

TEXAS CO-OP POWER

RENEWABLE ENERGY REALITY CHECK

What's on the Horizon for Texans and Their Co-ops?



P L U S

Tiny Houses
Southern Cakes

Hit the Road:
Navasota to Madisonville



imagine watching what the NFL watches

Imagine watching an HDTV that makes the lightning-fast action of football so crisp, it's the #1 HDTV pick of the NFL for their in-stadium coaches' booths. With Samsung's new 71 series LCD TV featuring Auto Motion Plus 120Hz™ technology, the decision is clear. For more information, visit samsung.com/nfl



OFFICIAL HDTV OF THE NFL



6

FEATURES

6 Energy Reality Check, Part II

GREEN POWER FOR TEXANS AND THEIR CO-OPS

By Kaye Northcott

In Part II of our Energy Reality Check, we look at the current status and future promise of renewable electricity sources for co-ops and give a cheer for energy management and conservation.

14 Tiny Houses Reprise the Past

By Camille Wheeler

Central Texas builders are rescuing materials from time's refuse heap and refashioning them into new, yet antique houses built to last another 100 years.

FAVORITES

Footnotes By Clay Coppedge *Texas' First Thanksgiving* 37

Recipe Roundup *Southern Cakes* 38

Focus on Texas *Hunting with a Camera* 43

Around Texas *Local Events Listings* 44

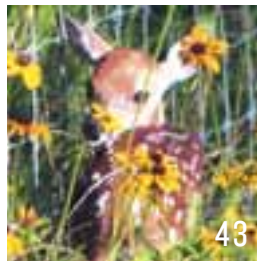
Hit the Road By June Naylor *Navasota to Madisonville* 46



37



38



43



14

TEXAS CO-OP POWER

Texas Co-op Power is published by your electric cooperative to enhance the quality of life of its member-customers in an educational and entertaining format.

TEXAS ELECTRIC COOPERATIVES BOARD OF DIRECTORS: **Greg Jones**, Chair, *Rusk*; **Ray Beavers**, Vice Chair, *Cleburne*; **Darren Schauer**, Secretary-Treasurer, *Gonzales*; **James Calhoun**, *Franklin*; **Steve Louder**, *Hereford*; **Gary Nietzsche**, *La Grange*; **William "Buff" Whitten**, *Eldorado*

PRESIDENT/CEO: **Mike Williams**, *Austin*

STRATEGIC COMMUNICATIONS ADVISORY COMMITTEE: **Roland Witt**, Chair, *Coleman*; **Bill Harbin**, Vice Chair, *Floydada*; **Roy Griffin**, *Edna*; **Kim Hooper**, *Bluegrove*; **Steve Young**, *Hamilton*; **Robert A. Loth III**, *Fredericksburg*; **Melody Pinnell**, *Crockett*

COMMUNICATIONS STAFF: **Peg Champion**, Vice President, Communications/Publisher; **Kaye Northcott**, Editor; **Carol Moczygomba**, Managing Editor; **Suzi Sands**, Art Director; **Martin Bevins**, Advertising Director; **Andy Doughty**, Production Designer; **Sandra Forston**, Communications Assistant; **Melissa Grischkowsky**, Communications Coordinator; **Kevin Hargis**, Copy Editor; **Jo Johanning**, Communications Assistant; **Karen Nejtck**, Production Manager; **Shannon Oelrich**, Food Editor/Proofreader; **Dacia Rivers**, Field Editor; **Alex Sargent**, Production Artist; **Emily Stewart**, Intern

letters

GIVE YOUR MAGAZINE A SECOND LIFE

The Quinlan VFW Post I2042 is asking *Texas Co-op Power* readers to pass their magazines on to Texas service members in harm's way.

Put your magazine in an envelope and mail it to:

"Any B Company, 3-144
Infantry Soldier in Iraq"
2200 W. 35th St., Bldg. 42
Austin, TX 78763

They will be bundled and mailed overseas. Service members can use a touch of sweet Texas. We hope folks will help us brighten their spirits.

STEVEN D. STEWART

CW4 (Ret.), USA, Adjutant

Trinity Valley Electric Cooperative

DOUSE THOSE LIGHTS

Your timely magazine is an added "plus" to good utility service. I totally agree with several recent comments about the increased light pollution at night. I would like to point out that the most flagrantly abusive polluters seem to be the schools that have gone up over the last several years.

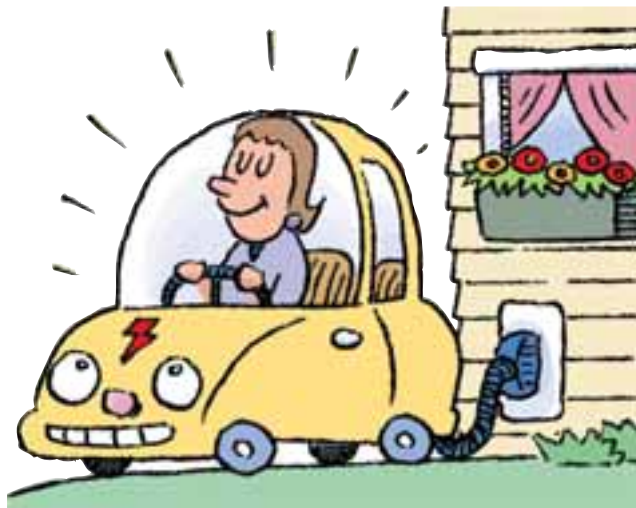
S.G. KING

Pedernales Electric Cooperative

Correction: *October's "Hit the Road" column listed several attractions at the Alabama-Coushatta Indian Reservation that have been discontinued. For information on camping, fishing and swimming, call 1-800-926-9038. For special events such as pow-wows, call (936) 563-1100 or go to www.alabama-coushatta.com and choose Events from the Media pull-down menu.*

We want to hear from our readers. Send letters to: Editor, *Texas Co-op Power*, 2550 S. IH-35, Austin, TX 78704, or e-mail us at letters@texas-ec.org. Please include the name of your town and electric co-op. Letters may be edited for clarity and length and will be printed as space allows. Read additional letters at www.texascooppower.com.

POWER TALK



PLUG-IN CARS: ARE YOU READY TO SWITCH?

Combustion-engine vehicles are second only to electricity generation in contributing to carbon dioxide pollution in the U.S., emitting nearly 1.9 billion tons of CO₂ in 2005, according to the Environmental Protection Agency.

By contrast, a hybrid car emits about two-thirds of the greenhouse gases produced by a combustion-only vehicle. Is America ready to trade in the combustion engine for a battery? Plug-in hybrid electric vehicles (PHEV), which are rechargeable from your home electric outlet, promise to be even cleaner and more efficient than the hybrids now on the road. Plug-in hybrids converted from hybrids such as the Toyota Prius get up to 70 miles per gallon.

General Motors expects its Chevrolet Volt, a PHEV, to go into production in 2010. Once plug-in hybrids become commonplace, a maximum reduction of 612 million tons of greenhouse gas emissions per year is possible.

Farther down the road, some in the electric industry are hopeful that an experimental vehicle-to-grid (V2G) technology might alleviate peak electricity use. "Although there is some skepticism among experts about the feasibility of V2G," according to *The New York Times*, "the big players see a future in which fleets of hybrid cars, recharged at night when the demand is lower, can relieve the grid and help avert serious blackouts." Some of the leaders in PHEV experimentation are based in Austin.



TALK TO YOUR THERMOSTAT

I am with United Cooperative Services out of Cleburne. I have a second home in Johnson County. I was leaving the heat setting on 50 degrees, which was as low as it could be set. I know there were many days above 32 degrees but below 50 degrees when I heated the house even though it was not required to protect the plumbing.

With my new telephone thermostat, I watch the weather, and when it is predicted to be below 32 degrees, I call the house and turn on the heat for the duration of the freeze. I think this has cut my winter heating costs in half. In the summer, I call the thermostat and turn on the A/C a few hours before arrival to cool the house.

A programmable thermostat is about \$100. This telephone thermostat, available at www.talkingthermostats.com, was something like \$250. It more than paid for itself that first winter. It will work with an answering machine.

WILLIAM H. HUGHES
Fort Worth



H A P P E N I N G S

The fourth annual **BOOKS ON THE BOSQUE** festival in Clifton offers up book reviews and writers' sessions by 13 authors, photographers and illustrators November 9 and 10. Clifton is 30 miles northwest of Waco in Bosque County. Laura Wilson, known for her outstanding documentary photography, including *Avedon at Work* and *Watt Matthews of Lambshead*, will appear. The keynote presentation will be by four Dallas newsmen who covered the Kennedy assassination and wrote their memoirs, *When the News Went Live: Dallas 1963*. For more information, call (254) 675-3724 or go to www.bosqueconservatory.com.

GONZALES COUNTY COURTHOUSE IS AN ARTISTIC TREASURE

In Gonzales, where Texans fired the first shots at Santa Anna's soldiers, sits the Gonzales County Courthouse. J. Riely Gordon built the many-turreted structure in a Richardsonian



Romanesque style in 1894. The primary materials are red brick from St. Louis and locally quarried limestone. The building is unique as Texas courthouses go, since its clock tower and roof have not been removed and the façade has not been replaced with stucco. The courthouse interior also provides historic beauty, with three original paintings from the 1870s by German artist Carl Reuter.

—From *The Courthouses of Texas*,
Texas A&M University Press, second edition, 2007

RESPIRE FOR RETURNING VETS

Veterans Day, November 11, falls on Sunday this year. With so many veterans returning from Iraq and Afghanistan, Texans are thinking of ways to honor them beyond that Sunday only. Bed-and-breakfast proprietors in Fayette County have come up with a program to do just that, the Texas Veteran Project. Bed-and-breakfasts, guest cottages, inns and hotels are offering returning veterans a complimentary one- or two-night stay as part of the program.

Eldon and Kathy Aydelotte, owners of Arbor House Bed and Breakfast at Las Brisas Farm, were inspired to start this program by their own son, an Army doctor serving in Iraq. "It occurred to us that all returning military from Iraq and Afghanistan will need lots of nurturing to move on with their lives when they return," Kathy Aydelotte said. "I can think of no better place than coming to the country to get grounded—with clean air, slow pace and wonderful, supportive people."

One soldier the Aydelottes played

host to said, "None of us come home the same person. We bury our war experiences; we don't talk about it. It is hard to adjust. To be able to receive the support is very helpful."

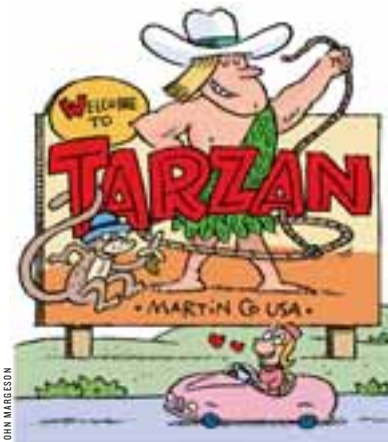
The Aydelottes say this is a way to thank veterans for their service to the country and to "recognize the sacrifices of their time, talents, and in many cases, health."

Most of the participating inns are served by Fayette Electric Cooperative. For more information on the Texas Veteran Project and a list of participating businesses, go to www.texasveteranproject.org.



Kathy and Eldon Aydelotte in their garden.

WHO KNEW?



LITERARY TEXAS

These Texas towns (listed with their county locations) have derived their names from comic strips to great literature.

BENHUR Limestone

BRONTE Coke

IAGO Wharton

IVANHOE Fannin

MUTT AND JEFF Wood

TARZAN Martin


TENNYSON Coke

Texas Co-op Power (USPS 540-560) is published monthly by Texas Electric Cooperatives (TEC). Periodical Postage Paid at Austin, TX and at additional offices. TEC is the statewide association representing 74 electric cooperatives. *Texas Co-op Power's* website is www.texascoopower.com. Call (512) 454-0311 or e-mail knorthcott@texas-ec.org.

Subscription price is \$3.84 per year for individual members of subscribing cooperatives. If you are not a member of a subscribing cooperative, you can purchase an annual subscription at the nonmember rate of \$7.50. Individual copies and back issues are available for \$3 each.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to *Texas Co-op Power* (USPS 540-560), 2550 S. IH-35, Austin, TX 78704. Please enclose label from this copy of *Texas Co-op Power* showing old address and key numbers.

ADVERTISING: Advertisers interested in buying display ad space in *Texas Co-op Power* and/or in our 30 sister publications in other states, contact Martin Bevins at (512) 486-6249.

Advertisements in *Texas Co-op Power* are paid solicitations. The publisher neither endorses nor guarantees in any manner any product or company included in this publication. Product satisfaction and delivery responsibility lie solely with the advertiser. Direct questions or comments about advertising to Martin  Bevins, Advertising Director.

© Copyright 2007 Texas Electric Cooperatives, Inc. Reproduction of this issue or any portion of it is expressly prohibited without written permission. Willie Wirehand © Copyright 2007 National Rural Electric Cooperative Association.

 **Texas Electric Cooperatives**
Your Touchstone Energy® Partner 

ENERGY REALITY CHECK

GREEN POWER

for Texans and Their Co-ops

By Kaye Northcott • Illustrations by A.J. Garcés



For all of its promise, renewable energy has made little headway onto our nation's or Texas' power grids. Texas receives about 2 percent of its electricity from wind turbines. And that's the state's renewable powerhouse, so to speak. All other renewable sources—hydropower, biomass, geothermal and solar—account for less than 1 percent combined.

The Electric Reliability Council of Texas (ERCOT), the grid manager that handles 85 percent of the state's electricity load, strives to have a reserve power production capacity of 12.5 percent. This ensures that on our hottest days and coldest nights, or when a power plant is out of service, Texans still have power flowing. That capacity is expected to fall below 6 percent by 2012. Considering how long it takes to build new power plants, 2012 is just around the corner. And construction of transmission lines, particularly to bring wind power generated in West Texas to power-hungry major metro

areas, is also in a time crunch.

In the October issue, we discussed gas, coal and nuclear power—the fuels used to generate about 97 percent of Texas' electricity. We explained that these “base-load” fuels, the ones that supply continuous power, couldn't be completely replaced by renewable energy. However, the promise of “green” energy is very exciting. This month our reality check focuses on renewable energy and the present distance between expectations and capabilities.

As for the cooperatives' position on renewables, General Manager Greg Jones of Cherokee County Electric Cooperative, who is chairman of the board of Texas Electric Cooperatives (TEC), the statewide association, says, “We support achievable goals that will reduce dependence on foreign oil, foster economic opportunity and reduce our impact on the environment. That covers every renewable idea being discussed these days.”



WIND

As long as the wind is blowing, the turbines hum and electricity flows. But since the wind doesn't blow all the time, a backup source of power such as natural gas or coal is always needed.

Texans are clamoring for more electricity from wind power. The state is, after all, big and blustery. Texas leads the nation in wind-power production with more than 2,000 turbines and an annual maximum capacity of 2,768 megawatts (MW). That's enough electricity from wind to help serve 600,000 average homes. The operative word is "help" because wind doesn't blow all the time. Virtually every kilowatt of wind generation must be backed up by some other type of generation (like gas or coal plants). Although 600,000 homes sounds like a lot, the state has approximately 9 million housing units in need of electricity, along with churches, town halls, offices, factories and all the public amenities citizens have grown to expect.

"The wind as a 'fuel' is free, but harnessing it with an electric dynamo and transmitting it to a market where it is needed can be very expensive," says Bill Harbin, general manager of Lighthouse Electric Cooperative in windy West Texas. "An additional cost is for transmission lines to deliver the power to a market where it can be used." He also said, "The variable output that accompanies strong gusts followed by light breezes would create challenges for grid stability. That's because natural gas and coal-fired generators and hydroelectric

plants must increase or decrease their output to keep total generation in balance with consumers' electrical loads."

The Public Utility Commission of Texas directed ERCOT to plan for transmission of at least 10,000 more MW of wind power by 2012.

So wind power is just part of the future energy mix. And even this source of power, seemingly the most benign and uncontroversial, has its downsides. The giant rotors endanger birds and bats. And then there's the issue of siting. Not everyone likes to see massive turbines or high-voltage lines on the horizon.



LARGEST WIND FARM

Royal Dutch Shell is planning the world's largest wind farm in Briscoe County. Designed to produce 2,000 megawatts of power, the farm in the Texas Panhandle would cover an area more than five times the size of Manhattan.

—Wall Street Journal

WIND

PROS: Clean, sustainable, cheap "fuel" source.

CONS: When the wind doesn't blow, electricity doesn't flow. Turbine rotors kill birds and bats. Some call turbines an eyesore. Construction of more transmission lines to carry power from West Texas to major urban areas is costly.

OUTLOOK: West Texas wind farms will continue to proliferate; plans are in the works to address transmission issues.



TAPPING THE EARTH

Texas hydropower is mature; geothermal potential remains largely undeveloped.

The largest source of hydropower in Texas comes from the Highland Lakes, the six lakes dammed for flood control starting in the 1930s. The Lower Colorado River Authority, which controls the lakes, releases water through turbines to produce wholesale power for 1 million people, including 43 electric cooperatives and city-owned utilities. But hydropower, which provided a large portion of Texas' electricity generation in the early days of the industry, accounts for less than half a percent of the total today.

The State Energy Conservation Office estimates that Texas has 1,000 MW of untapped potential hydropower resources. But land acquisition and environmental questions would likely make their development troublesome.

The use of wave or ocean energy to generate power is limited in the relatively placid Gulf of Mexico, and technologies for generating wave energy are still immature. But salinity-gradient solar technology is being studied at the University of Texas at El Paso. It involves using pools of salty water to absorb heat from sunlight that is effectively locked in the pool. The heat can be used for electricity production.

Geothermal energy is a promising source of electricity in Texas because it is reliable and non-

polluting. In this technology, the earth's heat is tapped to produce steam for conversion to electricity. In fact, in February, Texas sold the state's first geothermal lease to Ormat Technologies, which paid \$55,645 for the right to explore over 11,000 acres of submerged land in the coastal counties of Jefferson, Galveston, Chambers, Calhoun, Jackson, Nueces and Kleberg.

The downside to geothermal energy is that these hot temperatures exist 4,000 to 6,000 feet below the earth's surface, and substantial investments must be made to locate any potential geothermal pockets.

Geothermal heat pumps for home air conditioning and heating take advantage of constant soil temperatures underground.

HYDROPOWER AND GEOTHERMAL

PROS: Dams already produce nonpolluting power. Texas also has potential for wave power, saline ponds and geothermal heat.

CONS: Public opposition may prevent more development of dams. Drought dries up hydroelectricity production.

OUTLOOK: The Gulf of Mexico is a weak candidate for wave-powered generation, but saline water deposits in West Texas may be used as solar storage.



ENJOY THE SOUND EVEN MORE.

The highly reviewed Bose® Wave® music system is available with an optional Multi-CD Changer.

When the Bose Wave® music system was introduced, Jonathan Takiff of the *Philadelphia Daily News* said, "This sleek, compact music maker couldn't be easier to operate. Yet sophisticated technology hidden inside makes this an extraordinary performer." Today, the system offers you even more, thanks to an optional Multi-CD Changer that has been designed exclusively for the Wave® music system.

Elegantly small, with sound that brings new life to music. Hear the Wave® music system for yourself. *Forbes FYI* says, "you'll think you're listening to a...system that costs five times more." You can even connect your TV or MP3 player for lifelike sound.



The Wave® music system shown in Graphite Gray.

As David Novak, the Gadget Guy, says, "It can easily replace whatever component system you currently have." And the Wave® music system fits almost anywhere.

The optional Multi-CD Changer lets you enjoy premium sound for hours on end.

Just slide one of your favorite CDs or MP3 CDs into the Wave® music system and three more into the Multi-CD Changer. They work as one to deliver performance after encore performance with quality that *Newsday's* Stephen Williams says made him "sit up and listen and smile."

All-in-one simplicity. A credit card-style remote control lets you easily operate both the Wave® music system and Multi-CD Changer. It's a convenience you'll appreciate when playing CDs or MP3 CDs, tuning into FM/AM radio or setting the clock and alarm.

Take advantage of our 30-day, risk-free trial.

Order the Wave® music system today. Better yet, order it with our Multi-CD Changer. Save \$50 if you order them together by December 31, 2007. With our Excitement Guarantee, you'll get 30 days to try them together in your own home. Compare the sound to larger, more expensive stereos. We're confident you'll find that although much smaller, the Wave® music system sounds more realistic. When you call, ask about making **12 easy payments**, with no interest charges from Bose.* The Wave® music system and Multi-CD Changer. From Bose, the most respected name in sound.

SAVE \$50
when you
order the
Wave® music
system with
our Multi-CD
Changer by
December 31,
2007.

To order or learn more:

1-800-925-9738, ext. TL359
www.Bose.com/WMS

BOSE®
Better sound through research®



Shown with optional Multi-CD Changer.

*Bose payment plan available on orders of \$299-\$1500 paid by major credit card. Separate financing options may be available for select products. See website for details. Down payment is 1/12 the product price plus applicable tax and shipping charges, charged when your order is shipped. Then, your credit card will be billed for 11 equal monthly installments beginning approximately one month from the date your order is shipped, with 0% APR and no interest charges from Bose. Credit card rules and interest may apply. U.S. residents only. Limit one active financing program per customer. ©2007 Bose Corporation. Patent rights issued and/or pending. The Wave® music system's distinctive design is a registered trademark of Bose Corporation. Financing and reduced pricing on Multi-CD Changer package not to be combined with other offers or applied to previous purchases, and subject to change without notice. If the Wave® music system is returned, the Multi-CD Changer must be returned for a full refund. Offers are limited to purchases made from Bose and participating authorized dealers. Offer valid November 1, 2007, through December 31, 2007. Quotes reprinted with permission: Thomas Jackson, *Forbes FYI*, Winter/04.



BIOMASS

The state has lots of room to grow this energy source, which could provide plenty of fuel for electricity production. Converting crops to energy enjoys wide political support.

Anyone who has a compost heap understands the concept of biomass. One can feel the heat as yard and table scraps “cook” to form mulch or soil amendments. Similarly, methane gas generated from animal waste or captured from landfills is an up-and-coming source of biopower electricity but does not account for many megawatts in Texas at present.

Biomass can be used to create fuels such as ethanol and biodiesel. Corn-based ethanol in particular seems to be riding a wave of popularity, spurred by political support from corn-producing states. Unfortunately, the growing use of corn for fuel has already increased the cost of some foods. As the joke goes, it is already eating America’s lunch.

Here at home, Texas A&M University is experimenting with fuel made from grain sorghum. Texas

foresters are recycling wood waste for energy, and sugar producers are making energy from sugar cane. Other states are studying poplar trees, switch-grass and cornstalks as potential fuel sources.

BIOMASS

PROS: Crop wastes, methane and other raw materials can be used to make fuels or electricity.

CONS: Food costs rise when grain is converted to energy; water and land are diverted to new uses; burning organic matter releases carbon dioxide.

OUTLOOK: Because Texas has so much land under cultivation, it may be able to accommodate farming for both food and biomass fuel sources; crops with high energy potential are being bred.

FRUSTRATED WITH YOUR MEDICARE PART D PRESCRIPTION DRUG PLAN?

{IT'S EASY TO SWITCH TO TEXAS RX DURING OPEN ENROLLMENT.}



Texas Rx

MEDICARE PART D PRESCRIPTION DRUG PLANS

COVERS MORE THAN 2,000 GENERIC AND BRAND-NAME DRUGS.
One of the most complete coverage lists of all prescription drug plans.

A NETWORK OF OVER 5,000 PHARMACIES ACROSS TEXAS.
Fill your prescription at local drugstores and national chains.

OFFERS FLAT CO-PAYMENTS FOR EASY BUDGETING.
It's easy to stick to your medical budget with Texas Rx plans.

COMPARE YOUR PLAN WITH TEXAS RX!
{OPEN ENROLLMENT BEGINS NOVEMBER 15TH AND CLOSES DECEMBER 31ST.}

1-888-333-3980 • TTY 1-254-724-2832

Monday – Friday • 8 am – 5 pm

Texas Rx is a product of Scott & White Health Plan, which is contracted with the federal government to administer the Medicare Part D benefit. Anyone with Medicare may apply.



**SCOTT & WHITE
HEALTH PLAN**

Texas Friendly
www.swhp.org



SOLAR

The technology to turn sunlight into electricity has been around for years. It has many upsides but can be an expensive proposition. Like wind, solar requires a backup source of power.

The Texas climate lends itself to photovoltaic (solar cell) technologies for harnessing the power of sunlight to create electricity. But like wind power, large-scale solar power is subject to the laws of nature. Solar potential depends on the time of day and angle of the sun. Large amounts of it can't be stored, so it can't be used for a guaranteed day-in, day-out source of electricity. And though the price of equipment has come down in recent years, the energy produced still costs several times that of utility-supplied energy.

The most frequent use of solar power in rural Texas is to pump water to remote stock tanks, where stringing electric lines is relatively costly. Solar equipment can also be used for swimming pool heating and water heaters. Photovoltaic sys-

tems are most commonly installed on the roofs of homes, garages, carports, greenhouses and other structures. But they can also be installed vertically against a wall of a home, as part of an awning or near the ground as a freestanding structure.

SOLAR

PROS: Time-tested technology; sunshine is abundant, non-polluting.

CONS: High upfront costs; power dependent on level of sunshine.

OUTLOOK: Costs are coming down; new ideas include flexible photovoltaic panels, concentrating heat to make steam for turbines.



ENERGY MANAGEMENT AND CONSERVATION

New technologies can help consumers wield their power more wisely.

Renewable energy's role in providing electricity will grow because the public is demanding it, utilities see advantage in it, and government is mandating it. Nationally, electric cooperatives are participating in a group called 25x25, which aims to use renewable sources for 25 percent of electricity by 2025. The group is encouraging federal energy policy that provides incentives rather than mandates for such a goal. Cooperatives are also looking at a strategy put together by the Electric Power Research Institute to bring CO₂ pollution back to 1990 levels by 2020.

Renewable energy technologies are in various stages of development. As we learned last month, renewables cannot replace generation from traditional fuel sources such as natural gas and coal. But the technologies can supplement available supplies of traditional fuels. If the cost of traditional fuels continues to increase as expected, renewable alternatives should also become more cost effective.

The electric cooperatives' jobs are to manage energy resources efficiently, press for technological improvements and supply a steady source of reliable, affordable electricity. Unfortunately, the definition of "affordable" is changing as traditional fuel sources become more expensive. That's why conservation by consumers is the most important renewable of all.

Fortunately, cooperatives are leaders in demand-side management, a practice that offers great potential for co-op/consumer partnerships.

Market prices for wholesale power are, in some cases, set a day in advance, usually on an hour-by-hour or even on a quarter-hour basis. Traditional electrical meters measure total consumption and provide no information as to when the energy was consumed. Rates are usually blended for a single monthly bill. New "smart" meters measure time-of-day use. This sort of pricing has been in place on large loads—factories, for example—at many co-ops. Some Texas co-ops are now replacing all their standard dial meters with residential smart meters as well. With that capability, co-ops impose varying prices for consumption. They can be based on the time of day and the season to reflect the

market price of wholesale energy.

Smart metering enables cooperatives and their members to work in partnership to lessen costly peak loads. Smart meters can also give consumers information on their electricity usage patterns, helping them to adjust some practices—for example, running the dishwasher or clothes dryer during off-peak times to use electricity when the rates are lower.

In the future, more cooperatives will offer rate incentives to members in exchange for the right to shut appliances off at peak times or during emergency situations when the system is straining under a heavy load. Turning the water heater or the A/C off for a few minutes across a service area may avert the need for an expensive "peaking" plant to be pulled into service. The more we avoid building or using peaking plants, the more reasonable the cost of electricity will be.

"Conservation must become second nature to all of us," says Ray Beavers, CEO of United Cooperative Services and vice chairman of the board of TEC. "Cooperatives can help member-consumers find ways to trim electricity costs. And the good news is, co-ops and their members have an advantage over for-profit electricity suppliers because our mutual goal is reliable and reasonably priced electricity. In partnership with consumers, Texas cooperatives have a hopeful handle on our energy future."



LOAD SHIFTING

Carnegie Mellon University research indicates that American consumers could save nearly \$23 billion a year if they shifted just 7 percent of their electricity usage during peak periods to less costly times. This is the equivalent of the entire nation getting a free month of power every year.

ENERGY MANAGEMENT & CONSERVATION

PROS: An area where YOU can make a difference; reduces the need to invest in costly new generating plants; minimizes CO₂ emissions; and saves you money.

CONS: May involve personal sacrifice and changes in both personal and work habits related to energy usage.

OUTLOOK: Technological advances will make appliances even more efficient and utilities better able to manage supply and demand in partnership with consumers.



WYATT MCSPADEN

tiny

houses reprise the



THUNDER CRACKLES DIRECTLY OVER THE DAIRY QUEEN IN KYLE. THE TINY ANTIQUE house sits uncovered on a trailer in the parking lot, its longleaf pine exterior drenched a darker red from the morning's journey in the rain.

This is a jittery day for Brad Kittel, owner and creator of a Luling-based business called Tiny Texas Houses, who's wolfing down his lunch inside the restaurant. Time to get back on the road. He's delivering his first tiny house today—a 490-square-foot, \$47,500 gem with turquoise-painted windows to his first contract customer, an artist near Austin—and, oh baby, is this July weather unpredictable.

One minute it's raining, the next it's not. A finger of lightning jabs from the sky. But stormy weather can't rattle this old house: Even though just built, its reclaimed Texas longleaf and loblolly pine wood, and an antique ensemble featuring a cast-iron porcelain bathtub and an 1880s front door with the original glass, give this house, all components together, an average age of 100.

So Kittel, a work crew and John Clegg, who drove his house-moving rig up from Victoria to Luling, scurry out of the Dairy Queen and back into their vehicles as the clouds open up again. It's time to make one very special house call.

The tiny house's 11 brightly colored windows and the flashing yellow lights on Clegg's yellow truck provide a cheerful palette against a bruised sky as the entourage zips along back roads to County Road 367 southwest of Austin. There, artist Tara Weaver, a member of Pedernales Electric Cooperative, awaits her new house, set for conversion into a tiny art studio overlooking full-running Bear Creek.

"Let's see how it likes it," Weaver says after the house rolls down the steep county road, through a low-water crossing, under a canopy of trees (one live oak requires trimming to allow narrow passage for the house's corrugated steel roof) and snuggles into its new quarters. All with nary a scratch.

If Tiny Texas Houses has a theme, it's that portability doesn't require a wide-load moving sign. But even more significant, the tiny houses serve as portals, a concatenation of past and present in which Kittel rescues and recycles materials from time's refuse heap—stained glass, wavy glass, bathtubs, sinks, windows, cabinet latches, door hinges, doorknobs, cypress wood, old Texas pine harvested virtually to the point of extinction—and fashions the pieces into new, yet antique houses built to last another 100 years.

"I'm a firm believer in saving what we've got," said Kittel, who, with his wife, Suzanne, owns and operates Discovery Architectural Antiques in Gonzales. The 140,000-square-foot operation provides the materials for Tiny Texas Houses, which opened in October 2006 in neighboring Luling.

"That was part of the whole reason behind doing Tiny Texas Houses," Brad Kittel said. "To prove that you can build something from nothing. Everything that we're building out of is somebody's nothing. It was of no value or very little value to them."

A few weeks after its delivery, Weaver had filled her tiny house with paintbrushes, canvasses and her completed works. The studio is now art itself, seemingly hanging like a painting from an invisible wire between hackberry trees. Even the turquoise windows blend naturally into the surrounding greenery.

"I've really started asking for what I want these days, and it's working," the 50-year-old Weaver said, reaching out her arms, palms open toward her easel and the windows and the light streaming in. "Look at this."

As business grows, Kittel's customers learn they can ask him for what they want. Consider Libby and Charles Heath, San Bernard Electric Cooperative members, who needed space for their cats when they moved from East Bernard to Columbus.

Libby Heath saw an ad for Tiny Texas Houses. Problem solved. "The cats and I will be fighting over this place," she said of the \$26,000, 160-square-foot house that's mostly longleaf pine and sports a kitchen for cat food preparation, lounging islands, a porch and a kitty door.



tara weaver

WYATT MCSPADDEN

past

by camille wheeler

moving
day



CAMILLE WHEELER

artist's
studio



WYATT MCSPADEN

generation to generation and make ideal guest homes, he said.

As a couple, the Kittels have long been bringing homes back to life. From 1985 to 1997, they rehabilitated and sold East Austin houses through their real estate business, and in 1994, Brad Kittel received the Ernst & Young Socially Responsible Entrepreneur of the Year award.

Now, the Kittels oversee a sprawling (but meticulously clean) antiques business that's so big sometimes only a verbal inventory will do. "Pieces and parts, pieces and parts," Brad happily muttered one day in Luling as he strolled past an antique breakfast nook.

And this from Suzanne, in Gonzales, in an old warehouse stuffed with ... "Doors, doors, doors!" she merrily proclaimed, marching past hundreds of them, stacked vertically like dominoes.

As customers come knocking, Tiny Texas Houses maintains a fussy focus. While showing off an 1890s multi-paned stained glass in a Victorian-style model house, Brad Kittel pulled an all-purpose tool out of his pocket. Still talking, he tightened the front door's post-1900 wrought doorknob.

That same day, project manager Patrick Moreno asked Kittel about a latch on an improperly tightening window. Kittel tested the latch. Position it differently, he said. I then asked to hold the latch, reading the inscribed date: Feb. 7, 1871.

Moreno reveres the tiny houses. "Pretty neat looking, aren't they?" he asked, admiring an antique bead board ceiling. "It looks like you're stepping back in time."

The same can be said of the setting along Bear Creek, where Tara and her husband, Tab Weaver, live in an 1860s farmhouse that overlooks her studio.

"It looks like it's been there forever," Kittel said. "That's the goal."

Tiny Texas Houses is just south of Luling at 20501 E. IH-10. For more information, call (512) 636-6756, (830) 875-2500 or (830) 672-2428 or go to www.tinytexashouses.com. For more information on Discovery Architectural Antiques in Gonzales, call (830) 672-2428 or go to www.discoveryys.com.

Camille Wheeler wrote "Highway Havens" in the July 2007 Texas Co-op Power.

Kay Love of Austwell, a member of Guadalupe Valley Electric Cooperative who raises registered Brahman cattle near Stockdale, is moving a custom-built tiny house onto her farm so she can split time between her two places.

"It will put a roof over my head, and it will look cute in the pasture," she said.

Kittel's tiny houses feature old-growth pine, which he revives from various sources, including churches and lumberyards. The longleaf pine for Weaver's studio came from a Shiner lumberyard, where about a century ago, the wood made up the walls and roof around lumber storage bins. In the

1800s, the same wood stood as a barn.

Old-growth longleaf pine trees were all but harvested by the early 1900s, and now only remnants remain of the longleaf forest that once composed 5,000 square miles of East Texas' Piney Woods.

Longleaf pines grow straight and tall with densely packed rings that make strong wood, explained David Riskind of the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department's natural resources department.

"They don't make it like that any more," he said.

Brad Kittel, 51, hopes that someday, people will say the same thing about his tiny houses. They can be passed from

FOR THOSE OF US WHO UNDERSTAND
THE IMPORTANCE OF
ONE HORSEPOWER



AT RVOS INSURANCE, WE GET IT.

Remember when a mustang had four legs rather than four wheels? We do. After all, we started serving Texas farmers, ranchers and homeowners more than 100 years ago. Long before V8 engines, we were following our founders' vision: To stand ready to help fellow Texans in their time of need. And to this day, it's the driving force behind everything we do. Come discover why we stand taller in the saddle than the rest. Call or visit us online.

1-800-381-0867



rvos.com/co-op

LONESTAR MARKET

Discover what's new in the market.
Gift-giving is a cinch when you
choose to use this handy

HOLIDAY GIFT GUIDE



HEARTLAND HAM

"Home of the legendary spiral sliced honey glazed ham." Hams, turkey, smoked meats shipped nationally. Holiday orders accepted now!



(903) 581-2802
www.honeybham.com
www.heartlandham.com



THOMPSON RIO PRIDE CITRUS GROVES

Give a gift everyone will enjoy this holiday season. Our tree-ripened, hand-picked & packed oranges and grapefruit are the sweetest in the world! Mention ad for discount on gift fruit.

(Citrus trees also available.)

1-800-667-2644
www.riopride.com



WESTERN GENERAL STORE.COM

Texas Waffle Maker. Texas shaped waffles, 7" from El Paso to Texarkana. Powerful 800 watts, no-stick grids, sleek stainless steel, one-year limited warranty, UL approved. (Texas, Western and Lodge Gifts and Decor also available.)

1-866-48-HAPPY
www.WesternGeneralStore.com



JOYFUL MEMORIES PERSONALIZED NOTECARDS

Gifts for family, friends and co-workers. Names added free. 8 cards and 8 envelopes. Only \$5. Visit website for additional styles.

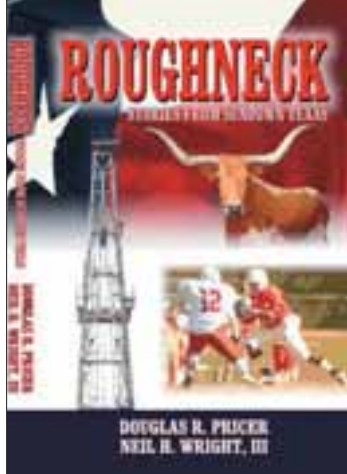
1-888-288-1340
www.sayings.com



WILDSEED FARMS' GOURMET TEXAS GIFT BASKETS

Delectable jams, jellies, salsa and other goodies from Wildseed Farms Specialty Food Collection are attractively partnered in a beautiful wicker basket for your Christmas giving.

1-800-848-0078
www.wildseedfarms.com



A GREAT BOOK ABOUT SMALL-TOWN TEXAS

"... a positive account of a proud community and school ... symbolic of any small town in Texas!" - Gary Gaines (former head football coach, Odessa Permian). Send \$24.95 to:

"Roughneck", 3857 Birch St., #164,
Newport Beach, CA 92660
(714) 315-2548
www.roughneckthebook.com



HAND-PAINTED "TEXMAS" ORNAMENTS

Original hand-painted "True Texan" ornaments on blown glass signed by award winning artist Pattilu Bowlsby. Perfect for anyone who thinks Texas is special. Send \$16 each (indicate Boot or State) or \$25 for both to:

**Ornaments, 10901 Yucca Dr.,
Austin, TX 78759
ornaments@austin.rr.com**



NATURAL SKINCARE FROM AGGIELAND

Rejuvenating herbal skin creams blend Texas aloe vera & concentrated herbal extracts. Dr. Wendy's Wrinkle Warrior is a powerful moisturizer and Balm Squad is an all-purpose healing salve. Improved formula! More natural than ever! \$10 each.

**1-866-264-4932
www.wendytheherbalist.com**



ST. LUCIA BREAD CO.

Send the gift everybody loves (and nobody returns).

- All natural ingredients
- No preservatives

10 delicious flavors, all hand-crafted in our Dallas bakery from scratch—for over 20 years. All breads shipped in a commemorative Texas tin.

**1-888-839-2771
www.texasbread.com**



G AND S GROVES ORGANIC CITRUS

We grow, harvest, sell and ship fresh Texas certified organic citrus, Rio Red grapefruit and navel oranges as holiday gifts directly to our customers.

**(512) 246-0778
www.gandsgroves.com**



TEXAS RUBY & RIO RED GRAPEFRUIT

Juicy red grapefruit and sweet oranges from the Rio Grande Valley. Tree-fresh, hand-selected gifts delivered nationwide. Texas 1015 onions, tomatoes, smoked meats, nuts and candies. FREE BROCHURE. Mention code TXCP for discount.

**1-800-580-1900
www.crockettfarms.com**



SAUCES FOR ALL SEASONS

Are fine flavors a must? Look no further. Claude's has a variety of BBQ marinades, seasonings and more. Our unique holiday gift packs are available.

**1-800-727-2823
www.claudessauces.com**



CAGLE STEAKS, LUBBOCK

Send 'em Rib-eyes for a holiday, a "thank-you" or a "howdy y'all." 4-pack or 6-pack includes our Good Character Seasoning. 2-day delivery. Order online.

**(806) 795-3879
www.caglesteaks.com**



RATTLESNAKE RANCH TEXAS TREATS

Treat your family and friends to the most delicious pecans and candies in Texas. Try our new pecan flavors: Honey Crisp, Sugar-Free Chocolate and White Chocolate, and Cajun Roasted. Call today for our gift catalog, or visit our website and order online.

**1-888-PECAN75
www.rattlesnakeranchpecans.com**



TEXAS CATTLE BARONS, THE BOOK

The myth of the American cowboy meets the reality of cattle ranching in the new millennium in Texas Cattle Barons, Their Families, Land and Legacy. \$29.99 plus \$6.95 shipping.

1-866-551-1960
 texascattlebarons@hotmail.com
 www.texascattlebarons.com



REED LANG FARMS GIFT FRUIT

TEXAS grown Lula Avocados, Navel Oranges, Ruby and Rio Red Grapefruit, orange blossom honey. FREE UPS SHIPPING. Request FREE BROCHURE.



P.O. Box 219
 Rio Hondo, TX 78583.
 (956) 748-2354
 (956) 748-2888 fax
 reedlangfarms@yahoo.com



COOPER'S MAIL ORDER BBQ

"Voted #1 Texas BBQ Joint" by the Texas Highways Reader Poll. Ride Texas named Cooper's #1 "Best in Texas Road Food & Coffee." Now you can get the great taste of Texas delivered to your door! Corporate discounts available.

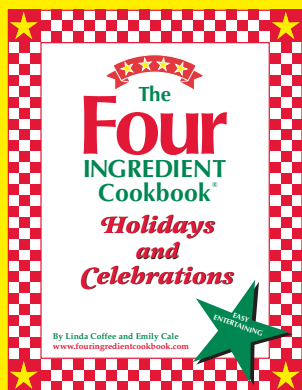
1-877-533-5553
 www.coopersbbq.com



TEXAS TRIV-BOARDS™

Our Texas-shaped Triv-Boards are made of Corian solid surface. They're non-porous and easily maintained. Use as a trivet, cutting board, serving dish, conversation piece and more. Excellent gifts! \$26.95 plus S&H. Dealers welcome.

(325) 829-8977
 www.kaytongroup.com



THE FOUR INGREDIENT COOKBOOK: HOLIDAYS AND CELEBRATIONS!

*Newest cookbook makes entertaining easy! Full menus, easy 4-ingredient recipes, shopping lists for each party, entertaining tips, ideas and decor! Enjoy hosting your own dinner parties! \$19.95 each. **Holiday Special: Free S&H!***

1-800-757-0838
 www.fouringredientcookbook.com

BUTTERFLY AND HUMMINGBIRD POSTERS



Full-color, botanical-style illustrated posters of Texas butterflies or hummingbirds, 16x20 inches, suitable for framing. \$15 for each poster (price includes tax, shipping and handling).

www.texascoopower.com



2007 CAPITOL COLLECTIBLE ORNAMENT

Twelfth in a series of annual collectible ornaments, the 2007 capitol ornament features the capitol doors. The ornament sells for \$18 plus S/H.

1-888-678-5556
 www.texascapitolgiftshop.com

Finally, a Shine That Lasts

Miracle Polish Ends Struggle With Tarnishing Metals By D.H. Wagner



Lately, I have noticed quite a few newspapers and magazines praising a polish formulated by a homemaker. The articles report that Donna Maas grew frustrated with rubbing and scrubbing her silver, brass and other metals only to see them quickly become dull and tarnished again. Determined to put an end to her constant battle with tarnish, Donna formulated a metal cleaner and it's transforming the industry.

Anita Gold, nationally syndicated columnist and expert on the restoration of antiques calls MAAS (named after its inventor) "The best and most amazing polish in the world." Ms. Gold wrote in her column, "A truly miraculous polish referred to as "miracle polish" that'll turn the most disastrous pieces into the most de-bright-ful is MAAS Fine Polishing Creme For All Metals, which cleans, restores, preserves and polishes to perfection any brass, copper, chrome, silver, stainless steel, aluminum, gold or any other metal with amazing results - no matter how badly stained, spotted, discolored, flood-damaged, weathered, dirty, dingy, drab, or dull they may be."

Since I had an old brass lamp in desperate need of restoration, this journalist decided to put MAAS to the test. The lamp had been stored in the garage and was in far worse condition than I remembered. I was flabbergasted as I watched the polish wipe away layers and years of tarnish. Never have I used anything so easy. The lamp actually looks better than when I purchased it. Better yet, months later it's still glowing!

The polish worked so effortlessly, I decided to refurbish my mother's antique brass and copper cookware. The badly stained and pans developed black spots that had been impossible to remove. MAAS wiped away years of built-up residue even from the most discolored pieces. While polishing, I noticed MAAS applying a shine on the stainless steel sink. WOW! The shine is unbelievable and although I wash dishes every day, the shine keeps-on-shining. And it's no longer covered with ugly water spots, water just rolls off the protective finish and down the drain.

A consumer study of 28 metal polishes reports, "MAAS Polishing Creme has no equals in all around polishing performance..." MAAS retained its shine longer than every polish tested. The Miami Herald says, "Polishing product can renew old silver." The Chicago Tribune headline sums it all up by saying "One Amazing Polish Is The Best At Everything."



How did a homemaker come up with something the industry's experts couldn't? The reporter in me had to find out.

During our interview Donna explained, "I enjoy the warmth that beautifully polished metals add to a home. However, not the hours it took to keep them tarnish free. The harsh cleaners left my hands dry and burning - one instant silver dip smelled so bad I felt sick. That's when I became determined to find a better way to care for the metals in my home."

And that she did. Her formula developed with a chemist friend quickly restores and leaves a deep, rich one-of-a-kind luster beyond anything I've ever seen. "To my surprise," Donna reveals, "the formula far exceeded my original goal. MAAS restores glass fireplace doors, clouded crystal vases, fiberglass, linoleum even plastic. The restorations were so remarkable everyone suggested that I sell my invention on television".

Donna sent samples of her polish to televised shopping channels and both QVC and Home Shopping Network asked Donna to personally appear on TV to demonstrate her product. 17,000 viewers called during MAAS' debut and encore performances brought a million dollars in record-breaking sales.

Leona Toppel, was about to throw away a brass chandelier. "No amount of elbow grease could shine it up. With very little effort (a big plus since I suffer from arthritis) MAAS made that chandelier look like new. It's been years and to everyone's surprise it's still glowing."

Boeing and McDonnell Douglas tested and approved the polish for use on jet aircraft. The U.S. Air Force, Army, Navy, Coast Guard and Department of Defense worldwide have ordered MAAS. If every branch of our military is using this polish to pass inspection, imagine what it will do for your home.

"MAAS outperforms every polish I've tried," Donna beams with satisfaction. "So if you're as tired as I was of cleaning metals just to see tarnish reappear a few weeks later, MAAS it!"

At Last, A Polish That Keeps Metals Shining!

Finally, you can restore every metal and more to it's original beauty with MAAS easy wipe-on, wipe-off, no-wait polish. Just send \$12.95 plus \$2.95 S&H for one large 4 oz. tube of MAAS. Save when you order two tubes and receive a FREE polishing cloth (total value \$33.85) for only \$19.95 plus \$4.95 S&H. IL residents please add 6.75% sales tax. Mail your order to:

MAAS - DEPT TCP1107

7101 Adams Street, Suite 3, Willowbrook, IL 60527-8432

(Please make checks payable to MAAS)

Order online at www.maasinc.com Money Back Guarantee



Involve the Family in Thanksgiving Preparation

Thanksgiving falls during National Family Week—so you have two good reasons to let your kids help prepare the Turkey Day feast.



Of course, you'll have to keep wee ones away from the hot stove and sharp knives. Still, there are lots of fun, safe ways to get everyone involved:

- Very young children can take the crusts off bread for the stuffing. They can also snap the ends off the green beans.

- Children ages 3 to 5 can help pour in ingredients, and they can help stir or whisk. Have them stand at the kitchen sink to wash vegetables or let them use a hand-masher to make the mashed potatoes.

- Older children can follow directions for a recipe and use cooking utensils with supervision. Let them cut, chop and peel vegetables. These older kids also are strong enough to knead dough, so let them shape and divide the rolls or biscuits.

Cooking can be a great way to get kids interested in science, math and physics, as well as the history of the holiday. Talk about the food you're making, the measurements of the ingredients and the steps involved in getting food from the farm to the table.

As we express our gratitude, we must never forget that the highest appreciation is not to utter words but to live by them.

JOHN F. KENNEDY

At your local electric cooperative, we are grateful for the opportunity to serve you, our member-customers. We strive every day to meet your needs and provide the highest quality service at the lowest possible cost. We know you count on that service to make your life simpler, more comfortable and safer.

We'll do our best to never let you down.

We hope this Thanksgiving is a time of great joy and gratitude for you and your family.



PLAN AHEAD WHEN CONSIDERING A NEW WATER HEATER

When buying a new water heater, you have two options: the conventional kind with an attached storage tank or the new tankless kind. Both come with their own sets of pros and cons.

Conventional Water Heaters

- PRO:** Provide a greater rate of flow, which can make them able to power more applications at once.

- CON:** Reheat the container of water 24 hours a day, leading to energy loss.

- PRO:** Less expensive than tankless models.

- CON:** Take up lots of room.

- PRO:** Easy retrofit installation.

- CON:** If all the hot water is used, reheating time is 15 to 45 minutes.

Tankless or On-Demand Water Heaters

- PRO:** Only heat water when you need it, thus saving energy.

- CON:** Have a slower rate of flow and can have difficulties heating multiple appliances at the same time.

- PRO:** Very small; can even be installed outside the home.

- CON:** More expensive than conventional water heaters.

- PRO:** Provide constant hot water for as long as you want it.

- CON:** Retrofitting installation can be expensive.

According to the U.S. Department of Energy, in a household that uses 41 gallons or less of hot water daily, an on-demand water heater can be 24 to 34 percent more energy efficient than conventional heaters. If you have a large home or want to run multiple showers and appliances at the same time, you can also install smaller point-of-demand tankless heaters near appliances or far-away bathrooms to offset the shortcomings of a whole-house system and save more energy.

Read more about specific water heater models at www.eere.energy.gov.

Are Electrical Hazards Cooking in Your Kitchen?

From coffeemakers to toasters, blenders to waffle irons, microwaves to conventional ovens—today's kitchen sports more electrical appliances than ever. These appliances, like other electrical devices in your home, need to be operated safely and conscientiously in accordance with manufacturers' guidelines. As an increasing number of electrical appliances in our homes become necessities, our homes' power circuits will grow more overloaded. This puts you and your family at risk. To ensure you don't have a potential safety hazard brewing in your kitchen, follow these tips:

- Unplug kitchen appliances such as toasters and coffeemakers when you're not using them, and never allow appliances like a stove or microwave to remain running when you leave home.
- Never use a fork, knife or other metal object to clean debris from "live" kitchen appliances such as plugged-in toasters or toaster ovens. For routine cleaning, make sure these appliances are switched off and disconnected.
- Avoid using electricity near water or other liquids. Clean up all spills in or around an electrical appliance after making sure the power supply has been disconnected. Never submerge an appliance or its electrical cord or plug in water or any other liquid.
- Install ground-fault circuit interrupters (GFCIs) in your kitchen. GFCIs are designed to prevent shock

hazards by interrupting power if electrical current leaks from a damaged cord or appliance.

- Always check your kitchen appliances for damaged cords or plugs before you use them. Contact with a faulty or frayed power cord or a broken appliance can cause electric shock. If an appliance malfunctions or appears to be damaged in any way, disconnect the appliance from the power outlet and have it repaired or replaced immediately.

- Never let power cords or plugs dangle over the edge of counters or come in contact with hot surfaces. Dangling cords are a danger to small children who might pull them.

Tips for Using Your Microwave Oven

Microwave ovens are among the most popular kitchen appliances. Be wary of the dangers associated with using them.

- Use only containers and tableware stamped "microwave safe." Metal or aluminum should never be placed in a microwave.
- If food you're preparing catches fire, unplug the cord immediately but do not open the door. That would only feed oxygen to the fire. Wait for the fire to extinguish then remove the contents from the oven.
- Always use caution when removing items from your microwave. While your microwave stays cool, what's being cooked inside becomes very hot.

COMBAT HEAT LOSS WITH BLINDS, DRAPES



Window treatments do more than beautify your room and ward away Peeping Toms. They're also an energy-efficient tool to prevent heat from escaping your home when it's cold outside.

Windows and doors account for about 30 percent of a home's heat loss, but using blinds and drapes can help reduce this. Follow these tips to keep drafts out:

- Place a "draft dodger"—a sand-filled tube, for example—along the bottom of draperies.
- Seal drapery edges to the sides of windows using magnetic tape or Velcro.
- Use a closed cornice board at the top of window coverings. The board will keep heat from entering the top of draperies and pushing cold air into the room.
- Make or buy curtain liners to place in between the drapes and the window.
- Thermal shades will help insulate your home and are easy to make with batting fibers or fiberfill.
- Snug-fitting roller shades and blinds, mounted within the window's frame, can stop heat loss.
- Open your blinds and drapes on sunny winter days to invite the sun's warm rays indoors. Close them at dark when the temperature drops.

LEAVES, LADDERS AND LINES

The leaves are falling, and chances are you're getting out the ladder to clean the gutters, using an electric leaf blower to gather leaves from your lawn and taking on other jobs around the home that could put you at risk for electric shock.

Be careful how you carry that ladder. If you lift it up in the wrong place, you could brush overhead power lines and give yourself a serious shock. Once the ladder is up and in place, take care as you work and give overhead lines a wide berth. Always know where power lines are and avoid them.

Tortilla Moon

*That night, the spell
of the comal, the
full moon and the
memory of the
beautiful flour
tortillas growing in
my grandmother's
hands filled my
senses with memory
and longing.*

BY WINTER PROSAPIO

I looked up in the perfect azure sky, and the full moon was there, golden in the dusty veil of twilight. And, since I was still hungry, it reminded me of one thing.

Tortillas. Not those horrible white things sold in the grocery aisle with ingredients that read like a shopping list for a chemistry lab.

Those are not tortillas any more than a Chihuahua is a wolf. Distant relatives at best, with minor DNA connections, similar evolutionary relatives. No, not the same.

This golden moon is like Grandmother's tortillas, with light and dark areas where the *masa* (dough) meets the *comal* (cast-iron pan). You can see its puffy rise, air coaxed into the layers of flour and lard, lifting and filling the kitchen with a warm smell that embraces everyone there. The scent dives straight for my stomach, teasing me with a phantom taste.

She always made me tortillas of my very own, smaller than the big ones that went in the basket for everyone else. I would hold them in my hands, bouncing them from palm to palm, letting the warmth radiate up my arms, bits of flour that had kept them from sticking coating the tiny lines-within-lines on my hands.

But even better was the *masa*. I never had raw cookie dough as a child; I had raw *masa*. I would get a pinch or two and eat it.

How different the *masa* tasted from the tortilla—yet its essence remained. What was the magic spell cast in the iron *comal* that changed it from one to another? Was it the same spell that would someday transform me from a skinny, shy child playing under her grandmother's table into a woman with her own kitchen, her own children and her own package of lard in the refrigerator?

That night, the spell of the *comal*, the full moon and the memory of the beautiful flour tortillas growing in my grandmother's hands filled my senses with memory and longing. Decades flow, and I find that I buy all my tortillas from the store.

But not any longer, I vowed under the spell of the full moon. Tomorrow, I promised, I will get my grandmother's recipe out, spread flour on my counter and take out my rolling pin. Tomorrow, I will heat my iron *comal* and watch the imperfect *masa* circle rise. I will hand one to my daughter, one just her size, which she can bounce from palm to palm. And, when no one is looking, I will take a bite of the *masa*.

I looked at my hands, more comfortable on a computer keyboard than in a kitchen, and I wondered if I could do it. Could I bring back her kitchen, her warmth, her tortillas? Tonight, I've tapped into the power of that spell of transformation. The spell that keeps the essence the same, yet allows for the changes that must come.

It's time to get rolling.

Winter Prosapio is a Hill Country writer and humor columnist.



DALLAS

Painting Texas

Through these remarkable paintings, photographs and prints, Jerry Bywaters reveals the unique character of Texas and Texans.

by Peg Champion



Think you know Texas?

The pure essence of Texas—its landscape and people, shown at a defining moment in the cultural and economic development of the Lone Star State—is on display at Southern Methodist University, alive through the pen and paintbrush of Jerry Bywaters.

Bywaters (1906–89) was a true Texas Renaissance man: painter, printmaker, illustrator, muralist, essayist, art critic, editor, publisher, professor, museum director and spokesman for the Texas Regionalist art movement, which he founded along with the other members of the “Dallas Nine.” Bywaters was at ease in both the literature and fine art worlds. As director of the Dallas Museum of Fine Arts from 1943–64, he was instrumental in establishing a national interest in Texas’ unique style.

Through the Texas Regionalist movement, Bywaters “created a new artistic language of regional images and universal themes,” said Sam Deshong Ratcliffe, editor of the new book, *Jerry Bywaters: Interpreter of the Southwest* (Texas A&M University Press, 2007). His great talent was illustrating the interaction of people and the land, a universal theme made local through his focus on Texas and the culture of the American Southwest. His paintings effortlessly portray the dramatic panorama of its open space, the hardworking character of Texans, the development of the oil industry and the resultant changing landscape.

The book features a collection of essays by friends and colleagues who knew Bywaters well. In her essay, “First and Foremost an Artist,” Francine Carraro writes, “Ordinary structures within the landscapes were transformed by his art into icons ... run-down ranch houses were biographies of stalwart Texans ... abandoned railroad stations were reminders of changes in Texas; grain elevators stood for enterprise; and ranch gates and windmills were lessons in persistence.”

Through these remarkable paintings, photographs and prints of ordinary people and places in everyday circumstances, Bywaters reveals the unique character of Texas and Texans.

EXHIBITION DETAILS

The Meadows Museum at Southern Methodist University in Dallas has organized two Bywaters exhibits running concurrently November 30 to March 2. Jerry Bywaters, “Interpreter of the Southwest” shows his paintings and pastels. “Jerry Bywaters: Lone Star Printmaker” will include every lithographic print he made in his long career. A companion book on the prints, written by Ellen Buie Niewyk, is available from SMU Press. The Meadows Museum is at 5900 Bishop Boulevard on the SMU campus. For information on the exhibits, call (214) 768-2516 or go to www.meadowsmuseumdallas.org.

Peg Champion is publisher of Texas Co-op Power.



OIL FIELD GIRLS

1940
Oil on Board
30 x 25 inches
Blanton Museum of Art, the
University of Texas at Austin,
Michener Acquisitions Fund,
1984



CITY SUBURB AT DUSK

1978
Oil on Masonite
18 x 24 inches
Collection of G. Pat Bywaters

"As a professional restorer of antique and classic watches for major museums, I recently reviewed the movement and individual parts of the Stauer Noire watch. The assembly and the precision of the mechanical movement are excellent."

*—George Thomas
Towson Watch Company*



I'll take mine black...no sugar

In the early 1930's watch manufacturers took a clue from Henry Ford's favorite quote concerning his automobiles, "You can have any color as long as it is black." Black dialed watches became the rage especially with pilots and race drivers. Of course, since the black dial went well with a black tuxedo, the adventurer's black dial watch easily moved from the airplane hangar to dancing at the nightclub. Now, Stauer brings back the "Noire", a design based on an elegant timepiece built in 1936. Black dialed, complex automatics from the 1930's have recently hit new heights at auction.

One was sold for in excess of \$600,000. We thought that you might like to have an affordable version that will be much more accurate than the original.

Basic black with a twist. Not only are the dial, hands and face vintage, but we used a 27-jeweled automatic movement. This is the kind of engineering desired by fine watch collectors worldwide. But since we design this classic movement on state of the art computer-controlled Swiss built machines, the accuracy is excellent. Three interior dials display day, month and date. And, we have priced the luxurious Stauer Noire at a price to keep you in the black... only 3 payments of \$33. So slip into the back of your black limousine, savor some rich tasting black offee



The 27 jewels and hand-assembled parts inside drive this classic masterpiece.

and look at your wrist knowing that you have some great times on your hands.

An offer that will make you dig out your old tux. The movement of the Stauer Noire wrist watch carries an extended two year warranty. But first enjoy this handsome timepiece risk-free for 30 days for the extraordinary price of only 3 payments of \$33. If you are not thrilled with the quality and rare design, simply send it back for a full refund of the purchase price.

*Exclusive Offer—Not Available in Stores
Call now to take advantage of this limited offer.*

Stauer Noire Watch—\$99 + S&H or
3 credit card payments of \$33 + S&H

800-952-4473

Promotional Code NWT224-04
Please mention this code when you call.

To order by mail, please call for details.

Stauer
HERITAGE OF ART & SCIENCE

14101 Southcross Drive W., Dept. NWT224-04
Burnsville, Minnesota 55337



LONESTAR MARKET

TOWN & COUNTRY

LONESTAR MARKET

MANUFACTURED HOME OR PIER & BEAM HOME INSULATED CEMENT SKIRTING
 3 designs & 11 colors to choose from!
 Replace your vinyl skirting with STONECOTE.
1-888-724-1504
 www.stonecote.com



American Metal Components
 Pre-Fabricated All-Steel Building Kits
 "Many Options and Financing Available"
 Portables-Shops-Garages-Barns-Offices-Warehouses
 24x25x10=\$3,695.00 | 30x40x12=\$6,295.00 | 26-gauge galvalume roof and walls with 25-year warranty.
 24x30x10=\$4,195.00 | 40x60x15=\$10,995.00
1-866-424-2534 www.amcbldg.com

FLOATING FISHING PIER
 On your pond or lake, with or without roof.
 All sizes—installation available.


45 YEARS' EXPERIENCE
 Call for Free Information • **1-800-310-1425**
 www.ellisonmarine.com • Ellison Marine, Franklin, TX.

CJ'S BARN BUILDERS
SPECIAL: 30 x 50 x 10
INCLUDES ALL MATERIAL, CONSTRUCTION, DELIVERY
 Galvalume metal put on with screws • One pre-hung door
 One 10' or 12' sliding door • 6 skylights, factory trusses
 One-year warranty on labor and materials
 Colors and other sizes available • Call us for a brochure
1-877-710-7297 8:00 to 5:00 Mon.-Fri.

America's Oldest & Largest Rare Breed Hatchery.
 Free Color Catalog. Over 140 varieties of Baby Chicks,
 Bantams, Turkeys, Guineas, Peafowl, Game Birds, Waterfowl.
 Also Eggs, Incubators, Books, Equipment and Medications.
 Call **1-800-456-3280 (24 Hours A Day)**
Murray McMurray Hatchery
 C 122, Webster City, Iowa 50595-0458
 Website: <http://www.mcmurrayhatchery.com>



USED CONTAINERS
 Equipment Storage Service
1-866-377-2289
 Selling for Less at ESS for over 20 years!

BRUSH SHARK
 Skid Steer mounted shear.
 1/2" to 6" diameter trees and brush.
 Perfect for cedar, shin oak, persimmon, mesquite.
512-263-6830 - www.brushshark.com



MID - AMERICA POLE BARN COMPANY
30X50X10 SPECIAL
 Galvalume. Material, Delivery, and const.
 Factory trusses and screws.
TOLL FREE 1-866-456-0959

Failing Septic?
 Don't Let'em Dig!!
 Permanent Fix For Your Old Tired Septic
 Environmentally Friendly! No chemicals!
 5172664-9002 Major credit cards accepted
www.Painwastewater.com/failingseptic.htm

KODIAK STEEL HOMES

140 MPH wind rating! Bolt-together red iron, optional steel roof and horizontal lap siding.
 Resists mold, termites and fire.
kodiaksteelhomes.com
800-278-0888

High Rates On 1-Year CDs
TEXAS TOLL-FREE 1-800-359-4940
BLAKE MATTSON, CFP™
 Signal Securities, Inc.
 5400 Bosque, 4th Floor, Waco, TX 76710
 "Serving Customers All Over Texas"
 All CDs are insured to \$100,000 per institution by the FDIC. All CDs are subject to availability. Securities offered through Signal Securities, Inc. Member FINRA/SIPC. 700 Throckmorton, Ft. Worth, TX 76102 (817)877-4256.

Attractive and Affordable greenhouses
 • **FREE delivery** on all greenhouses!
 Large variety of sizes and styles.
 Full-length hanging rods and built-in bench frames.

The Greenhouse Catalog
 3740 TX Brooklake Rd NE
 Salem, OR 97303
FREE sample and catalog, call...
1-800-825-1925
www.greenhousecatalog.com/tx

Accessible Buildings Co.
 FAST BOLT-UP CONSTRUCTION
 SAVE! BUILD YOURSELF!
 40 x 50 x 10 = \$8,437.00
 40 x 60 x 12 = \$9,362.00
 50 x 100 x 12 = \$16,832.00
 60 x 80 x 14 = \$16,956.00
 100 x 150 x 14 (M-1) = \$45,824.00
 ALL SIZES MINI-STORAGE!
CALL TODAY FOR BUILDING QUOTE!
1-800-509-4949
www.accessiblebuildings.com

ADVANTAGE STEEL BUILDINGS
 Quality Buildings at Affordable Prices
 30' x 50' x 10' \$6,290
 40' x 60' x 12' \$8,975
 50' x 75' x 14' \$13,547
 80' x 120' x 16 (M-1)..... \$32,133
 Minis - 30' x 100' with 20 10' x 15' units - \$10,529
1.877.657.8335
www.advantagesteelbuildings.com

FUTURE STEEL BUILDINGS
 Do-It-Yourself Steel Buildings

Ideal For:
 • Recreational Use
 • Boat Storage
 • Bunkie
 • Equipment Storage
 • Garage/Shop
 • PWC/Snowmobile
 • 30-year perforation warranty
 • Full technical support from start to finish
 • Fully customized to meet your needs
 • Factory-direct savings
 Call Toll Free Today for a **FREE!** INFORMATION PACKAGE
 Our building consultants are ready to take your call
1-800-668-5111 Ask for ext. 91

W.D. Metal Buildings



Instant Quotes Online www.wdmb.com

EdenRanch Bengals

Bengals are Beautiful Exotic Cats. The Best Bloodlines & guaranteed health. Pelt patterns of spots, rosettes or marble. Sweet and Gentle Natures. Wonderful Companions! 830-708-3651



www.edenranchbengals.com

OCEAN FREIGHT CONTAINER SALES

SECURE STORAGE
Water-Tight/Rodent Proof

LARRY SINGLEY
CALL 1-866-992-9122
CALL (817) 992-9122



WATER PROBLEMS??

HARD WATER? IRON? BACTERIA? "ROTTEN EGG" SMELL? SAND? RUST?

Our Products Solve These Problems!
No Salt No Chemicals No Magnets!
FREE BROCHURE ~ 1-800-392-8882
MONEY BACK GUARANTEE! www.waterproblems.net



M&W BUILDERS

CUSTOM BUILT POLE BUILDINGS

BARNs • SHOPs • GARAGES
ALL SIZES AVAILABLE
FOR FREE ESTIMATES CALL
1-800-457-2088



WIN THE BRUSH WAR WITH



TREE TERMINATOR

- 3 models cut 20", 12" and 5" trees in one bite
- Hitches to fit most tractors and skid steer loaders
- Built to last with a 24 month warranty
- Swivel hitch, sprayer and grapple options

For a free color brochure call or visit our website
(417) 458-4350 • www.treeterminator.com
Grace Manufacturing • Plato, MO

Stilwell Construction

BARNs, SHOPs, GARAGES, SHEDs, STALLs, ETC.

1-866-211-8902
www.stilwellconst.com



THOMPSON BARNs

"We Do It Right - We Do It All"
Full Construction to Clean Up
Heavy Duty 'Beam' Construction
CREDIT CARDS ACCEPTED
TEXAS PROUD • 800-583-8632

PREMIER BUILDING SYSTEMS

1-800-882-5150
(770) 239-2085



The more you look,
The better we look!

30x40x10.....	\$6,229
50x60x12.....	\$11,305
60x100x12.....	\$19,995
100x150x16.....	\$59,475

All sizes available & mini-storage units.
26 ga., 20 yr. roof & walls.
Codes and market may affect prices.
Visit us at: www.premierbuildings.com

LOWEST COST

Term Life Insurance

Issue ages through 90

AGE	\$100,000	\$250,000
45	12.78	22.75
55	16.19	31.28
65	31.06	68.47

Rates figured on monthly cost for female non-tobacco users.
RAMLET & ASSOC, INC.
(800) 933-6354
TALIC FORM NO. 1-32207-198

BUILT TO LAST

AND PRICED TO SELL...

Compare our everyday price for our 25'x30' building:

\$3,990 END WALLS OPTIONAL

- EASY DO IT YOURSELF
- 30-YEAR WARRANTY
- 100% USEABLE SPACE

• Many sizes, shapes & applications! • Tough, rugged building - lasts! • Heavy gauge Galvalume steel • Easy to finish trussless interior • Totally maintenance free!

STEEL BUILDINGS GO FACTORY DIRECT
PIONEER 800-668-5422
www.pioneersteel.com 27 YEARS OF REPUTATION BUILT OF STEEL



Farm • Industrial • Commercial



30' x 50' x 10'.....\$7,999
40' x 60' x 12'.....\$10,600
60' x 100' x 16'.....\$24,985
80' x 100' x 16'.....\$32,250
100' x 150' x 16'.....\$55,485

Based In Texas

PRICES INCLUDE COLOR SIDES & GALVALUME ROOF

25 Year Warranty on Roof & Walls
Prices F.O.B. Mfg. Plants; Local codes may affect prices; Seal Stamped Blue Prints; Easy Bolt Together Design.

Arena Special (roof & frame)
100' x 100' x 14'...\$32,490

FREE BROCHURE • CONSTRUCTION VIDEO

VISIT OUR WEBSITE **RHINO** VISIT OUR WEBSITE
STEEL BUILDING SYSTEMS

Fax: 940-484-6746 email: info@rhinobldg.com
Website: <http://www.RHINOBLDG.COM>
Toll Free **1-888-320-7466**

"Building Solutions"

Call for our special...with integrity!



- ☆ Professional service, quality products
- ☆ Painted metal and many sizes available
- ☆ Kits available
- ☆ Fully insured for your protection
- ☆ Major credit cards are accepted

Supplying a variety of quality buildings designed to meet Your needs. Call for a FREE brochure and estimate, today!

NATIONAL BARN COMPANY

1-800-582-BARN (2276)

nationalbarn.com
Log On! For Pricing, Photos, Brochure, FAQ...

HERITAGE BUILDING SYSTEMS

Established 1979

A Legacy Built To Last

30' x 40' x 10' \$5,975
40' x 60' x 12' \$10,294
60' x 100' x 16' \$25,886

Since 1979 Heritage Building Systems' focus has been to provide the industry with the finest quality, best looking pre-engineered steel structures at the lowest possible price.

1.800.643.5555
www.heritagebuildings.com





Price includes material delivery, construction, 1 pre-hung door, 1 sliding door, factory trusses that meet the new 90+ mph wind load requirement, 6 skylights and warranty on labor and materials.

Ask for our brochure. Prices may be higher south of College Station & west of Abilene.

30x50x10
GALVANIZED ENCLOSED

\$7,595⁰⁰

40x60x12
WITH 15X60 SHED
GALVANIZED

\$13,395⁰⁰



COLOR
AND OTHER SIZES
AVAILABLE



8:00 to 5:00 Mon. to Fri.
8:00 to 12:00 Sat. CST



1-800-766-5793

www.bcibarns.com

e-mail: barn@azalea.net

WATER STORAGE TANKS.



- ★ Suitable for Ranch and Well Water Storage, Rainwater Collection and Fire Fighting Water Storage.
- ★ 10 year written warranty.
- ★ NSF-61 certified for potable water applications.
- ★ 10,000 to 65,000 gallon tanks in stock now.
- ★ Sizes available up to 700,000 gallons.
- ★ Assembled for you on site by local distributor.

CALL US FOR A QUOTE!



**Pioneer
Water Tanks**

"Built Stronger To Last You Longer."
Toll Free: 1-866-984-4040
sales@pwtusa.com www.pwtusa.com

MOBILE HOME ROOF PROBLEMS?

PERMA-ROOF
from Southern Builders®

The Mobile Home Roofover Specialist Can Help!



LIFETIME WARRANTY
ONE FOOT OVER-HANG
NO MORE ROOF RUMBLE
COMMERCIAL GRADE STEEL
2"or 3" FOIL BACKED INSULATION

CALL FOR A FREE ESTIMATE!

www.roofover.com

1-800-633-8969

Enjoy Radiant Soapstone Warmth

WOOD
or
GAS



**5 Reasons
Soapstone is Better!**

- Soapstone holds twice as much heat as metal.
- The heat is steady, even and comfortable.
- Soapstone has a proven record of durability.
- It has beautiful color, texture and marbling.
- Variations in the stone make each stove unique.

FREE COLOR CATALOG

Name _____
Address _____
City/State/Zip _____

Woodstock Soapstone Co., Inc.
66 Airpark Rd., Dept. 3086, West Lebanon, NH 03784

www.woodstove.com

1-888-664-8188

FOR THE TOUGHEST JOBS ON PLANET EARTH.™



From building, to creating,
to repairing and more.

1-800-966-3458 • GORILLAGLUE.COM

© 2007 The Gorilla Glue Company. G6HD

THE LEADER IN GAME PROCESSING™



FREE CATALOG

Toll Free: 1-877-536-7763

www.lemproducts.com



LEM Offers
Over 700 Meat
Processing And
Jerky & Sausage
Making Products.

- Great Quality
- Great Value
- Great Warranty

LEM Products, Dept. 07TXC
109 May Drive Harrison, OH 45030

© 2007, LEM Products

Smart Owners Protect Their Birds

Free 2008 Biosecurity Calendar

What You Need to Know

USDA is working to keep "bird flu" (avian influenza - AI) and exotic Newcastle disease (END) out of the country. They are contagious viral diseases that can infect many types of birds.



LOOK FOR SIGNS OF ILLNESS

Watch for signs of disease or unexpected deaths among your birds.



REPORT SICK BIRDS

Call your local cooperative extension office, veterinarian, State Veterinarian or USDA Veterinary Services toll free at 1-866-536-7593.



PROTECT YOUR BIRDS

Take a few simple steps: Disinfect shoes, clothes, and equipment. Wash your hands carefully. Keep other birds and people away from your birds.



United States Department of Agriculture
Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service
USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.



You can find out more about how to protect your birds by visiting:
<http://healthybirds.aphis.usda.gov>

To order, e-mail
birdbiosecurity@aphis.usda.gov



Custom Built on your Land
No Down Payment
Low Interest Rates
No Payments for 6 Months
Our Plan or Yours
Land Payoff Available



More Than a Builder®

Request a free brochure:
Dallas Sherman
Texarkana Beaumont
Tyler Houston Austin
1.800.756.2506
www.ubh.com



MAN SAVER POST DRIVER™



www.rohrermfg.com

Starting at
\$450

Drive most any wood or metal post on the market (up to 3.5" diameter).

Safe & Easy One Person Operation

Heavy Duty Construction

Runs Off Any Small Air Compressor

ROHRER MANUFACTURING INC.

1.800.980.7599



"Proudly serving rural America"

Log on for 24 hour information

www.usabarn.com

SPECIAL!
30x50x10
Call us!

Call for "Special's Price" in your area!



40x50x12 w/ 15 shed

Fully insured for your protection.



"Guaranteed Professional Service from start to finish."



Built to fit your needs, Any size or design. Call and speak with one of our knowledgeable associates today!



We accept:

Office Hours: Mon-Fri 8-5 * Sat 8-12 Central
1-877-872-2276 Fax: 918-686-5512

1-877-USA-BARN

(Required by 39 USC 3685)

1. Publication Title
Texas Co-op Power

2. Publication Number
0540-560

3. Filing Date
October 1, 2007

4. Issue Frequency
Monthly

5. Number of Issues Published Annually
Twelve

6. Annual Subscription Price
\$7.50

7. Complete Mailing Address of Known Office of Publication (Street, city, county, state, and ZIP+4)
2550 South IH-35, Austin, TX 78704

8. Complete Mailing Address of Headquarters or General Business Office of Publisher
2550 South IH-35, Austin, TX 78704

9. Full Names and Complete Mailing Addresses of Publisher, Editor, and Managing Editor

Publisher
Peg Champion, 2550 South IH-35, Austin, TX 78704

Editor
Kaye Northcott, 2550 South IH-35, Austin, TX 78704

Managing Editor
Carol Moczzygamba, 2550 South IH-35, Austin, TX 78704

10. Owner
Full Name Complete Mailing List

Texas Electric Cooperatives, Inc. is a nonprofit association of rural electric cooperatives organized as a cooperative membership corporation under Article 1528b, Texas Civil Statutes. Its members are: Bailey County Electric Cooperative Association, Muleshoe; Bandera Electric Cooperative, Bandera; Bartlett Electric Cooperative, Bartlett; Big County Electric Cooperative, Roby; Bluebonnet Electric Cooperative, Giddings; Bowie-Cass Electric Cooperative, Douglassville; Brazos Electric Cooperative, Waco; Bryan Texas Utilities, Bryan; Central Texas Electric Cooperative, Fredericksburg; Cherokee County Electric Cooperative Association, Rusk; Coleman County Electric Cooperative, Coleman; Comanche County Electric Cooperative Association, Comanche; Concho Valley Electric Cooperative, San Angelo; Cooke County Electric Cooperative Association, Muenster; CoServ Electric Cooperative, Corinth; Deaf Smith Electric Cooperative, Hereford; Deep East Texas Electric Cooperative, San Augustine; East Texas Electric Cooperative, Nacogdoches; Fannin County Electric Cooperative, Bonham; Farmers Electric Cooperative, Greenville; Fayette Electric Cooperative, LaGrange; Fort Belknap Electric Cooperative, Olney; Golden Spread Electric Cooperative, Amarillo; Grayson-Collin Electric Cooperative, Van Alstyne; Greenbelt Electric Cooperative, Wellington; Guadalupe Valley Electric Cooperative, Gonzales; Hamilton County Electric Cooperative Association, Hamilton; Harmon Electric Association, Hollis, Oklahoma; Heart of Texas Electric Cooperative, McGregor; HILCO Electric Cooperative, Itasca; Houston County Electric Cooperative, Crockett; J-A-C Electric Cooperative, Bluegrove; Jackson Electric Cooperative, Edna; Jasper-Newton Electric Cooperative, Kirbyville; Karnes Electric Cooperative, Karnes City; Lamar County Electric Cooperative Association, Paris; Lamb County Electric Cooperative, Littlefield; Lea County Electric Cooperative, Lovington, New Mexico; Lighthouse Electric Cooperative, Floydada; Lower Colorado River Authority, Austin; Lyntegar Electric Cooperative, Tahoka; Magic Valley Electric Cooperative, Mercedes; Medina Electric Cooperative, Hondo; Mid-South Synergy, Navasota; Navarro County Electric Cooperative, Corsicana; Navasota Valley Electric Cooperative, Franklin; North Plains Electric Cooperative, Perryton; Northeast Texas Electric Cooperative, Longview; Nueces Electric Cooperative, Robstown; Panola-Harrison Electric Cooperative, Marshall; Pedernales Electric Cooperative, Johnson City; Rayburn County Electric Cooperative, Rockwall; Rita Blanca Electric Cooperative, Dalhart; Rusk County Electric Cooperative, Henderson; Sam Houston Electric Cooperative, Livingston; Sam Rayburn Dam G&T Electric Cooperative, Nacogdoches; San Bernard Electric Cooperative, Bellville; San Miguel Electric Cooperative, Jourdanton; San Patricio Electric Cooperative, Sinton; South Plains Electric Cooperative, Lubbock; South Texas Electric Cooperative, Victoria; Southwest Rural Electric Association, Tipton, Oklahoma; Southwest Texas Electric Cooperative, Eldorado; Swisher Electric Cooperative, Tulia; Taylor Electric Cooperative, Merkel; Tex-La Electric Cooperative of Texas, Nacogdoches; Tri-County Electric Cooperative, Azle; Trinity Valley Electric Cooperative, Kaufman; United Cooperative Services, Cleburne; Upshur-Rural Electric Cooperative, Gilmer; Victoria Electric Cooperative Company, Victoria; Wharton County Electric Cooperative, El Campo; Wise Electric Cooperative, Decatur; Wood County Electric Cooperative, Quitman.

11. Known Bondholders, Mortgagees, and Other Security Holders None

12. Tax Status Has Not Changed During Preceding 12 Months

13. Publication Title
Texas Co-op Power

14. Issue Date for Circulation Data Below
October 1, 2007

15. Average No. Copies Each Issue Actual No. Copies of Single Issue

Extent and Nature of Circulation During Preceding 12 Months Published Nearest to Filing Date

a. Total Number of Copies 1,151,163 1,172,538

b. Paid and/or Requested Circulation 1,122,250 1,136,143

c. Total Paid and/or Requested Circulation none none

d. Free Distribution by Mail 1,122,250 1,136,143

e. Free Distribution Outside the Mail none none

f. Total Free Distribution 4,917 6,376

g. Total Distribution 1,127,167 1,142,519

h. Copies not Distributed 23,996 30,019

i. Total 1,151,163 1,172,538

Percent Paid and/or Requested 99.56% 99.44%

16. Publication of Statement of Ownership

Publication required. Will be printed in the November 2007 issue of this publication.

Signature and Title of Editor, Publisher, Business Manager, or Owner Date

Carol Moczzygamba, Managing Editor October 1, 2007

M Metal Mart

THE RIGHT MATERIALS, THE RIGHT PRICE!

SERVING THE GREAT SOUTHWEST SINCE 1985

EASY-BOLT PRE FABRICATED STEEL

SINGLE BAY BUILDING LINE with
"The Exclusive Metal Mart Simplified System"



PHOTO SHOWN WITH OPTIONS.

FAST & EASY ASSEMBLY!
NO WELDING &
NO LOOSE CLIPS!
IBC 10-10-100 MPH
ON SALE NOW!

*OFFER ENDS NOVEMBER 30, 2007

24' x 30' x 10' WORKSHOP
\$3,995 reg. \$4,595 SAVE \$600

30' x 30' x 12' TOOLSHED
\$5,295 reg. \$5,995 SAVE \$700

40' x 30' x 12' STORAGE CENTER
\$5,595 reg. \$6,395 SAVE \$800

All above buildings come complete with:

- 20 YEAR Galvalume roof panels
- 5 YEAR Warranty Commodity Grade wall panels in your choice of 5 colors
- Trim Package in your choice of 14 finishes
- One 10' wide framed opening centered on one endwall
- Complete Foundation & Erection Drawings

Abilene (Clyde) • 800-677-2502
Athens • 800-323-0231
Austin (Buda) • 800-677-2501
Amarillo • 800-677-2519
Beaumont (Vidor) • 800-677-2513
Belton • 866-451-5144
Boerne • 866-883-4742
Bryan • 800-677-2508
Burnet • 800-301-8158
Conroe • 800-677-2615
Corpus Christi (Mathis) • 800-677-0632
Ft. Worth (Weatherford) • 800-677-2504

Gainesville • 800-677-2514
Greenville (Caddo Mills) • 866-284-5790
Longview • 866-328-1357
Lubbock • 800-677-2710
Lufkin • 800-677-2517
Paris (Reno) • 800-677-2925
San Antonio (Schertz) • 800-677-2516
Texarkana • 866-428-0646
Victoria • 800-677-2428
Waco (Bellmead) • 888-524-0335
Waxahachie • 800-677-2503
Wichita Falls • 800-677-2598

©BLUESKY2007

WOMACK NURSERY CO.

Family Owned for 71 Years

Your source for the latest pecan & fruit varieties for the southwest!
Horticultural tools of excellent quality available!

Write or call for FREE catalog.

(254) 893-6497 • www.womacknursery.com

2551 Hwy. 6, DeLeon, TX 76444 • (State Hwy. 6, West 5 miles)



SUBSCRIBE TODAY!

A gift subscription lets you share *Texas Co-op Power* with a far-away friend or family member.

ORDER FORM

Send a 12-month subscription to:

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State, Zip _____

Phone _____

Gift Subscription Sent by: _____

Include \$7.50 check made out to Texas Co-op Power. Mail to: Subscriptions, Texas Co-op Power, 2550 South IH-35, Austin, TX 78704

Home Sweet Home

Lone Star Ag Credit can help you buy or build the country home of your dreams. We make loans for homes, home construction and rural land.

Building lifetime relationships through financial solutions



1-800-530-1252

www.lonestaragcredit.com

member-owned cooperative
patronage dividends



Part of the Farm Credit System



The Largest Tractor Package Dealer in the USA!™



All New 5003 Series now available with 4WD! Only \$119 more a month!

5103 Package = \$21,998 or \$373/mo with \$0 DOWN!
45HP 2WD Tractor, 512 Loader with Grille Guard & Joystick, 6' Rotary Cutter, 6' Box Blade, Post Hole Digger, Insulated Canopy Top & 20' HD Tandem Trailer with ramps & brakes.



5203 Package with \$0 DOWN!

\$23,498 or \$399/mo!

- 5203 56HP Tractor & Insulated Canopy Top
- 512 Loader with Grille Guard & Joystick
- 6' Cutter & Box Blade, Post Hole Digger
- 20' HD Tandem Trailer w/ramps & brakes



5303 Package with \$0 DOWN!

\$24,998 or \$424/mo!

- 5303 64HP Tractor & Insulated Canopy Top
- 512 Loader with Grille Guard & Joystick
- 6' Cutter & Box Blade, Post Hole Digger
- 20' HD Tandem Trailer w/ramps & brakes



5403 Package with \$0 DOWN!

\$27,498 or \$467/mo!

- 5403 74HP Tractor & Insulated Canopy Top
- 512 Loader with Grille Guard & Joystick
- 6' Cutter & Box Blade, Post Hole Digger
- 20' HD Tandem Trailer w/ramps & brakes



33402 Highway 290 West
Hockley, TX 77447
(281) 256-6900
Toll Free (888) 869-6202
www.tractorpackages.com
dfoster@fostersfarm.net

EASTEX FARM & HOME
Liberty, TX
(936) 336-7226
Beaumont
(409) 842-1128

WE DELIVER NATIONWIDE!

www.JohnDeere.com

Offer ends 11/30/2007. See dealer for complete details. Option for 4WD is \$119 more per month for each package. Example: 5103 2WD package is \$373 per month or \$492 per month for 4WD package. Taxes, freight, set up and delivery charges could increase the monthly payment. Price, payment, and financing subject to change without notice. Offer ends 11/30/2007. Subject to approved credit on John Deere Credit Installment Plan. Example: based on a purchase of \$21,998 with \$0 down payment, monthly payment of \$373 at 6.99% APR for 72 months. Taxes, freight, set up and delivery charges could increase the monthly payment. Price and model availability vary by dealer. Price, payment, and financing subject to change without notice. Offer ends 11/30/2007. Subject to approved credit on John Deere Credit Installment Plan. Example: based on a purchase of \$23,498 with \$0 down payment, monthly payment of \$399 at 6.99% APR for 72 months. Taxes, freight, set up and delivery charges could increase the monthly payment. Price and model availability vary by dealer. Price, payment, and financing subject to change without notice. Offer ends 11/30/2007. Subject to approved credit on John Deere Credit Installment Plan. Example: based on a purchase of \$24,998 with \$0 down payment, monthly payment of \$424 at 6.99% APR for 72 months. Taxes, freight, set up and delivery charges could increase the monthly payment. Price and model availability vary by dealer. Price, payment, and financing subject to change without notice. Offer ends 11/30/2007. Subject to approved credit on John Deere Credit Installment Plan. Example: based on a purchase of \$27,498 with \$0 down payment, monthly payment of \$467 at 6.99% APR for 72 months. Taxes, freight, set up and delivery charges could increase the monthly payment. Price and model availability vary by dealer. Price, payment, and financing subject to change without notice. John Deere's green and yellow color scheme, the leaping deer symbol, and JOHN DEERE are trademarks of Deere & Company.

H74CUBD0802-FOSTER'S 11.07 TCP-00208976

SAFETY. Live with it!

Love Potion #7?

The New Science of Love with a little wizardry thrown in.

In every great fairy tale, the sorcerers take a little science and throw in a little magic to create the perfect brew that brings two lovers together. Romance is all about chemistry and these seven brilliant stones can add just the right magical fire to raise the temperature of your secret potion. In today's most important design called the "River of Love", this pendant of 2 carats t.w. of graduated DiamondAura stones is the perfect blend of science and sorcery. Our Gemologists have broken the code to create an impeccable stone with even more fire and better clarity than mined diamonds. Of course, the DiamondAura stones are hard enough to cut glass and they are so clear and white that they rival a "D Flawless" diamond in terms of color and clarity. In the laboratory, we have found a way to match the brilliance and stunning reflective qualities of a diamond by using science and thus we avoid the outrageous price.

Perfection from the laboratory. We will not bore you

with the details of the ingenious process, but will only say that it involves the use of rare minerals heated to an incredibly high temperature of over 5000°F. This can only be accomplished inside

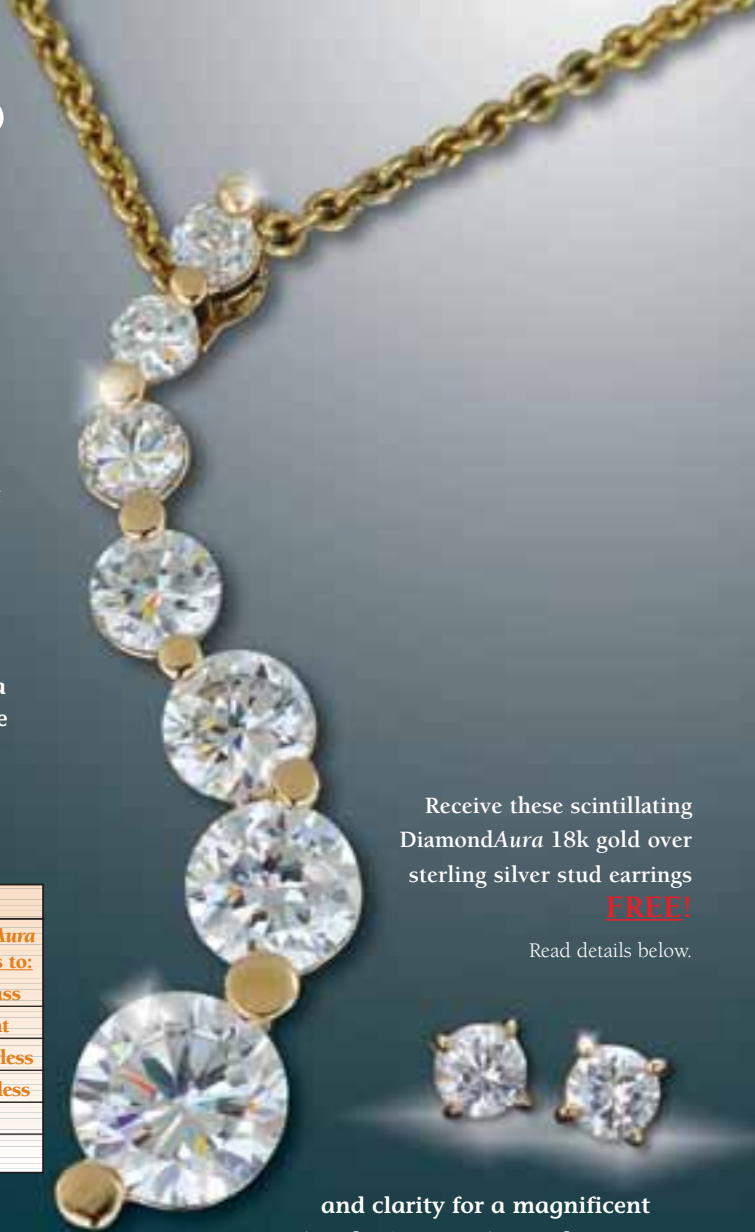
COMPARE FOR YOURSELF AT 2 CARATS		
	Mined Flawless Diamond	DiamondAura Compares to:
Hardness	Cuts Glass	Cuts Glass
Cut (58 facets)	Brilliant	Brilliant
Color	"D" Colorless	"D" Colorless
Clarity	"IF"	"F" Faultless
Dispersion/Fire	0.044	0.066
2 ct tw necklace	\$20,000+	\$129

some very modern and expensive laboratory equipment. After cutting and polishing, scientists finally created a faultless marvel that's optically brighter and clearer with more flashes of color. According to the book *Jewelry and Gems—the Buying Guide* the technique used in DiamondAura offers, "The best diamond simulation to date, and even some jewelers have mistaken these stones for mined diamonds."

The 4 Cs. Our DiamondAura jewelry retains every important specification: color, clarity, cut, and carat weight. In purely scientific measurement terms, **the fire is actually superior to that of a diamond.** Fire is the dispersion of white light into a rainbow of color. Our team of cutters and polishers artistically performs the symmetrically brilliant, 58-facet cut to maximize the light reflection and refraction.

Buying naturally mined diamonds can be a dangerous journey. Prices are high and often fixed, quality is subjective and the origins of the stones may be in doubt. Do you really want to worry about that or do you just want a look that is spectacular.

The "River of Love" is for that love of a lifetime. If you're looking for the most fire, carat weight, brilliance



Receive these scintillating DiamondAura 18k gold over sterling silver stud earrings **FREE!**

Read details below.

and clarity for a magnificent price, the 2 carat DiamondAura

"River of Love" 7 stone necklace is mounted in 18k gold fused over sterling silver for only \$129.00! Just to make the magic more tempting, we will include the .86 total carat weight DiamondAura stud earrings for FREE!

If you are not thrilled with the brilliant romance of the DiamondAura "River of Love" necklace, return it within 30 days for a refund of your purchase price and keep the stud earrings as our gift.

Not Available in Stores

Call now to take advantage of this limited offer.

DiamondAura "River of Love" necklace

2 ct. t.w. DiamondAura 18" gold pendant with 7 stones \$129 + S&H

.86 ct. t.w. DiamondAura gold stud earrings **FREE** when ordering the "River of Love" necklace – a \$69.95 value!

Call to order toll-free, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

888-201-7059

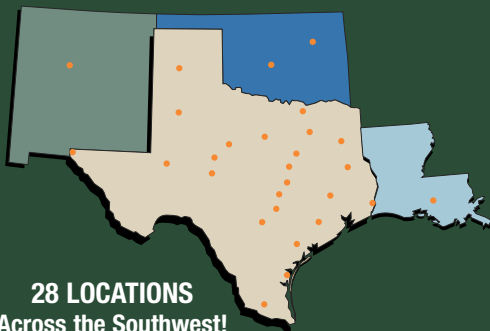
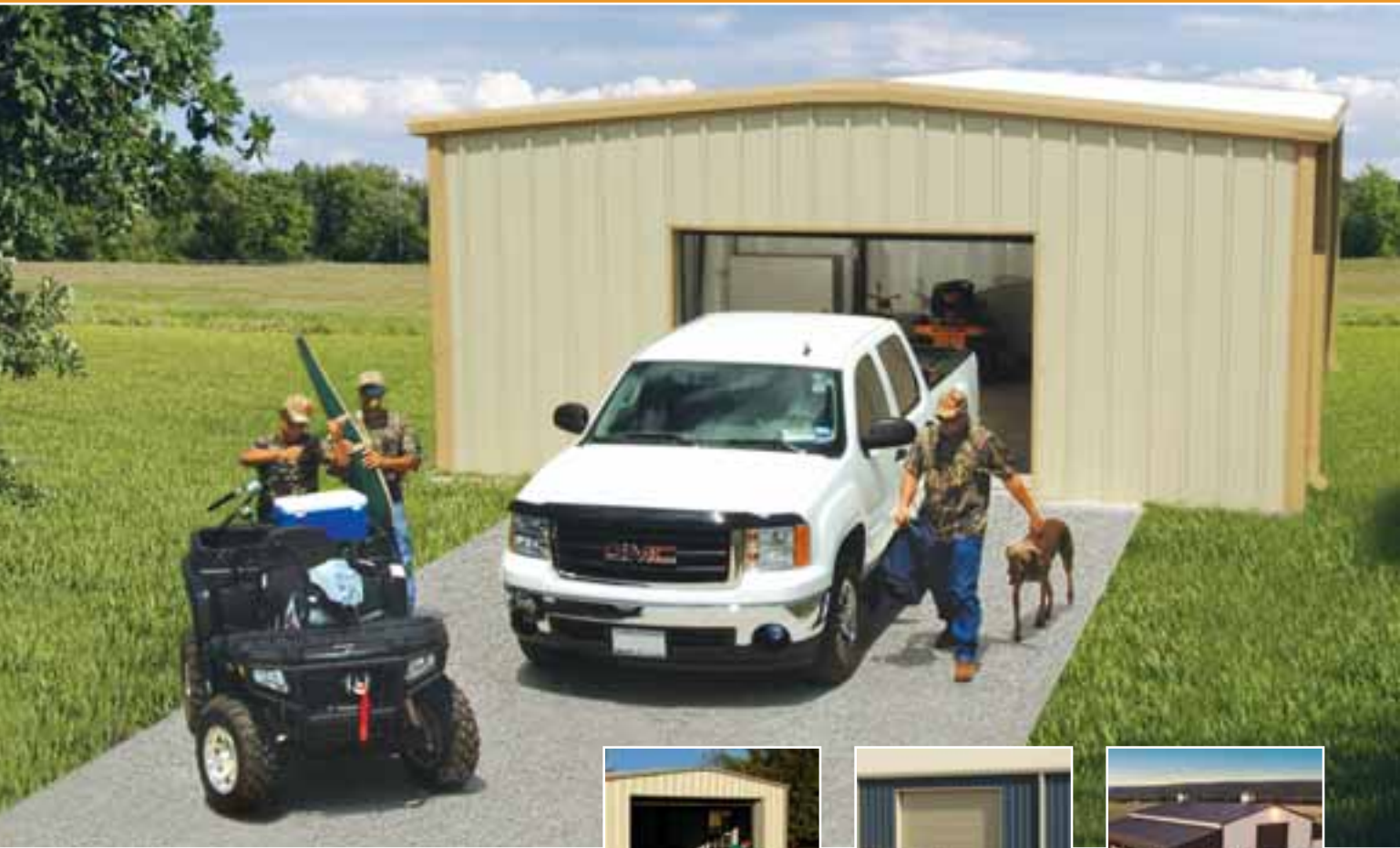
Promotional Code **ROL243-02**
Please mention this code when you call.

Stauer
HERITAGE OF ART & SCIENCE

14101 Southcross Drive W.,
Dept. ROL243-02
Burnsville, Minnesota 55337
www.stauer.com

METAL BUILDINGS BY MUELLER

RIGHT ON TARGET.



28 LOCATIONS
Across the Southwest!

Get organized this season.
We have the storage solution just for you.

WORKSHOP - 24' x 24' x 10'

STARTING AT **\$3,595**

GARAGE - 24' x 30' x 10'

STARTING AT **\$4,195**

BIG WORKSHOP - 30' x 40' x 12'

STARTING AT **\$5,795**

Prices subject to change without notice.



GET YOUR FREE QUOTE TODAY!

877-2-MUELLER
www.MuellerInc.com

Thanksgiving as a Texas Thing

BY CLAY COPPEDGE

If you sit down to a Thanksgiving turkey this month, you are celebrating a holiday with origins in 17th century New England. But, had Texas been used as a model, you could have been eating bison in May.

In a Texas-centered history of the first Thanksgiving, arguments would persist over where in Texas the alleged feast took place, and when.

In one corner would be the group proclaiming May 23, 1541, as the date of the first Thanksgiving, and Palo Duro Canyon as the site. Spanish explorer Francisco Vázquez de Coronado would be the star of legend and lore, and we'd probably be eating leftover buffalo instead of turkey.

In the other corner would be the people proclaiming an April 30, 1598, feast along the Rio Grande as the first Thanksgiving.

Both stories center on travesty and travail and encounters with two of the most forbidding landscapes Texas has to offer—the Llano Estacado and the Chihuahuan Desert.

The Palo Duro camp tells us that in 1541, a friar traveling with the Coronado expedition proposed a service and feast thanking God for his mercy and bounty. Friar Juan de Padilla promptly performed a Thanksgiving Mass, which was witnessed by a few baffled Teyas Indians.

We know, too, that Coronado and his men suffered travails aplenty in their quest for Quivira, the richest of the Seven Cities of Cibola, and that Coronado enlisted the aid of an Indian prisoner the Spanish called *La Turque* (The Turk) because “he looked like one.”

La Turque took the 1,500 men, along with scores of horses, cattle and sheep, on a hellish, meandering tour of the Llano Estacado, a vast expanse of shortgrass prairie with no settlements, no trees, very little water and nowhere to fix a compass. Coronado and his men wandered in dazed circles for days on end, lost, hungry and thirsty on an endless sea of grass. In this most desperate of states, they made a final, harrowing descent into the Palo Duro.

A hailstorm hit the canyon the first night and stampeded the expedition's horses and destroyed much of their equipment. Hunters ventured onto the plains to kill buffalo, but the hunters got lost. Most of them eventually returned.

To this story, many historians add a touch of balderdash. They point out that grapes and pecans, said to be a part of the feast, did not grow in the Palo Duro at that time. “There is now some doubt whether this was a special thanksgiving or a celebration of the Feast of the Ascension. It was held in Texas, but may have been on one of the forks of the Brazos River farther south,” wrote Mike Kingston in the 1990-91 edition of the *Texas Almanac*.

The story of the Rio Grande as the site of the first Thanksgiving centers on Juan de Oñate, an aristocrat-turned-explorer who set out to explore territories he had been granted north of the Rio Grande. In 1597, he bypassed a traditional route to blaze his own trail across the Chihuahuan Desert. The trek did not go well.

First, there was the endless rain, which Oñate and his companions prayed would stop. After it did, Oñate, 500 peo-



ple and several hundred head of livestock nearly died of thirst. They went the final five days of the 50-day journey with no food or water. The expedition's arrival at the Rio Grande was its salvation.

After recuperating for 10 days, Oñate ordered a day of thanksgiving. The feast consisted, we are told, of game hunted by the Spaniards and fish supplied by the natives of the region. Franciscan missionaries traveling with the expedition said a Mass. And finally, Oñate read *La Toma*—the taking—declaring the land drained by the Great River to be the possession of King Philip II of Spain.

Some historians call this one of the truly important dates in the history of the continent, marking the beginning of Spanish colonization in the American Southwest.

Others call it America's first Thanksgiving.

Clay Coppedge frequently writes history pieces for Texas Co-op Power.

Southern Cakes

BY SHANNON OELRICH Holidays at my maternal grandparents' house almost always included a many-layered Lord Baltimore Cake served with Grandma's homemade ambrosia. She'd spend all day in the kitchen to make the cakes, filling and ambrosia, including sectioning the oranges and grating the coconut by hand. Old-fashioned Southern cakes are a lot of trouble, but well worth it when the oohs and aahs come from your guests.

Nancie McDermott has captured those oohs and aahs on paper in her new book, *Southern Cakes* (Chronicle Books, 2007). It's got all those old favorites—Lane Cake, Orange Slice Cake, Caramel Cake, Coconut Cake, Red Velvet Cake—and many more I can't wait to try. Here, we've included a recipe from the book for Lady Baltimore Cake, which is akin to Lord Baltimore, of course, but with a fluffy white icing. McDermott writes, "My cousin Libbie Hall shared this family recipe for the queen of Southern cake extravaganzas, Lady Baltimore. Gorgeous and delicious, this cake is reason enough for you to indulge in a pedestal cake stand if you don't have one already."



LADY BALTIMORE CAKE



LADY BALTIMORE CAKE

FILLING

- 1/2 cup golden or dark raisins
- 1/2 cup finely chopped dried figs, apricots, cranberries or dates
- 1/2 cup finely chopped pecans or walnuts
- 2 tablespoons brandy, sherry, orange juice or grape juice

ROYAL THREE-LAYER WHITE CAKE

- 2 cups sifted all-purpose flour
- 2 teaspoons baking powder
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract
- 1 cup milk
- 1 1/2 cups sugar
- 1/2 cup (1 stick) butter or shortening, softened
- 4 egg whites

ICING

- 1 cup sugar
- 2 egg whites
- 1/4 cup light corn syrup
- 1/4 teaspoon salt
- 1/4 teaspoon cream of tartar
- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract

To make the filling, in a small bowl, combine the raisins, figs and pecans, and toss to mix well. Add the brandy or juice and toss to mix well. Set aside for 1 hour, or up to 1 day.

To make the cake, heat the oven to 350 degrees. Grease three 8-inch or 9-inch round cake pans, line each one with a circle of waxed paper or parchment, and flour the pans. In a medium bowl, combine the flour, baking powder and salt, and stir with a fork to mix well. Add the vanilla to the milk and set both mixtures aside.

In another medium bowl, beat the egg whites with a mixer at low speed until foamy, and then beat at medium-high speed until they become shiny, thick and stiff, but not dry.

In a large bowl, cream the sugar and butter with a mixer at high speed until light and fluffy, stopping to scrape down the sides of the bowl now and then. Reduce the mixer's speed to low, and carefully pour in the milk and the vanilla, beating only until blended.

Add the flour mixture to the batter all at once, and beat at low speed only until



BROWN SUGAR POUND CAKE

Get this recipe on our website at www.texascooppower.com. Click on See the Table of Contents, then the Recipes link.

the flour disappears. Add half the egg whites, folding gently with a rubber spatula or a large spoon until they are mixed well into the batter. Fold in the remaining egg whites gently, and then quickly divide the batter among the three cake pans.

Bake at 350 degrees for 25 minutes, or until the cakes are golden, spring back when touched gently in the center, and begin to pull away from the sides of the pans.

Let the cakes cool in the pans for 5 minutes on wire racks or folded kitchen towels. Then turn out the cakes onto wire racks or plates, carefully remove the paper from the bottoms, and then turn the cakes top side up to cool completely.

To make the icing, bring about 3 inches of water to a boil in a medium saucepan or in the bottom of a double boiler. Meanwhile, combine the sugar, egg whites, corn syrup, salt and cream of tartar in a large, heat-proof bowl that will fit snugly over the saucepan, or in the top of the double boiler. Beat for 1 minute with a mixer at low speed, until the egg white mixture is foamy and well combined.

Place the mixing bowl or the double

boiler top over the pan of boiling water, and adjust the heat to maintain a gentle boil. Using a hand-held electric mixer, beat the sugar-egg white mixture at high speed for 7 to 14 minutes, until it swells into a voluptuous cloud of icing that holds firm curly peaks when the beaters are lifted. Remove from the heat, add the vanilla, and beat for 2 minutes more, scraping down the bowl once or twice.

To complete the filling, scoop about 1 1/2 cups of the icing into a medium bowl, and stir in the dried fruits and nuts, juice and all. Mix well and set aside.

To complete the cake, place one layer on a serving plate, top side down, and scoop half the filling onto the cake. Spread the filling over the cake layer, making it a bit thicker around the edges. Cover with a second layer, top side down, and spread the remaining filling the same way.

Place the third cake layer on the second one, top side up, and then ice the entire cake with the remaining icing, spreading it evenly over the sides and then the top. Use a table knife to swirl the icing into beautiful peaks and curls. Serves 6-8.


CHARLOTTE HOOVER *San Bernard Electric Cooperative*

 Prize-winning recipe: **Apple Skillet Cake**

You'll want to have the vanilla ice cream handy for this recipe. When it comes out of the oven, serve it hot right out of the skillet with a scoop ... then watch the smiles appear. When cooled, it's just right with a cup of coffee. This one's going on my list of holiday must-haves.

APPLE SKILLET CAKE

- 1½ cups all-purpose flour
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 1 teaspoon baking soda
- 1 cup granulated sugar
- 1 egg, beaten
- 1 teaspoon vanilla
- ½ cup buttermilk
- 2 apples, peeled and sliced thinly
- 1 cup chopped pecans

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Lightly grease a 9- or 10-inch cast-iron skillet. In large mixing bowl, sift together flour, salt and baking soda. Add remaining ingredients and mix just until incorporated. Pour into skillet and bake 40–50 minutes. Serves 8–10.

Serving size: 1 slice. Per serving: 254 calories, 4 g protein, 9 g fat, 41 g carbohydrates, 358 mg sodium, 19 mg cholesterol

VINEGAR CAKE

- 3 cups flour
- 2 cups sugar
- ⅔ cup vegetable oil
- Dash of salt
- 4 teaspoons vinegar
- 2 teaspoons baking soda
- 2 teaspoons vanilla
- 2 cups water
- ¼ cup cocoa

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Grease and flour a 9x13-inch cake pan. Mix all ingredients and pour into pan. Bake for

30–40 minutes. Leave cake in pan and cut into squares while cake is warm.

Pour Glaze over hot cake. Serves 16–20.

GLAZE

- 2 cups sugar
- 1 stick margarine
- ¼ cup cocoa
- ½ cup milk
- 1 cup nuts

Put all ingredients into a saucepan.

Bring to a boil and boil 3 minutes, stirring continuously.

Serving size: 1 slice. Per serving: 382 calories, 4 g protein, 16 g fat, 58 g carbohydrates, 198 mg sodium, 1 mg cholesterol

KATHERINE SALAZAR
Victoria Electric Cooperative
FIG CAKE

- 2 cups flour
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 1 teaspoon baking soda
- 1½ cups sugar
- 1 cup vegetable oil
- 3 eggs
- 1 cup buttermilk
- 1 cup fig preserves, chunks cut up small
- 1 cup nuts
- 1 tablespoon vanilla
- 1 teaspoon ground cinnamon
- 1 teaspoon ground cloves

Preheat oven to 325 degrees. Grease a

tube pan. Sift together flour, salt, baking soda and sugar. Add oil and beat. Add eggs and beat. Stir in buttermilk slowly. Add figs, nuts, vanilla and spices and mix to combine. Pour into pan and bake for 45–55 minutes. Pour Glaze over warm cake. Serves 10–12.

GLAZE

- 1 cup sugar
- 1 stick butter
- 1 teaspoon light or dark corn syrup
- 1 teaspoon vanilla
- ½ cup buttermilk
- ½ teaspoon baking soda

Put all ingredients into a saucepan. Bring to a boil and boil 3 minutes.

Serving size: 1 slice. Per serving: 523 calories, 6 g protein, 30 g fat, 59 g carbohydrates, 391 mg sodium, 58 mg cholesterol

REBA KINDELL
Bryan Texas Utilities
APPLE WALNUT CAKE

- 4 cups cubed apples
- 1½ cups sugar
- 2 eggs
- ½ cup vegetable oil
- 2 teaspoons vanilla
- 2 cups all-purpose flour
- 2 teaspoons baking soda
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 1 cup chopped walnuts

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Oil and flour a 9x13-inch pan. Combine apples and sugar; set aside. In large mixing bowl, beat eggs slightly and blend in oil and vanilla. Sift flour, soda and salt together and stir into egg mixture, alternating with apple mixture. Stir in walnuts. Bake 45–55 minutes. Frost with Lemon Butter Frosting. Serves 16–20.

LEMON BUTTER FROSTING

- 4 tablespoons butter
- 3 cups powdered sugar
- 2 tablespoons lemon juice
- 2 tablespoons water
- 1/8 teaspoon salt

Mix well and spread over cooled cake.

Serving size: 1 slice. Per serving: 301 calories, 3 g protein, 12 g fat, 47 g carbohydrates, 275 mg sodium, 25 mg cholesterol

AUDREY VELDHIJZEN
United Cooperative Services
RECIPE CONTEST

Our recipe topic for March is **COOKING WITH COLA**. From beans to barbecue to bundt cake, cola can really liven up a recipe. Send in your favorite cola (or soda or pop) recipes to Home Cooking, 2550 S. IH-35, Austin, TX 78704. You may also fax them to (512) 486-6254 or e-mail them to recipes@texas-ec.org.

Please include your name, address and phone number, as well as the name of your electric co-op. The deadline is **November 10**. The top winner will receive a copy of *60 Years of Home Cooking* and a Texas-shaped trivet.

Runners-up will also receive a prize.

60 YEARS OF
Home Cooking

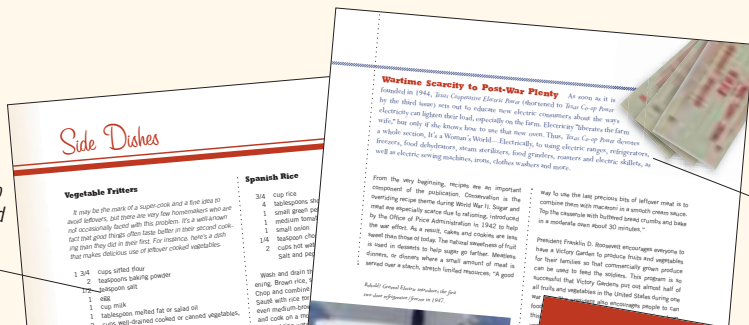
1940 **TEXAS CO-OP POWER** 2000

Six Decades of Texas' Favorite Foods, Fads & Facts

Full Color, Hardbound, More Than 600 Recipes
 From 60 Years of Texas Co-op Power

Discover authentic recipes true to each decade from the readers and archives of Texas Co-op Power.

Remember what life was like "back when" with an introduction to each decade.



Learn about great, and not-so-great, moments in food history with our culinary timelines.



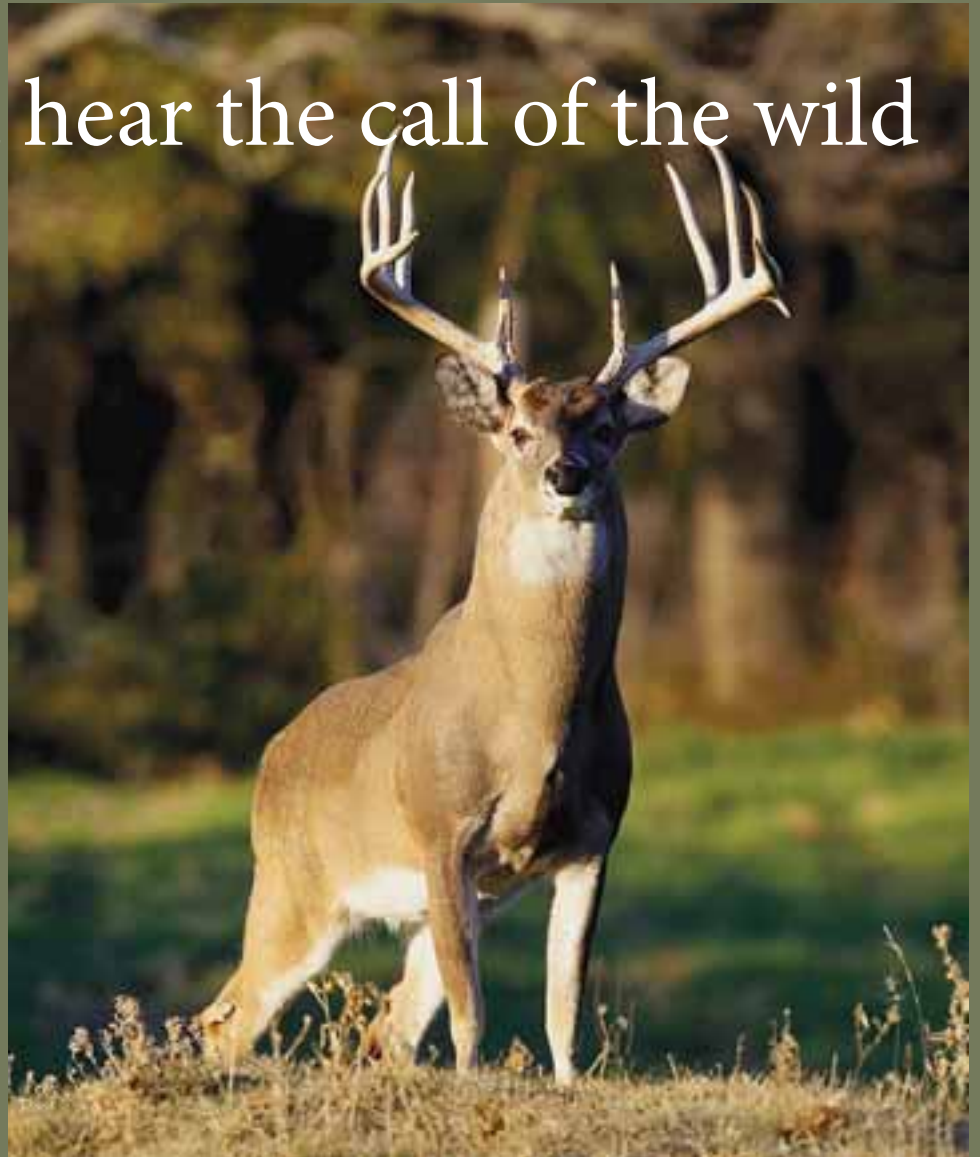
MAKES A GREAT HOLIDAY GIFT!

Mail ___ copies to:
 Name _____
 Address _____
 City _____
 State _____ Zip _____

Mail ___ copies to:
 Name _____
 Address _____
 City _____
 State _____ Zip _____

Make checks payable to Texas Electric Cooperatives. Send \$29.95 (\$24.95 plus \$5 tax, shipping and handling) for each cookbook to Cookbook, 2550 S. IH-35, Austin, TX 78704. Also available in many co-op lobbies throughout the state or online at texascooppower.com. Allow 4 to 6 weeks for delivery.

When you hear the call of the wild



We're the answer.



*Buy hunting land.
Enjoy nature.
Improve habitat.*

No matter what you want to do, we can finance it. And Capital Farm Credit also shares its earnings — we've returned more than \$100 million to our borrowers.

FINANCING FOR

Rural Land • Country Homes • Farms and Ranches • Livestock and Equipment • Operating Capital



Part of the Farm Credit System

capitalfarmcredit.com

877-944-5500



T E X A S ' L A R G E S T R U R A L L E N D E R



▲ **Dina Pipes**, a member of Houston County Electric Cooperative, snapped this picture of a newborn fawn on her property in Crockett.

► **Steve Kotzur** endured the August heat crouched in a brush blind beside a stock tank waiting to take a photo of a buck quenching his thirst. “When you get your ‘shot,’ it is all worth the wait,” said Kotzur, who is a member of San Bernard Electric Cooperative.

HUNTING WITH A CAMERA

When hunting season comes around, many Texans load up their hounds and head for the country. But some folks prefer to shoot wild animals with a camera. This month, we received photos of animals from across the state, reminding us that a land as big as ours is home to scores of unique wildlife varieties. —DACIA RIVERS



◀ While sitting in a deer stand near Sonora waiting for a big buck to walk by, **Thomas Goedrich** captured this picture of an emu family wading through the tall grass. Goedrich is a member of Bluebonnet Electric Cooperative.

▼ CoServ Electric member **Woodie Williams** captured this photo of a Texas horned lizard while on vacation at Palo Duro Canyon. “This is the first ‘horny toad’ I had seen since I was a kid in Fort Worth,” Williams said.

Upcoming in Focus on Texas

ISSUE	SUBJECT	DEADLINE
Jan	Little Helpers	Nov 10
Feb	Landscapes	Dec 10
Mar	Typically Texan	Jan 10
Apr	Smiles	Feb 10
May	Cowboys	Mar 10
June	Courthouses	Apr 10

LITTLE HELPERS is the topic for our **JANUARY 2008** issue. Send your photo—along with your name, address, daytime phone, co-op affiliation and a brief description—to Little Helpers, Focus on Texas, 2550 S. IH-35, Austin, TX 78704, before **November 10**. A stamped, self-addressed envelope must be included if you want your entry returned (approximately six weeks). Please do not submit irreplaceable photographs—send a copy or duplicate. We regret that *Texas Co-op Power* cannot be responsible for photos that are lost in the mail or not received by the deadline. Please note that we cannot provide individual critiques of submitted photos. If you use a digital camera, e-mail your highest-resolution images to focus@texas-ec.org. (If you have questions about your camera’s capabilities and settings, please refer to the operating manual.)



AROUND TEXAS AROUND TEXAS

NOVEMBER

01 PLANTERSVILLE [1-25]
Texas Renaissance Festival, 1-800-458-3435, www.texrenfest.com

02 COMANCHE
Deer Hunter's Chili Supper, (325) 356-3233, www.comanchechamber.org

LAMPASAS Hunter's Welcome, (512) 556-5172

PALACIOS [2-3] Texas Fishermen's Seafood Festival, 1-800-611-4567, www.texasfishermensfestival.com

03 ELDORADO
Game Dinner & Drawing, (325) 650-9559

GEORGE WEST
Storyfest, 1-888-600-3121, www.georgeweststoryfest.org

03 MARBLE FALLS
Main Street Show-n-Shine, (830) 265-0110

MINEOLA
Iron Horse Fall Fest, (903) 569-2087, www.mineolachamber.org

PAINT CREEK
Stitches in Time Quilt & Apron Show, (940) 864-2851

PIPE CREEK
VFD Turkey Shoot, (830) 510-4017

PORT LAVACA [3-4]
Arts, Crafts, Antiques Festival by the Bay, (361) 575-2561

UTOPIA
Arts & Crafts Guild Fall Fair, (830) 966-5569

04 BOERNE
Bed & Breakfast Tour, 1-888-842-8080, www.visitboerne.org

05 WALBURG Wurstbraten, (512) 863-3065, www.zionwalburg.org

07 ROBSTOWN [7-11] Bull Fest, (956) 240-5900, www.bullfest2007.com

09 CLIFTON [9-10]
Books on the Bosque Festival, (254) 675-3724, www.bosqueconservatory.com

10 BERGHEIM [10-11]
Hill Country Holiday Arts & Crafts Show, (830) 229-5572

EDGEWOOD Heritage Festival, (903) 896-4448, www.edgewoodheritagefestival.com

HENDERSON
Heritage Syrup Festival, (903) 657-4303, www.depotmuseum.com

JEFFERSON
Big Foot Conference, 1-877-529-5550, www.texasbigfoot.com

10 JUNCTION Christmas Bazaar, (325) 446-4730

MESQUITE Dinner Under the Cedars Benefit, (972) 216-6468, www.historicmesquite.org

SISTERDALE
VFD Hunter's Supper, (830) 324-6737

TEXAS CITY [10-11]
Model Train Festival, (409) 643-5799, www.gcmrrc.org

WINNSBORO
Christmas in the Park, (903) 342-5446

11 SAN MARCOS
Veteran's Day Celebration & Parade, 1-888-200-5620, www.toursanmarcos.com

15 KINGSVILLE [15-17]
South Texas Wildlife & Birding Festival, (361) 592-8516, www.kingsvilletexas.com

Stars of the Season!

HOLIDAY LIGHTING FESTIVAL
November 29, 2007 5p.m.
Courthouse-on-the-Square
www.dentonholidaylighting.com

DENTON
and all that jazz!

Denton Convention & Visitors Bureau
888/381-1818 www.discoverdenton.com

Eighth Annual

Texas Furniture Makers SHOW

October 25 through December 1, 2007

KERRVILLE, TEXAS

Co-sponsored by
Kerr Arts & Cultural Center
and
WOODCRAFT OTTO DUKES MACHINERY
American Made • For Wood • For Metal

Alaska Cruise

Plus Pacific Northwest Tour
15 Days from **\$1,848*** PP

Join Other Co-Op Members
May 22, June 19, July 17, Aug. 14, or Sept. 11, 2008

YMT's Alaska travel vacations offer a six-day deluxe motor coach tour of Yellowstone and Grand Teton National Parks, as well as highlights of Canada and the Pacific Northwest. From Vancouver, B.C., you'll board a 5-Star Holland American Line Cruise ship for an amazing seven day tour of Alaska's Inside Passage. Prices for this fabulous 15-Day vacation start at only \$1848 (per person, double occupancy) including all taxes and port charges. Airfare is extra and starts at \$600. Space is limited. \$100 deposits are due now to reserve your tour. Add \$150 for June and August and \$300 for July departure dates. For information, reservations and brochure call

'YOUR MAN' TOURS
1-800-888-8204

AROUND TEXAS AROUND TEXAS

- 16 JASPER** [16-18]
Rod Run & Antique Car Show, (409) 384-8745
- 17 BRENHAM** [17-18]
Poinsettia Celebration, (979) 836-6011, www.ellisonsgreenhouses.com
- BRYAN**
Brazos Valley Worldfest, (979) 862-6700, www.brazosvalleyworldfest.org
- CAT SPRING**
Chili Cook-Off, (979) 877-9063
- CISCO** Holiday Market, (254) 442-2537
- NACOGDOCHES** Nine Flags Festival Lighting & Opening Ceremony, (936) 564-7351, www.nineflagsfestival.com
- NORTH ZULCH** [17-18]
Homecoming Festival, (936) 399-3501, www.northzulchisd.net

- 23 BASTROP** [23-24]
Harvest Art Festival, (512) 303-9599
- STONEWALL** [23-25]
Christmas at the Vineyards, (830) 644-2681, www.beckervineyards.com
- 24 ANDERSON** Holiday in Historic Anderson, (936) 825-6600
- BERTRAM** Old Time Christmas Arts & Crafts Festival, (512) 355-2197
- GOLDTHWAITE**
Wild Game Hunter's Appreciation Supper, (325) 648-3619, www.goldthwaite.biz
- HALLETTSVILLE** [24-25]
Festival of Lights, (361) 798-2662, www.hallettsville.com
- JOHNSON CITY** Lights Spectacular Christmas Parade, (830) 868-7684, www.lbjcountry.com

- 24 LEXINGTON** Christmas Bazaar, (979) 773-4620
- UVALDE**
Holiday Arts & Crafts Show, (830) 278-3361, www.visituvalde.com
- 27 KILGORE** Christmas Parade, (903) 984-5022
- 30 COPPERAS COVE** [11/30-12/2] Krist Kindl Markt, (254) 518-1612, www.downtowncopperas.cove.org
- HUNTSVILLE** [11/30-12/1] Journey Through Bethlehem, (936) 295-7459, www.journeythroughbethlehem.org
- LOCKHART** [11/30-12/1] Lighted Christmas Parade & Celebration, (512) 398-2818
- NEW BRAUNFELS** [11/30-12/2] Weihnachtsmarkt Benefit, (830) 629-1572, www.sophienburg.org

DECEMBER

- 01 FRISCO** Merry Main Street, (972) 292-5000, www.friscotexas.gov
- HUBBARD** Victorian Christmas Celebration, (254) 576-2521
- PILOT POINT**
Christmas on the Square, (940) 391-1438
- ROSENBERG**
Christmas in Rosenberg, (832) 595-3520, www.visitrosenberg.com
- Event information can be mailed to **Around Texas**, 2550 S. IH-35, Austin, TX 78704, faxed to (512) 486-6254, e-mailed to aroundtx@texas-ec.org, or submitted on our website at www.texascooppower.com. Please submit events for January by November 10.
- Events are listed according to space available; see the full listing at www.texascooppower.com.



www.nineflagsfestival.com

- Sat., November 17th Downtown Lighting Ceremony
- Sat., November 24th Wassail Fest
- Sat., December 1st Downtown Festival - Children's Activities and Texas' Largest Lighted Christmas Parade
- Fri., December 7th Old Fashioned Christmas at Millard's Crossing Historic Village
- Sat., December 8th Tour of Homes

This holiday season, tour an elegantly decorated historic home, watch the lighted Christmas parade wind its way through downtown's brick streets and drink hot wassail while shopping in wonderful local shops and galleries. Ring in the holiday season here in the Oldest Town in Texas.



888-OLDEST-TOWN

Were it not for the colossal higher education center that is Texas A&M University, you might think that the Brazos River Valley area of Central Texas is truly the land that time forgot. In fact, if you're neither an Aggie nor someone who grew up within 20 miles of towns like Navasota, North Zulch and Madisonville, you may not even know where these places are.

But steadfast links to the past make them worth visiting, and the same can be said for College Station. You can see them all on a 50-mile driving tour, easily done on a leisurely, daylong trip. From Navasota, headquarters for Mid-South Synergy, you'll head up Texas Highway 6 to College Station, about 16 miles altogether. Next you'll take FM 1179 to FM 2038 to U.S. 190/Texas 21 for the 22-mile trip to North Zulch, staying on 190/21 another 13 miles to Madisonville.

NAVASOTA

It was founded around 1822 on a bend in the Navasota River close to where it is crossed by La Bahia Road, a famous old Indian trail. As many as four stage lines would stop in this area, and the town grew when the Houston and Texas Central Railway came through town. Antebellum and Victorian homes fill the downtown neighborhood, and elaborate 19th century architecture distinguishes the business district, which bears a marker for its inclusion on the National Register of Historic Places. Be sure to look downtown for the statue of French explorer René-Robert Cavelier, Sieur de La Salle, who was murdered nearby by one of his own men. If you're hungry, check out the lunch buffet at the **WRANGLER STEAKHOUSE**, known for good chicken-fried steak and pot roast.

Navasota Grimes Chamber of Commerce, 117 S. La Salle; (936) 825-6600, 1-800-252-6642; www.navasotagrimeschamber.com

COLLEGE STATION

The capital of Aggieworld wasn't incor-

NAVASOTA to MADISONVILLE

The Brazos River Valley yields Aggies, sidewalk cattlemen and ghosts of past.

BY JUNE NAYLOR



porated until 1938, in spite of serving since 1871 as home to the Agricultural and Mechanical College. Eventually outgrowing sister city Bryan, College Station bursts at its seams with the university's enormous enrollment. To get at its heart, however, is to go on campus. While there, visit the Bill and Irma Runyon Art Collections at the **MSC FORSYTH CENTER GALLERIES** inside the student center. Within you'll see a magnificent collection of English cameo glass and other art glass. What's more, there are also paintings by Cassatt, Remington and Russell on display. Also on campus, there's the **SAM HOUSTON SANDERS CORPS OF CADETS CENTER**, a museum telling you the whole story of the Aggie Corps. Don't overlook the **GEORGE BUSH PRESIDENTIAL LIBRARY AND MUSEUM**, reopening in early November after an \$8 million renovation.

Texas A&M University, (979) 845-5851; www.tamu.edu

George Bush Library and Museum, Texas A&M campus; (979) 691-4000, <http://bushlibrary.tamu.edu>

NORTH ZULCH

Who doesn't want to say they've been to Zulch? Found on U.S. 190/Texas 21, this community took its name for German

immigrant Julius Zulch, who opened a store at what had been called Willow Hole. He enticed more of his countrymen to move to his settlement, and he eventually built a school and donated land for the Bethlehem Lutheran Church. Now you'll just find the odd sign and a historical marker that tells you this ghost town was actually a thriving community at one time.

MADISONVILLE

Although it sits right on El Camino Real, the royal road that linked Mexico City with Natchitoches, Louisiana, this town's greatest claim to fame is its hilarious **SIDEWALK CATTLEMEN'S ASSOCIATION**, founded in 1941 in response to a local newspaper column criticizing

people who walked around in cowboy boots but didn't own any cattle. The organization—which sponsors a popular summer rodeo—has gained national attention for years with its list of tongue-in-cheek rules regarding the wearing of cowboy boots. In October, the town celebrates its official designation as the **MUSHROOM CAPITAL OF TEXAS** with an annual mushroom festival. Regardless of when you hit town, you don't want to miss a visit to the **WOODBINE HOTEL AND MUSEUM**, a 1904 boarding house that's been lovingly restored. It's a bed-and-breakfast inn and restaurant today, serving plate lunches as well as grilled salmon and rib eyes at dinner.

Madisonville Chamber of Commerce, (936) 348-3591; www.madisonvillechamber.com

Woodbine Hotel and Museum, 209 N. Madison St.; (936) 348-3333, 1-888-966-3246; www.woodbinehotel.com

Anywhere In
TEXAS

got land?



Get \$0 Down On A Beautiful New Home

Can't find a builder for your land? Still trying to save up a down payment?

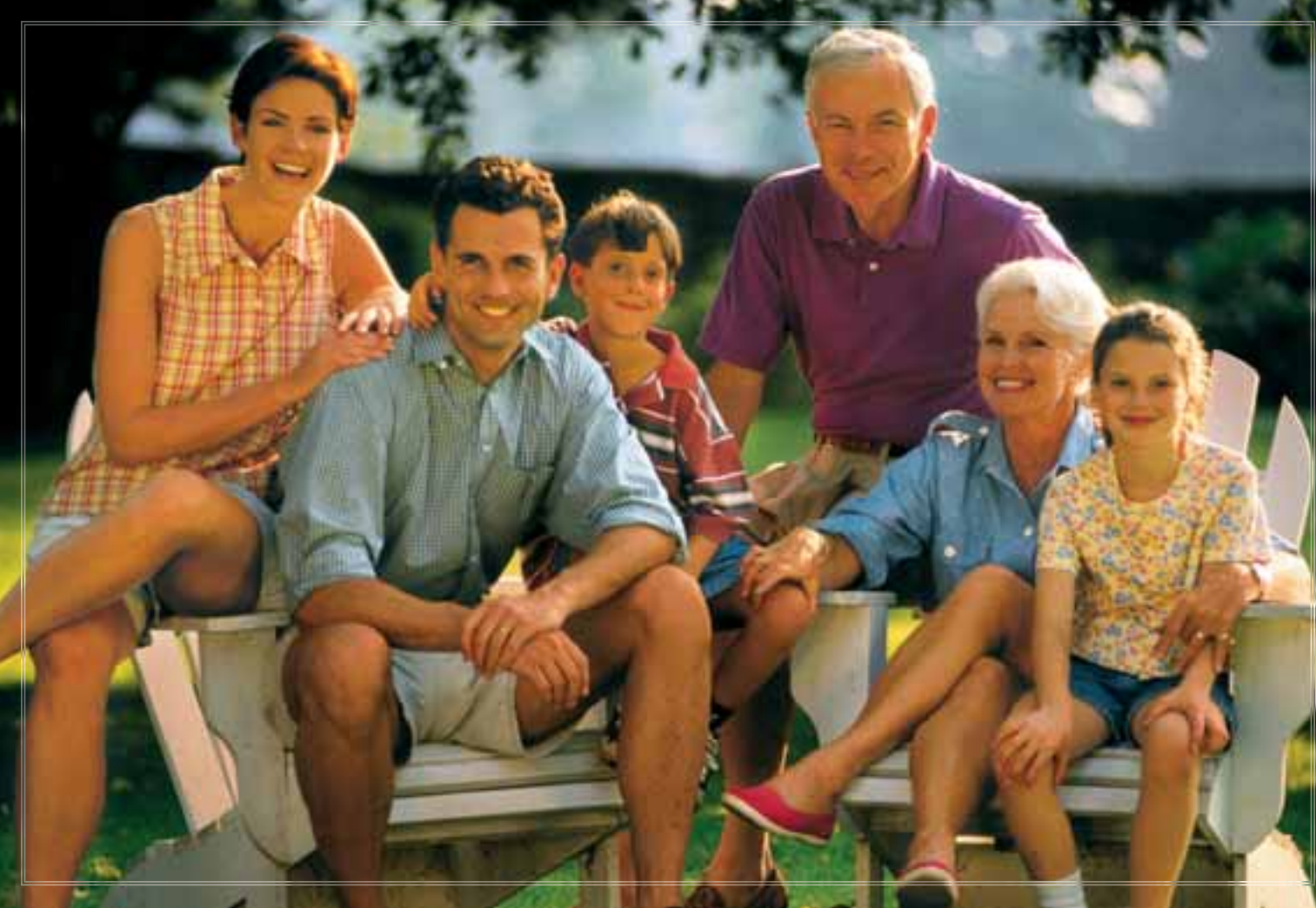
Qualified landowners can now own a beautiful custom Palm Harbor home without a down payment. That's right - \$0 down! Which means you can move into a new home sooner than you ever thought possible.

Palm Harbor specializes in high-quality, affordable, on-your-lot construction. Our homes are energy efficient and offer a wide variety of custom features and options. If you own land, this is your chance to build the home of your dreams for less than you ever imagined. Call us today and let us show you how Palm Harbor Homes delivers more home for your money.

Call Toll Free: 1-866-55-0-DOWN

(1-866-550-3696)

For a free informational DVD visit www.palmharbor.com/free



Germania: For Generations...

For more than 110 years Germania has been the insurance Texans trust. Whether it's home, auto or life coverage, generations of Texans have discovered the difference having a responsive, local insurance company makes.

Ask your family, friends and neighbors why *they* trust Germania Insurance. Find out why Germania is a tradition handed down, for generations...

- Competitive rates
- Multiple discount options
- Exceptional, responsive claims service 24/7
- Serving Texas since 1896



The Insurance Texans Trust

HOME • AUTO • LIFE

1-800-392-2202

www.GermaniaInsurance.com