

## ‘Gosh, I’m Lucky To Belong to a Co-op’



**MESSAGE FROM MANAGER BILLY KULWICKI**

You’ve probably heard the realtors’ mantra, “Location, location, location,” that defines what determines the worth of any given piece of property. It’s such an important factor that it bears repeating.

In the same manner, it bears repeating that control of Lamar Electric Co-op is “local, local, local.” Local control is at the heart of our cooperative way of business. It’s what makes us different than other energy providers. It means we’re accountable to you, as individual members, and to the entire community we serve.

It means when outside factors—such as the soaring price of fuel—affect our rates, we remain accountable to

you and responsible for keeping your co-op fiscally whole.

It’s easy to overlook those fundamental principles when you get your summer electricity bill. Your first reaction might be something other than, “Gosh, I’m lucky to belong to a co-op.”

In fact you are lucky because by participating in the election of your board of directors, your priorities become part of the decision-making. Your elected board members represent your desire to keep rates as reasonable as possible without jeopardizing the health of your co-op.

The board of directors is composed of your friends and neighbors. They’re right here to discuss co-op issues with their fellow members.

These are challenging times for all utilities. Across the board, costs are rising. Your directors are often called upon to make tough decisions that will affect your co-op’s future. Those decisions are not made in a vacuum. They are not made to generate profits for outside investors. They are made in the context of this community as a part of this country, as affected by changing global economies.

We may not have control over the price of a barrel of oil or the cost of the natural gas used to generate power, but we can present information to help you manage your energy consumption and cut costs. We do that a number of ways, including sharing up-to-date information through these pages of *Texas Co-op Power* and on our website at [www.lamarelectric.coop](http://www.lamarelectric.coop).

Remember, you can contribute to the direction your co-op is taking. Call us with your concerns. Attend your annual meeting and voice your opinions there.

We never forget that this is YOUR business. We are here to serve and bring you electricity in the most cost-effective way we know how.

## LYLE YODER ELECTED TO LEC BOARD



Lyle Yoder of Pattonville was elected to represent District 9 on the Lamar Electric Cooperative board at the LEC annual membership meeting held May 3 at the Love Civic

Center in Paris. Yoder defeated Kelly Jeffery of Paris. Board member Bill Ross did not seek re-election.

Incumbents Michael R. Williams of Detroit and James S. Cooper of Roxton were re-elected to serve another three years in Districts 1 and 8. Williams was opposed by Johnny McCain of Bagwell. Cooper’s challenger was Kregg Slakey of Cooper.

Members in attendance were treated to lunch catered by Scholl Brothers Barbeque.

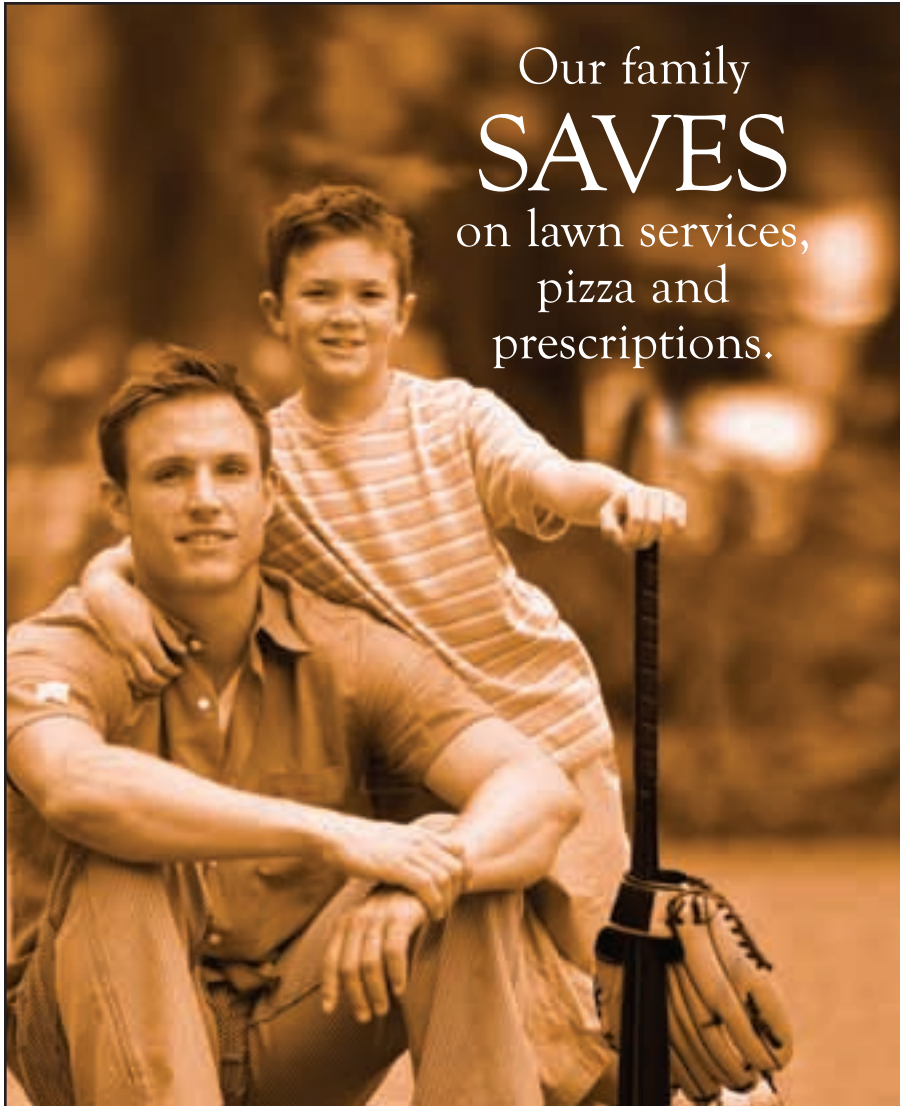


**Happy Independence Day!**

**Lamar EC will be closed Friday, July 4, for the holiday.**



**There’s nothing better than homegrown vegetables and being a member of your ‘homegrown’ local electric cooperative.**



Our family  
**SAVES**  
on lawn services,  
pizza and  
prescriptions.



**LAMAR  
ELECTRIC  
COOPERATIVE**

1485 North Main Street  
P.O. Box 580 • Paris, TX 75461  
Phone (903) 784-4303

For general information and  
outages after hours, call  
**(903) 784-4303** local, or  
**1-800-782-9010** toll-free

Operating in Lamar, Red River,  
Delta and Fannin counties

Find us on the web at  
[www.lamarelectric.coop](http://www.lamarelectric.coop)

**MANAGER**

Billy Kulwicki

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**CHAIRMAN**

Allen Branch ..... Sumner

**VICE CHAIRMAN**

Bill E. Cunningham ..... Reno

**SECRETARY-TREASURER**

Billy Hines ..... Clarksville

James Sam Cooper ..... Roxton

Charles Dooley ..... Annona

Mark Jones ..... Paris

Ron E. Tippit ..... Clarksville

Mike Williams ..... Detroit

Lyle Yoder ..... Pattonville

**YOUR "LOCAL PAGES"**

This section of *Texas Co-op Power* magazine is produced by LEC each month to provide you with information about current events, safety, special programs and other activities of the cooperative. If you have any comments or suggestions, please contact the local office.

**MEMBER BENEFITS:**

- Level billing
- Automated meter reading
- Free bank draft service
- Visa, Discover and MasterCard accepted

Because we have a Co-op Connections® membership card, we save on everyday purchases and services. Our family even saves 10 to 60 percent off prescriptions at our participating local pharmacy. It's just one more way we benefit from being members of a Touchstone Energy® cooperative.

Flash your card to save on everyday purchases and prescriptions.

To learn more, visit [www.lamarelectric.coop](http://www.lamarelectric.coop).

**Lamar Electric Cooperative**

Pharmacy discounts are not insurance and are not intended as a substitute for insurance.



*Looking out for you.*

## A Buckle for Showmanship



Hallie Bolton won the Senior Dairy Showmanship buckle at the Lamar County Junior Livestock Show. The buckle was sponsored by Lamar Electric Cooperative.

## Taking Home a Saddle



Kelli Smith is the Central Plains Regional Champion Goat-Tyer for 2008. She is the daughter of LEC Line Superintendent James Smith and a former LEC employee.

## Hey, Kids!



For games, coloring pages and lots of fun, check out



Go to

[www.lamarelectric.coop](http://www.lamarelectric.coop)  
and click on the **Touchstone Energy Kids Zone** icon.



This free, easy-to-use home energy savings tool is designed to help you identify the best ways to save energy in your home.

Go to

[www.lamarelectric.coop](http://www.lamarelectric.coop)  
and click on the **Touchstone Energy Savers** icon.

# BLUEGRASS AND JAM!

AT COOPER LAKE CENTER, BIRTHRIGHT, TEXAS  
6 P.M. FRIDAY/SATURDAY, AUG. 1 & 2  
ADMISSION \$12 each day (kids under 12 free)



DAVID DAVIS AND THE  
WARRIOR RIVER BOYS



LOUISIANA GRASS



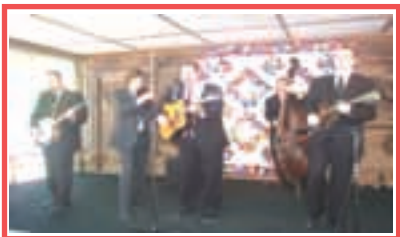
HICKORY HILL



THE ACOUSTICATZ



THE BLUEGRASS SOLUTION



MARK PHILLIPS AND IIRD GENERATION



WELCH MOUNTAIN



THE KEISLER BROTHERS

Bluegrass legend **BILL GRANT** will keep this exciting two-nighter moving as emcee and program director. Special guest **AMY ASBILL PATRICK** will accompany Bill when he starts making music.



*Cooper Lake Center* is south of Paris, Texas, and north of Sulphur Springs. Take Texas Hwy. 19 and watch for turn sign at County Road 4795 (the road that crosses Cooper Lake Dam). For mail-order tickets or information, call (toll-free) 1 (877) 808-1831, or check our website: [www.cooperlakecenter.com](http://www.cooperlakecenter.com). A jamming stage will be available during the day before each concert.

Groups outlined in **blue** perform on Aug 1; in **red** perform on Aug 2. Bill will perform both days.