

**Employee of the Month - June 2017**

**Jeff Serio**

Each month Pointe Coupee Electric highlights one of its valued employees. The Cooperative understands the importance of its member owners getting to know the people who are instrumental in providing them with quality electric services.

This month Pointe Coupee Electric introduces Jeff Serio to its member owners. Jeff holds the position of Lineman and Lead Right of Way Worker. He is responsible for the new construction of lines, maintaining the current system and clearing right of way.

On a typical day, you will also find him answering trouble calls and providing service work. Jeff enjoys working with his fellow co-workers and the cooperative members. (Acct. No. 172801)



**Are You Prepared?**

**Are you prepared to protect your family and property if a hurricane strikes? We encourage you to follow the checklist below to create your hurricane survival kit:**

- Battery operated clock, radio and TV
- Bottled water (7 gallons per person)
- Flashlights (one for each family member)
- Extra batteries
- Blankets and pillows
- Canned and dry food
- Can opener
- Butane lighter
- Cell phone
- Camp stove and lamp, with fuel
- Fire extinguisher
- First Aid kit
- Propane for stove or grill
- Wired telephone

**Look for your lucky account number on pages 6-7**

If you see your account number published this month on inside pages 6-7 of this issue of LOUISIANA COUNTRY, call Pointe Coupee Electric by the last business day of the month to receive a \$25 credit on your bill! Contact us at (225) 638-3751 or (800) 738-7232. Your account number can be found on your bill statement. Winning account numbers will only be listed on the inside, centerfold pages.

**Pointe Coupee Electric News**

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**Local students take the 'trip of a lifetime' to Washington, D.C.**

Pointe Coupee Electric and NRG Energy/Louisiana Generating, LLC recently joined forces to sponsor six students as part of the 53rd Annual Electric Cooperative Youth Tour in Washington, D.C.

The six delegates were awarded the free trip to Washington by being selected winners of PCEMC's Youth Tour Essay Writing Competition.

Representing PCEMC were Charlie Newchurch of Pointe Coupee Parish, MaKayla Lacy from West Baton Rouge Parish and Zoë Bertrand of Iberville Parish.

Representing NRG/Louisiana Generating were Alex Langlois of Pointe Coupee Parish, and Robbi Seneca and Mary Claire Morel of Iberville Parish.

Since PCEMC began participating in the program, dozens of local students have benefited from what has often been described as a "life changing" experience.

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

While in Washington, the students joined more than 1,800 other students from 37 states for the annual program.

"The purpose of the contest is to give local students a chance to develop leadership skills, learn how electric cooperatives work, see our government in action and tour Washington, D.C.," said PCEMC Director of Member Services Joanie Bishop, who administers the program for the cooperative. "We're happy that these six local students had a great time in Washington and that the cooperative could make this once-in-a-lifetime event possible for them. I know they learned a lot and represented Louisiana well." (Acct. No. 192800)

Bishop said PCEMC is proud to continue supporting the worthwhile program that builds leadership skills and enriches the lives of each participant.

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

During the week-long Youth Tour, the students learned about electric Co-ops, visited Capitol Hill to meet Louisiana Senators and Representatives and had the unique chance to act as lobbyists and voice their concerns and pose their questions directly to lawmakers.



The Pointe Coupee Electric and NRG Energy/Louisiana Generating delegates are shown above visiting Mt. Vernon and at left in front of the National Archives Building. The students also visited the Smithsonian museum complex, Capitol Hill, Vietnam, Lincoln and Korean War memorials, the Newseum and other sites.

**Pointe Coupee Electric has a new and more convenient way to report power outages!**

Simply go to our website at [www.pcemc.org](http://www.pcemc.org) and click on the **Report an Outage** button at the top of the page. You can also access this feature on your smartphone. You will be prompted to fill out a form with your outage information which is sent directly to our dispatcher.

You can still report an outage by calling our office at 225-638-3751 or 800-738-7232.

If you have a downed power line or another hazardous situation, please call our office and notify the dispatcher.

*Pointe Coupee Electric is an equal opportunity provider and employer.*

**Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month**



Let the sun work for you! Consider solar lights for outdoor lighting. Solar cells convert sunlight into electricity that can be stored in a battery and tapped at night to make light. Check manufacturers' instructions to make sure your solar lights are situated to receive sufficient sunlight to recharge during the day.

Source: U.S. Dept. of Energy

**Safety codes must be met before service can be restored**

Pointe Coupee Electric Safety Coordinator Joe Langlois notes that Co-op field personnel often encounter cases where they cannot reconnect services because the customer's side of the electric service does not meet current electrical safety codes.

The National Electric Safety Code prohibits any electric utility, including Pointe Coupee Electric, from restoring service to any disconnected accounts until that customer's service meets current code specifications.

In addition, when cooperative field personnel observe any unsafe service condition, Pointe Coupee Electric will notify that customer of the situation, and the customer will be given a reasonable amount of time to make repairs.

Copies of specifications involved are available at the Pointe Coupee Electric office in New Roads and on the company website in the Member Handbook under the About Us section. It is important that consumers realize that these codes do change and are updated on a regular basis and may include certain local requirements.

The National Electric Safety Code prevents any electric utility from providing service to any location that does not meet established codes, and also requires that consumers be advised whenever such conditions are detected.

Pointe Coupee Electric regrets any inconvenience this may cause, however, the cooperative is obligated to follow all regulations and codes without exception.

If anyone has any questions concerning their electric service, please call (225) 638-3751 or 1-800-738-7232.

Pointe Coupee Electric is your local electric cooperative that serves parts of Iberville, Pointe Coupee and West Baton Rouge parishes. We are an equal opportunity provider and employer. (Acct. No. 1439500)

**Irvin Settoon, Sr., retires from PCEMC Board of Directors after 29 years**

Pointe Coupee Electric Board Member Irvin Settoon, Sr., officially announced his retirement from the board during the cooperative's monthly board meeting on May 25, 2017.

Mr. Settoon has served on the board since Jan. 27, 1988, having served as the board's Vice President for the past 25 years. Mr. Settoon represented the co-op members of District 7, which encompasses the Bayou Pigeon and Bayou Sorrel areas in Iberville Parish.

The board of directors are elected by members from the seven districts comprising the service area of Pointe Coupee Electric. Directors must be Pointe Coupee Electric members who reside in the district they represent. The seven directors comprising the Pointe Coupee Electric Board are responsible for managing the business and affairs of the electric cooperative.

Following his announcement at the board meeting, Mr. Settoon stated, "After 29 years serving as a board member, it is my honor to pass on my dedication to the mission of this organization to the next generation of leaders. I look forward to witnessing the future of Pointe Coupee Electric and will still be a resident and member of Pointe Coupee Electric."

Mr. Settoon continued, "It has been a humbling experience working with all of you, the PCEMC Board members, management, staff and employees. My wife Mildred (now deceased) and I have enjoyed many years with the co-op and with you and your families. We have made many friends and enjoyed sharing our



Board member Irvin Settoon, Sr. (left) is shown with his son, Chris Settoon, who will fulfill the remainder of his board term through the end of this year.

lives with all of you."

Mr. Settoon plans to sit back, relax and enjoy life while spending more time with his family, including his three new grandbabies, and his many friends.

General Manager Myron A. Lambert said, "On behalf of Pointe Coupee Electric, our employees, and members, I would like to express our appreciation for Mr. Settoon's many years of dedicated service and leadership to PCEMC. We want to say thank you and wish him the all the best in his retirement." (Acct. No. 1719401)

Fulfilling the remainder of Mr. Settoon's term through the end of this year is his son, Chris Settoon. Chris will celebrate 40 years of dedicated employment with Olin (formerly Dow plants divested to Olin in October 2015) in Iberville Parish this September. Chris currently serves as a Mechanical Integrity Technologist at Olin and he also enjoys doing volunteer work within his community.

**Celebrate Life. Join us for Relay for Life! Paint Pointe Coupee Purple Day**

*Wouldn't this world be a better place if everything was purple? We think so!*

The American Cancer Society Relay for Life of Pointe Coupee invites you to participate in **Paint Pointe Coupee Purple Day** set for Friday, September 22, 2017.

Pointe Coupee Electric is sponsoring this special day and is currently selling specially designed purple tee shirts and bows for businesses, schools, and individuals to purchase in order to Paint Pointe Coupee Purple. **Orders are currently being taken. Please stop by or call Pointe Coupee Electric at (225) 638-3751 and ask for Joanie or Jill to order your tee shirts and bows. Items must be paid for in advance.** On September 22, wear your purple tee shirts and display your purple bows both inside and outside your workplace, schools and homes throughout the parish.

**By wearing purple, you will be showing your support and rallying with us in the fight against cancer!**



**DEADLINE TO ORDER SHIRTS AND BOWS WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 23!**  
**SHIRTS AND BOWS WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR PICKUP: SEPTEMBER 14 - 15.**  
**PAINT POINTE COUPEE PURPLE DAY: SEPTEMBER 22, 2017**

Order forms are available at Pointe Coupee Electric and on our Facebook page as well as the City of New Roads, Town of Livonia, Village of Morganza and Town of Fardoche.

YOUR COOPERATIVE CONNECTION

# LOUISIANA

POINTE COUPEE ELECTRIC NEWS  
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# COUNTRY

## Local students return from Washington Youth Tour trip



*Shown left to right are Zoë Bertrand, MaKayla Lacy, Charlie Newchurch, Robbi Seneca, Alex Langlois and Mary Claire Morel.*