaining funds for college.



# FLYBOYS

## IMAGINATIONS—AND RADIO-CONTROLLED MODELS—SOAR IN THIS CROWLEY FLYING CLUB

BY MARY LAURENT • PHOTOS BY P.C. PIAZZA

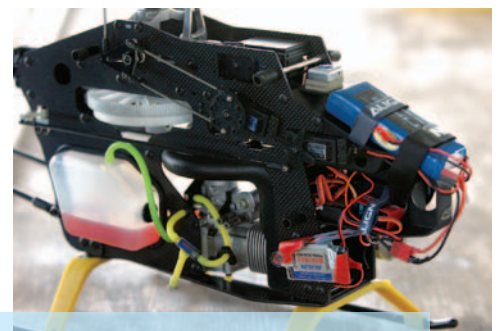


ilbur and Orville Wright, the pioneers credited with inventing the airplane and the first successful manned flight, traced their fascination with flying to a boyhood gift from their father: a toy helicopter made of paper, bamboo, cork and a rubber band.

Today, the Wright brothers' kindred spirits are the members of the Rice Area Modelers Society (RAMS), a radio-controlled airplane club in Acadia Parish. The club's 20 members fly model airplanes, helicopters, jets, seaplanes—and run airboats as well—at their Crowley airfield.

Whatever you can dream up, you can build, explains Jon Martin of Roberts Cove, the club's president. And what's more fun than seeing your imagination take flight in a working model!

Flying, fun and fellowship are hallmarks of this closely-knit group of hobbyists who are always looking for more members to join in on



(Above) Once the fuselage is removed, observers get a closer look at the intricate mechanical details of this model helicopter (Lucky Account Number 1043177500).

(Left) RAMS members at their airfield in Crowley (front row, left to right: Jon Martin and Eric Babineaux; back, left to right: Peyton Roteff, Taylor Roteff, Harold Miller, Van Lacombe, Carl Matte and Andre Miller).





(Above) James Roteff attaches an electric starter to fire up his aircraft's fuel-powered engine.

the fun (Lucky Account Number 3050556501).

RAMS is a group of radio-controlled flying enthusiasts whose passion for flight has led to great friendships. The group gathers at Martin's house the night before flying events to hang out and talk about flying. What began as a handful of friends gathered around the Martin dinner table has grown large enough to fill an indoor/outdoor addition to his home.

"We like to say that being at home with friends on a bad day, talking about flying, is better than flying alone on a pretty day," Martin explained, and the club would be happy to grow to double its current membership.

"We'd really love to include more fathers and sons in our group," Martin said. The sport is a great way to spend time together, he continued, involving concentration, problem-solving and plenty

of time outdoors in the fresh air flying.

While some controllers enjoy painstakingly building their own flying machines from a kit, others prefer an ARF—a plane or helicopter that is "Almost Ready to Fly."

"I enjoy starting on a plane with an ARF model," explains club member Van Lacombe of Egan. "I got started on the hobby late in life and don't like building."

Members preferences for building or purchasing a near-ready-made plane leads to even more opportunities for camaraderie.

"Most of our members like ARFs but can't fix them: I like to fix them," explains Martin, a real-life pilot for the worldwide private aviation company NetJets. He has found items in the trash that he was able to use to fix problems with a radio-controlled plane or helicopter.

Some club enthusiasts invest thousands of dollars to support their love of radio-controlled flying, but kits and ARFs can cost as little as \$500. Like any other hobby, how deeply you become involved in the sport will play a role in your flying budget.

Martin and Lacombe wisely suggest that anyone interested in exploring radio-controlled flying should come out to the field first

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Van Lacombe (right), checks out cockpit details on a plane in progress at club president Jon Martin's (left) workshop.





Continued from page 5

to see what's involved, ask questions and check out the options in selecting models and the gear required to fly them. They encourage anyone interested in flying radio-controlled aircraft to e-mail [marfly3@bellsouth.net](mailto:marfly3@bellsouth.net) or call 337-739-3385 to find out when the next event is scheduled.

When the weather is good, members fly their aircraft nearly every weekend at their airfield. The Habetz family of Crowley owns the field, but allows the club use of the eight acres in exchange for maintenance. The field features a 775-foot runway, a 700-foot seaway that is two feet deep and a covered pavilion.

Within the club, members fly in various categories of competition. Martin and club member Quentin Lacombe compete in Precision Aerobatics. Eric Babineaux of Eunice competes in the Scaled Helicopter division, while Lacombe prefers sport flying to competing (Lucky Account Number 1408160000).

Whether you enjoy building your own plane or buying one, whether you prefer planes or helicopters, flying radio-controlled aircraft offers something for anyone who dreams of flight and sharing the experience with friends and family.

#### FOR MORE INFORMATION

Visit the Rice Area Modelers Society website at [www.ramsrcclub.com](http://www.ramsrcclub.com) or contact Jon Martin at [marfly3@bellsouth.net](mailto:marfly3@bellsouth.net) or 337-739-3385.



(Above) Roteff and his son Peyton ready their plane for flight.

A shelf full of transmitters (left) and a wall covered with competition plaques (below) chronicle Jon Martin's passion for radio-controlled flying. Flying is his hobby, but also his career: during working hours he's a pilot with a private aviation company.



Eric Babineaux competes in the club's helicopter division.

#### UPCOMING EVENTS

All are free and open to the public

##### Cajun Heli Fest

March 26 – 27

##### RAMS Pattern Classic

April 9 – 10

##### Cajun Scale Heli Classic

Oct. 8 – 9

##### Cajun Nationals

Oct. 22 – 23



# COLLEGE FUNDING

## HOW TO BRIDGE THE GAP

Nationwide, the median cost of college tuition and fees is \$9,418 per year, CNNMoney reports. But the cost to attend public colleges is actually rising at nearly double the rate of expensive private schools.

With the economic downturn, cash-strapped states are cutting funds for public colleges nationwide so schools are increasing tuition. According to MSN, by 2020 you may need over \$100,000 to fund a four-year degree in a public university—and over twice that for a degree from a private college.

Most expect financial assistance will bridge the gap between their savings and college costs. Depending on the family's financial resources, grants may be an option. For the middle class, federal or private student loans may be required. But no matter what the source, it's never too early to start planning for supplemental college funds (Lucky Account Number 3225109005).

The Louisiana Office of Student Financial Assistance (LOSFA) recommends researching scholarships and options available under the state's College Payment Plan during the first year of high school.

Wise parents would examine some of these state-offered options even earlier. For example, our state's college savings program offers investment options, including matching contributions, that are exempt from state and federal taxes. As with other college savings funds and accounts through banks or brokerage houses, returns will vary with the financial markets and are best used to accumulate savings through smaller investments that compound over time.

The most widely-used state grant is the Taylor Opportunity Program for Students (TOPS). These merit-based scholarships equal tuition at in-state schools, or a comparable amount at Louisiana's private colleges. LOSFA offers useful informa-

tion on college planning and TOPS, Go Grants, Leveraging Education Assistance Partnership (LEAP) and other state college funding programs. Visit <http://www.osfa.la.gov/>, call 800-259-5626 ext. 1012 or write P.O. Box 91202, Baton Rouge, LA 70821-9202 for more information.

The path to nearly all state, federal or private student aid is the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). A necessity for federal student loans and grants,

for college. Most public colleges participate. If the information on your FAFSA shows that you qualify, you automatically receive aid. The maximum amount for the 2010-2011 academic year is \$5,550. This year's deadline is June 30 but apply as soon as you are eligible: Pell funds are limited and awarded first-come, first-served. If you receive a Pell Grant, you may also qualify for a Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant.

A Google search for "scholarships" yields an overwhelming 27,900,000

links. Some legitimate companies offer scholarship databases and assistance. But LSOFA notes that students are usually better off relying on a scholarship information source such as *Peterson's Scholarships, Grants & Prizes*. And the Federal Trade Commission warns to beware of scams: legitimate companies never guarantee or promise scholarships or grants.

It's never too early to begin planning. Many parents set up college accounts as soon as their baby has a Social Security number. But for some families, saving may be easier later on, especially if both parents plan to work once the kids are in grade school. Young parents may still be paying off their own college loans or saving for a house. And a child takes college more seriously when he or she helps pay for it. Such choices are an important step towards independence.

If a gap between savings and financial aid remains, a student still has options.

Two years of course work at a community college could transfer budget-priced credits to a more expensive institution for completion of the degree. A school near home saves thousands yearly in living expenses. Work-study jobs could also help, as long as work doesn't cut too deeply into study: adding an extra year to complete a four-year degree will significantly increase its overall cost.

# COLLEGE COSTS

Louisiana and thousands of colleges use this application as a standardized method of determining financial need. The FAFSA website (<http://www.fafsa.ed.gov>) also offers information and tools for any student who is analyzing how to pay for college.

The website's FAFSA4caster estimates eligibility for federal student aid and generates a personalized college cost worksheet. Other tools allow you to select colleges, estimate costs and search for scholarships. The site offers college savings and loan repayment calculators to help with financial planning.

The federally-funded Pell Grants are intended to assist students from low-income families, who are less able to save



# PARTICIPATING IN SLEMCO'S

The 74th annual meeting of the SLEMCO membership will be held on Saturday, June 4, 2011, at 10 a.m. at the Lafayette Cajundome. The following, taken from the co-op's By-Laws, details the reason for annual meetings and shows how board members are selected for the organization.

## ARTICLE III Meeting of Members

### Section 1. Annual and Special Meetings.

- (a) The Annual Meetings of the members shall be held on the first Saturday of June of each year for the purpose of electing directors, passing upon reports covering the previous fiscal year and transacting such other business as may come before the meeting. If such Annual Meeting is omitted on the date herein provided therefore, a special meeting may be held in place thereof, and any business transacted or elections held at such special meeting shall have the same effect as if transacted or held at the Annual Meeting. Failure to hold the Annual Meeting at the designated time shall not work a forfeiture or dissolution of the Corporation.
- (b) Special meeting of the members may be called by the President; by Resolution of the Board of Directors; upon written request signed by any three Directors; or by a Petition signed by not less than ten percent (10%) of the Members of the Corporation. It shall thereupon be the duty of the Secretary to cause a notice of such meeting to be given as hereinafter provided.

### Section 2. Place and Purposes of Member's Meetings.

- (a) Meetings of the members shall be held at the principal office of the Corporation in the City of Lafayette, Louisiana, or at such other place in the State of Louisiana as may be designated in the call of the meeting.
- (b) The purposes for which meetings of the members are to be held, in addition to those purposes prescribed by law, include Amendments to the Articles of Incorporation, or By-Laws, and in the case of a Special Meeting, the purpose or purposes for which the meeting is called shall be specified in writing. Special Meetings shall be called by the President, Board of Directors, a written request signed by any three (3) Directors, or by a Petition signed by not less than ten percent (10%) of the members of the Corporation.

### Section 3. Notice of Meetings.

- (a) Written or printed notice of the time and place and purposes as set out in Section 2 of all meetings shall be either mailed or delivered personally to each member not less than ten (10) days nor more than twenty-five (25) days before the date for such meeting, directed to his address as it appears on the Corporation's books, postage prepaid. If mailed, with postage thereon prepaid, such notice shall be deemed to be delivered when deposited in the United States mail, addressed to the member at his address as it appears on the records of the Cooperative. The failure of any member to receive notice of an annual or special meeting of the members shall not invalidate any action which may be taken by the members of any such meeting.

**Section 4. Quorum.** Five percent of all members, present in person, shall constitute a quorum. At any meeting of members at which a quorum is determined not to be present, a majority of those present in person may adjourn the meeting from time to time without further

notice.

### Section 5. Voting.

- (a) At every meeting of the members, each member present shall be entitled to only one vote. Where the membership stands in the name of the husband, the vote may be cast by the wife in the event the husband is not in attendance, and where the membership stands in the name of the wife, the vote may be cast by the husband if the wife is not in attendance. A duly authorized officer of any firm, corporation, partnership, association, business trust, federal agency, state or political subdivision or agency thereof or any body politic, may, upon proper proof of his authority, cast the vote of such organization. Except as otherwise provided herein, at all such meetings of the members at which a quorum is present, all questions shall be decided by a vote of a majority of the members voting on the particular question.
- (b) There shall be no voting by proxy.

**Section 6. Order of Business.** The order of business at the Annual Meetings of the members, and so far as possible at all other meetings of the members shall be as follows:

1. Report as to which members are present in person in order to determine the existence of a quorum.
2. Reading of the notice of the meeting together with proof of the due mailing thereof or of the waiver or waivers of notice of such meeting.
3. Presentation and reading of unapproved minutes of previous meetings of the members and the taking of necessary action thereon.
4. Presentation and consideration of, and acting upon, report of officers, directors and committees.
5. Election of directors.
6. Unfinished Business.
7. New business.
8. Adjournment.

## ARTICLE IV Board of Directors

**Section 1. General Powers.** The business and affairs of the Corporation shall be managed by a Board of Directors which shall exercise all of the powers of the Corporation except such as are by law or by the Articles of Incorporation or by these By-Laws conferred upon or reserved to the members.

### Section 2. Number and Qualifications and Election.

- (a) The number of Directors of the Corporation shall be ten (10). Each Director must be a member of the Corporation and shall be elected by the members at the Annual Meeting of Members or at the special meeting held in lieu thereof, for the term and as provided by these By-Laws. There shall be two (2) Directors from each of the following Parishes: Acadia, St. Landry, Lafayette, St. Martin, and Vermilion. Each Director shall have resided in one of the aforesaid parishes for the preceding two (2) years, and shall have been actively domiciled for the preceding year in the parish he represents.
- (b) No person may hold the office of Director who is in any way employed by, or financially interested in a competing enterprise or a business selling electric energy or supplies to the Cooperative, or a business primarily engaged in selling electrical or plumbing appliances, fixtures or supplies to the members of the Cooperative.
- (c) No person may be eligible to serve as a director who is the incumbent of or a candidate for an elective public office in



# ANNUAL MEETING IS EASY

connection with which a salary in excess of \$500.00 per annum is paid.

- (c-1) No person shall be allowed to hold the office of a Director of the Corporation who is physically and/or mentally incapable of performing all of the duties required of a Director. Such a determination, pursuant to a charge of incapacity, shall first be made by a physician selected by a majority of the Board of Directors and who after performing his evaluation renders a report certifying the incapacity, either physically or mentally, of the Director. Upon such certification, a majority of the Board of Directors shall be allowed to declare said party mentally and/or physically incapable of performing all of his duties as a Board Member. A refusal to submit to the examination subjects the Director charged to immediate removal by majority vote of the Board of Directors.
- (c-2) No person may hold the office of a Director of the Corporation who has been convicted of any felony or a misdemeanor involving moral turpitude.
- (c-3) No person may be eligible to serve as a Director who has an immediate family member (immediate means within the third degree) serving on the Board of Directors of the corporation.
- (c-4) No person holding the position of a Director of this corporation shall be allowed to solicit or otherwise request that the corporation and/or its employees conduct business with said Director.

Any person and/or Director who violates any of the requirements of Art. IV, Sec. 2, paragraphs a, b, c, c subparts and/or d, after due notice, at least five (5) days prior to the meeting at which the charges are to be considered, shall have the right to be heard in person or by counsel and to present evidence in respect to the charges and the Board of Directors shall have the same opportunity.

At the next regularly or specifically scheduled meeting, the Board of Directors of the Corporation, by a majority vote of said Board, may remove and the same are hereby authorized to remove the Director who has violated and/or who is found not to have fulfilled the qualifications of serving on the Board of Directors of the Corporation. Said vacancy shall be filled as provided for in Art. IV, Sec. 4 of these By-Laws.

- (d) **Nomination.** It shall be the duty of the Board of Directors to appoint, not less than forty-five (45) days nor more than one hundred (100) days before the date of the meeting of members at which Directors are to be elected, a committee on nominations consisting of not less than five (5) nor more than eleven (11) members, who shall be selected from different sections of the project area so as to ensure equitable representations. No member of the Board of Directors may serve on such committee. The date, time and place of the meeting of the nominating committee for the Board of Directors shall be published in the monthly issue of the membership publication in the month immediately preceding that meeting. The committee shall prepare and post at the principal office of this Cooperative, at least forty-five (45) days before the membership meeting, a list of nominations of Directors, selecting the same number of persons as nominees as the number whose terms expire at the next Annual Meeting; selecting at least one (1) nominee from each Parish which is the address and domicile of the member

whose term will expire at the Annual Meeting, so as to ensure two (2) Board Members at all times from each of the five (5) Parishes named in Section 2 (1), Article IV of the By-Laws.

- (d-1) Any fifteen (15) or more members acting together may make other nominations by Petition and file the Petition with the Secretary at the headquarters office of the Cooperative, not less than twenty-five (25) days prior to the meeting of the members. The Secretary shall thereupon immediately post such nominations at the headquarters office of the Cooperative, at which place the list of nominations made by the Nominating Committee has been posted. When nominations are made by Petition in addition to those made by the Nominating Committee as aforesaid, the Secretary shall immediately mail with the notice of the meeting, or separately, but at least ten (10) days prior to the date of the meeting of members, to each member a statement of the number of Directors to be elected and the names and addresses of all of the candidates, specifying separately the nominations made by the Committee on Nominations and also the nominations made by Petition. All nominations of members as candidate for the Board of Directors shall specify the Parish which the said candidate is to represent. All members present at the Annual Meeting at which Directors are to be elected, shall be entitled to vote on the Directors to be elected, regardless of the Parish which such Directors are to represent. Notwithstanding anything contained in this Section, failure to comply with any of the provisions of this Section shall not in any manner whatsoever affect the validity of any election for Directors.

**Section 3. Tenure.** The Board of Directors shall be divided into three (3) classes at the Annual Meeting of members to be held on June 2, 1979, the first class to be composed of four (4) members with the term of office to expire at the next succeeding Annual Meeting in 1980; the second class to be composed of three (3) members with the term of the Directors of the second class to expire at the second succeeding Annual Meeting in 1981, and the third class to be composed of three (3) members, and the term of office to expire of the third succeeding Annual Meeting in 1982. As nearly as possible, no two members shall be elected from the same parish in the same year. The implementation of this provision of the By-Laws shall not be such as to reduce the term of office of any Director serving at the time of its implementation. At each Annual Meeting following the classification herein provided, a number of Directors equal to the number of the class whose term expired at the time for such meeting shall be elected to hold office for a term of three (3) years, or until the third succeeding Annual Meeting after such election.

**Section 4. Vacancies.** Vacancies occurring in the Board of Directors shall be filled by a majority vote of the remaining Directors. Directors thus elected by the Board of Directors to fill vacancies shall serve until the expiration of the term of the Director whose office the said member has been elected to fill or until his successor has been duly elected and qualified, provided, however, that any member elected by the Board of Directors to fill a vacancy on the said Board must be a resident of the same Parish as the director causing the said vacancy.

**Section 5. Compensation.** Directors shall not receive any salary for their services, but by Resolution of the Board of Directors a fixed

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These recipes come from Lucy “LuLu” Buffett’s *Crazy Sista Cooking: Cuisine & Conversation*. It features recipes from her famous Alabama Gulf Coast restaurant, fascinating stories and anecdotes, plus a foreword by her brother, musician Jimmy Buffett. It is available online for \$29.95, plus shipping and handling, from <http://crazysistacooking.com>.

## Oyster Stew à la LuLu

1 quart oysters in oyster liquor  
ice water  
1 stick unsalted butter  
4 cloves garlic, finely chopped  
1 cup finely chopped celery  
1 cup finely chopped white onion  
1/2 cup thinly sliced small button mushrooms  
2 cups heavy cream  
1/2 tsp. salt  
1/2 tsp. white pepper  
1/4 tsp. cayenne pepper  
1/2 lb. Brie cheese or any soft triple-cream cheese, such as St. André, rind removed  
1/2 cup dry white wine  
2 tbsp. finely chopped fresh parsley  
generous dash of LuLu’s Perfect Pepper Hot Sauce

Drain oysters and refrigerate until ready to use. Reserve liquor and add enough ice water to yield 3 cups of liquid. Set aside.

In large saucepan, melt butter over medium heat until it is just sizzling. (It is important to not let the butter brown at all.) Add garlic and cook until soft, but not brown. Add celery, onions and mushrooms and continue to sauté until soft. Add oyster liquor-water mixture, then heavy cream. (Do not add heavy cream first or it might scorch.)

Add salt, white pepper and cayenne. Cook for about 5 minutes or until stew is just about to boil. Reduce heat to low and cover. Continue simmering for another 5 minutes. Add cheese and wine, stirring constantly until cheese melts. Add oysters and green onions. Cover and continue to cook for 2 to 3 minutes or until edges of



oysters curl. Add parsley and hot sauce. Adjust seasonings and serve immediately.  
Yield: 10 servings

## Key Lime Pie with Grand Marnier Whipped Cream

2 cups finely-crushed graham crackers  
1 stick unsalted butter, melted  
3 tbsp. sugar  
1 tsp. unflavored gelatin  
2 tbsp. cold water  
2 egg yolks  
1/2 cup Key lime juice, freshly squeezed if available  
1 (14-oz.) can sweetened condensed milk  
Grand Marnier Whipped Cream  
1 lime, thinly sliced for garnish

Preheat oven to 350°. Combine cracker crumbs, melted butter and sugar in a small mixing bowl. Press evenly into a 9-inch pie pan with hands or the back of a spoon. Bake for 10 minutes or until lightly brown. Set aside to cool.

In a small mixing bowl, dissolve gelatin in cold water, stir and set aside. In a heavy saucepan, combine egg yolks and lime juice and stir over medium-low heat for 10 minutes or until slightly thick and very hot. Be careful not to bring to a full boil. Add softened gelatin to lime juice mixture. Whisk well for 1 minute or until gelatin is dissolved. To quickly cool mixture, place saucepan in a large bowl filled with ice.

When completely cool, gradually whisk in condensed milk, stirring until blended well and mixture becomes thick. Spoon into graham cracker crust and spread evenly. Cover filling with plastic wrap and refrigerate. When ready to serve, top pie with fresh Grand Marnier Whipped Cream and lime slices. Yield: 1 pie

*Hint: You may substitute bottled juice, which is available in most large grocery stores.*

### GRAND MARNIER WHIPPED CREAM

1/2 pint heavy cream, well chilled  
2 tbsp. sugar  
1 tbsp. Grand Marnier liqueur, optional

In a stainless steel mixing bowl, com-



bine cream, sugar and liqueur. Whip with an electric mixer on high until cream holds peaks. Be careful not to over-whip cream or it will separate. Cream is properly whipped when you can drag a finger through it and a trough remains.

*Hint: Chill the stainless steel bowl and beaters before whipping the cream for quicker results.*

## Sunday Brunch Crabmeat Omelet with Pepper Jack Grits

8 eggs

1/2 cup heavy cream

1/4 tsp. dry mustard

1/2 tsp. salt

1/4 tsp. black pepper

1/2 tsp. LuLu's Perfect Pepper Hot Sauce  
or any medium hot sauce

1/2 cup finely chopped green onions

1 cup lump crabmeat

1 tbsp. butter, or more if needed

Pepper Jack Cheese Grits

Chunky Cherry Tomato Salsa

Preheat the oven to 200°. In a large bowl, combine eggs with heavy cream, dry mustard, salt, black pepper and hot sauce. Beat until mixture is light and fluffy. Add green onions and crabmeat and stir once gently, being careful not to break up the jumbo lumps.

In a large heavy frying pan or on a flat-top griddle, melt 1 tbsp. butter over medium heat until it is just about to sizzle, but not browned. Scooping from the bottom to evenly distribute crabmeat, ladle 1/4 cup of egg mixture onto the hot frying pan in order to make a thin, crepe-like omelet about 4 inches in diameter. If the pan is large enough, make 2 omelets at a time.

After eggs have set and are slightly brown on the bottom, use a thin metal spatula and quickly flip each omelet over onto itself, forming half-moons. Continue to cook 1 to 2 minutes on each side or until eggs have set and are no longer runny.

Repeat until all egg mixture is cooked, using more butter as necessary. (You may want to wipe the pan with a paper towel, removing the browned butter before adding new butter.) Place cooked omelets in oven to keep warm. Serve immediately with Pepper Jack Grits and Chunky Cherry Tomato Salsa. Yield: 6 servings

### PEPPER JACK GRITS

6 cups water

1/2 cup milk or heavy cream

1 1/3 cups uncooked regular grits

2 tbsp. unsalted butter

1/2 tsp. salt

2 cups cubed Velveeta Pepper Jack cheese  
black pepper to taste

LuLu's Perfect Pepper Hot Sauce to taste

In a heavy saucepan, heat water and milk, but do not boil. Slowly add grits, stirring constantly to avoid clumping. Add butter and salt. Reduce heat to medium-low and simmer, stirring often, for 15 to 20 minutes or until thick and creamy. Add cheese and cook until cheese melts. Season to taste with salt, pepper and hot sauce.

Yield: 6 servings

### CHUNKY CHERRY TOMATO SALSA

2 pints cherry tomatoes, quartered

1/4 cup finely chopped fresh cilantro

1/2 cup finely chopped yellow onion

1 jalapeno, with seeds, finely chopped

3 tbsp. freshly squeezed lime juice

1/2 tsp. salt

freshly ground black pepper to taste

Combine all ingredients in a bowl. Mix thoroughly and refrigerate. Yield: 4 cups

## Sweet and Savory Spinach Salad

2 bags fresh spinach

1 tbsp. butter

1/2 cup pecan halves

1/2 tbsp. sugar

1/3 cup Balsamic Bleu Dressing

1/2 red onion, very thinly sliced

2 oranges or 1 grapefruit, peeled and

sectioned

1 cup strawberries, sliced

1/3 cup oil-cured olives, pitted and  
sliced

1/4 cup crumbled Stilton cheese

Thoroughly wash and pat dry spinach, trim off stems. Place in a large salad bowl. Cover with damp paper towel and refrigerate. In a heavy skillet, melt butter over medium-low heat. Add pecans and toss to coat. Add sugar and stir continuously until pecans are browned and glazed. Remove pecans from the skillet and transfer to paper towels. As the pecans cool, the sugar will harden like candy.

Immediately before serving, toss spinach greens with dressing. Top with onion slices, citrus fruit, strawberries, olives and Stilton cheese. Sprinkle with candied pecans. Yield: 4 to 6 servings

### BALSAMIC BLEU DRESSING

1/2 cup olive oil

1/2 cup balsamic vinegar

2 tbsp. Dijon mustard

2 tbsp. lemon juice

1 cup crumbled bleu cheese

1/2 tsp. sugar

1/2 tsp. salt

1/4 tsp. black pepper

Combine all ingredients in a bowl. Mix thoroughly and refrigerate. Yield: about 2 cups

For extra copies of these recipes or to e-mail a copy to a friend, visit **SLEMCO Power** magazine online at [www.slemco.com](http://www.slemco.com).

## LUCKY NUMBER WINNERS

Only one SLEMCO member found his name hidden in the January/February issue of **SLEMCO Power**. **Cliff Delafosse** of Eunice called in to claim his \$10 credit.

Nine others missed out on their prizes. They included **Charles Bier** of Crowley, **Anna Vidrine** of Opelousas, **Carl Fenske** of New Iberia, **Debbie Zumalt** of Lafayette, **Michael Cluse**

of Church Point, **Jude Altamirano** of Washington, **Marcell Youngblood** of Iota, **Mary Eldridge** of Scott and **Michael Wolfe** of Lafayette.

Ten more account numbers are hidden in this issue. See if yours is among them (Lucky Account Number 4501464700). If so, call Mrs. Gayle Babin at SLEMCO at 896-2504 and she'll verify whether you're a winner. ●



Continued from page 9

fee and expenses of attendance may be allowed for attendance at each meeting of the Board of Directors, provided that the Directors and Officers of the Corporation, except in emergencies, shall not receive compensation from the Corporation for their services except after approval by the members at the regular or special meeting.

**Section 6. Rules and Regulations.** The Board of Directors shall have power to make and adopt such rules and regulations, not inconsistent with the Articles of Incorporation or the By-Laws of the Corporation or the laws of the State of Louisiana as it may deem advisable for the management, administration and regulation of the business and affairs of the Corporation.

**Section 7. Accounting System and Reports.** The Board of Directors shall cause to be established and maintained a complete accounting system, which shall conform to such system of accounts as may from time to time be designated by the Rural Electrification Administration of the United States of America. All accounts of the Corporation shall be examined by the Board of Directors at least four times a year at regular meetings of the Board. The Board of Directors may also after the close of each fiscal year cause to be made a full and complete audit of the accounts, books and financial condition of the Corporation as of the end of such fiscal year. Such audit reports shall be submitted to the members at the following Annual Meeting.

**Section 8. Removal of Directors by Members.** Any member may bring charges against a Director by filing such charges in writing with the Secretary, together with a Petition signed by at least ten percent (10%) of the members and request the removal of such Director

by reason thereof. The Director, against whom such charges have been brought, shall be informed in writing of the charges at least five (5) days prior to the meeting at which the charges are to be considered and shall have an opportunity at the meeting to be heard in person or by counsel and to present evidence in respect to the charges and the person or persons bringing the charges against him shall have the same opportunity. The question of the removal of such Director shall be considered and voted upon at the next regular or special meeting of the members, as provided for in Louisiana R.S. 12:418, and any vacancy created by such removal shall be filled by vote of the members in accordance with the general nomination and election procedure provided for herein. ●

#### **SLEMCO 2011 NOMINATING COMMITTEE**

**Acadia Parish**—Mr. Jim Hundley, 3604 Cole Gully Road, Branch, LA 70516

**Lafayette Parish**—Mr. Ralph Miller, 2318 Ridge Road, Duson, LA 70529

**St. Martin Parish**—Mr. Don Resweber, 1379 Burton Plantation Highway, St. Martinville, LA 70582

**St. Landry Parish**—Mr. William G. Behringer, 158 Richard Kolder Lane, Opelousas, LA 70570

**Vermilion Parish**—Mr. Hampton Campbell, 31238 E. Campbell Road, Gueydan, LA 70542

The committee will meet April 5, 2011, at 8:00 a.m. at the SLEMCO office, 3420 NE Evangeline Thruway, Lafayette, LA.

(s) Bryan G. Leonards, Sr., *Board Secretary*

## IMPORTANT SLEMCO PHONE NUMBERS

To report a power outage anywhere in our service area, call our automated toll-free system by dialing **1-888-2SLEMCO** (1-888-275-3626).

To turn your electricity off or on, you can call the SLEMCO Service Department day or night, seven days a week, at any of these numbers:

<b>Lafayette area</b>	<b>896-5551</b>
<b>Broussard</b>	<b>237-5122</b>
<b>Crowley</b>	<b>783-7714</b>
<b>Kaplan</b>	<b>643-6565</b>
<b>Washington</b>	<b>826-7911</b>
<b>Youngsville</b>	<b>237-5122</b>

If you live in an area not listed above, call the number nearest you. ●

You can reach SLEMCO's main office in Lafayette by calling any of these numbers:

<b>Lafayette area</b>	<b>896-5384</b>
<b>Breaux Bridge</b>	<b>332-3704</b>
<b>St. Martinville</b>	<b>394-3844</b>

