

Foundation Cookoff Team “Kilowatt Kookers” Invites You to Dinner!

The Houston Electrical League Scholarship Foundation welcomes you to their first fundraiser for 2002. The “Kilowatt Kookers” cookoff team will prepare food and beverages for all to enjoy February 7–9 on the Reliant Astrodome parking lot. All proceeds from this event are donated to the scholarship fund, which has donated more than \$150,000 since their first cookoff six years ago. Their goal for this event is to raise \$30,000 for the fund. Your donation is tax deductible to the extent allowed by law and receipt letters will be provided upon receipt of your donation.

There are three ways to support this event: You can purchase a GOLD sponsorship for \$2,000 which includes your name on a sponsor board in the booth, food, refreshments and entertainment during the three-day event. You will receive 20 passes to the CORPORATE SPONSOR PARTY on Thursday, February 7th, 24



passes for Friday and 24 for Saturday, which includes two serving times, lunch and dinner. Each pass entitles entry into the booth during normal operating hours of the cookoff event; food during scheduled serving times, refreshments and entertainment until 11 p.m. all three nights. The second level is SILVER for \$1,000, which includes your name on a sponsor board in the booth, food refreshments and entertainment until 11 p.m. all three nights. You will receive 10 passes for the SPONSOR Party on February 7th, 12-day passes for Friday and 12 for Saturday, which includes a

lunch and dinner serving time. Day passes are the final levels of support. You can purchase a day pass for \$35 per person, which allows you, entrance into the booth; food during scheduled serving times, refreshments and entertainment until 11 p.m. Individual Day passes are sold for Friday and Saturday only. An insert to order your passes is included in this newsletter.

We hope you will join us at this fun event. Due to the construction of the new Reliant Arena, no on site parking is available. Ride the METRO RODEO EXPRESS FREE. A map of the METRO sites are available by calling Gail Maza at 713-207-7518.



President's Message

Jeff Techmanski, E-Tel

With the holidays fast approaching, allow me to make a few comments concerning the current state of affairs in our country. The tragic events of September 11

have brought changes to the business world as well as our own personal world. We are reminded how thankful we should

be for those things in life we may have taken for granted like family, friends and country. Times like these seem to bring into focus what is truly important in our life. The Board of Directors and the members of HEL have gathered for meetings and offered prayers of hope and strength to all who have been effected by our nation's terrible tragedy. I truly hope for safe and happy times to come for all the members of The Houston Electric League this holiday season.

As to current HEL affairs, the business at hand continues. The scholarship committee proposed the 2002 Scholarship Budget, and it was given board approval. We made some major reductions in the amount awarded for next year, anticipating revenues could be lower than usual. The general consensus is to continue with our scholarship program which includes 10 \$1,000 membership scholarships, 16 summer intern co-op scholarships, 6 \$1,000 ID scholarships to the University of Houston and Texas A&M, and the 4 \$2,000 honorary scholarships. As you all know, over the years HLP (Reliant Energy) has been a major financial contributor to HEL. Their support has provided many in-kind services, some of which will continue. The largest part of their contribution to HEL was providing the league with one great lady, Gail Maza. Throughout her years of service to this league, she has demonstrated a passion for the success of this league, equaled to none. Unfortunately, due to all the changes at Reliant and the deregulation of power providers, we are losing

Gail and all her energy, spirit, and determination. This, my friends, is truly a bummer. Many of the board members have stepped up to help fill this tremendous void. However, with all the events we conduct each year, there is always plenty to be done. Your help, or help from one of your assistants would be greatly appreciated and most rewarding. The future of the league depends on a commitment to the spirit of volunteerism.

Finally, we have decided to jump into the new millennium by using an electronic media for this newsletter. This copy you have in print will be the final one printed and mailed. Starting in 2002, we will be sending this publication through e-mail. Soon you will receive a card to register your e-mail address with us. This will help in reducing costs in printing and postage. You will also be able to read The Circuit on line at our Web site www.hel.org.

On behalf of the Board of Directors let me extend a sincere Thank You to all the members of HEL who participate in the events of this league, especially those companies who contribute financially to the league. Your involvement is what makes this league a success, which in turn provides the necessary funds to promote higher education amongst the youth of today. You all truly make a difference. Happy Holidays.

Membership in the Houston Electrical

League is a valuable and enjoyable experience. For more information on how to participate and support the Houston Electrical League, please call Mike McDaniel at 713-222-9191 or Gail Maza at 713-207-7518.

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**SHELL OPEN FUND-RAISER
Being Offered Again**

The Houston Electrical League Scholarship Foundation is again participating in the Shell Houston Open being held the week of March 25 at The Woodlands. The League has purchased a foursome that will play with a Pro that doesn't make the finals on March 30 at the Oaks course in The Woodlands. The cost of a ticket is \$25 which includes a chance to play in the foursome or season passes to the Champions pavilion and a preferred parking pass or four season passes to the Champions pavilion or four season passes to the Shell Open. Once you purchase your ticket, a tax deductible receipt can be obtained since all proceeds from this event benefit the scholarship foundation. To purchase tickets, contact Chairman

Jim Krepper at 281-293-9991 or look at the Board of Directors listing on the www.hel.org web-site. All board members have tickets to sell. The drawing will be held Wednesday, March 13 at the Spring HEL General meeting being held at the Holiday Inn Select, I-59 and Kirby. To make reservations for the luncheon contact Mary Frances Burnett at 281-481-6181.

Fall Golf Event Held

Scott Weddle, golf chairman and board member from Panduit Corporation reports that the HEL fall golf tournament was smaller than usual, but everyone had a great time. Scott would like to thank his volunteers: Gail Maza, Mary Frances Burnett, Robin Bell, Cindy Freeman, Sharon Coons, Sheila Wilkinson, Kirk Harrison, Jeff Fisher, Kevin Gregoire, Ron Angst, Scott Fields and Brad Elledge. The winner of the putting contest was Mike Bano and Long Drive winner was Robert LeBlanc. Longest Drive winner on the Tradition course was Bruce Mullins and closest to Pin was Kent Anderson. Longest Drive winner on the Cypress course was Gary Surber and Closest to Pin was Kevin Cathcings. First place team on the Traditions was Jerry Dehn, John Figary & John Szydluk.



1st Place on Tradition: (left to right) Jerry Dehn, John Figary & John Szydluk

First place team on Cypress was Woody McAda, Tommy Lipham, Gary Surber & Mike McDonald. Scott would like to thank the corporate donors for sponsoring a hole, raffle items or beverage carts.

All the proceeds from their donations directly benefit the scholarship foundation. They were in alpha order: Cooper Power Systems, Cooper Wiring Devices, CW Utilities, Dekoron Wire & Cable, Reily / WESCO, EBR, HWC, ECP Tech Services, EGS Electrical Group, Graybar, Emmco & Assoc., Panduit Corporation, Rexel Summers, Powell Electrical Manufacturing, Protect Controls, Square D Company, Velocity Express,



1st Place on Cypress: (left to right) **Gary Surber & Mike McDonald** (not shown **Tommy Lipham & Woody McAda**)

Siemens Energy & Automation, Warren Electric Group, Wildcat Electric Supply, Wholesale Electric Supply and Wire & Cable of America.

Member Scholarships Awarded at November Meeting

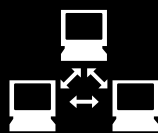
Mickey DeHart, Powell Electrical Manufacturing and HEL Scholarship Chairman reports that at the November meeting eight members' children were drawn to receive a \$1,000 scholarship at any college studying any curriculum.

The winners were Kati Phillips, Baylor University; John Bradley Dunn, Texas A&M University; Amy Webster, Sam Houston State University; Michael Lemaire, Texas A&M University; Stacy Weathersby, Baylor University; Joseph Congdon, Washington University in St. Louis; Justin Morse and Teal Scharck, both from Texas A&M University. The \$1,000 scholarships are open to members' children who are juniors or seniors in college studying any field. Students who apply must be enrolled as an undergraduate student with at least 60 college hours of credit. Watch your mail for the application to apply for the Spring 2002 drawings which will be held at the March 13 HEL General meeting.



Fall 2001 Members whose children were Scholarship winners

**The HEL Web site is ready
for you to surf. Come see
us and our new Online
Buyer's Guide at**



www.hel.org

Summer Intern Program a Success

The program will host 16 students next summer from the Texas A&M ID Program and the University of Houston ID program. HEL is looking for member companies to sponsor a student during the 2002 summer program. The sponsoring companies will pay the student \$10 during their summer employment. Upon completion of the program, HEL will present a check to the student's colleges in the amount of \$2,880. The total of the scholarship and matching contribution provides an average of \$16 per hour salary to each student for the 12-week summer period. The program is offered to HEL members in good standing with at least two years as of January 2002. Any questions on this program can be directed to Jim Sims, 713-849-1685.



Interns' Trip to the Ship Channel



Fall Sporting Clays Event Successful

Charlie Pulido, Clays chairman and HEL Board member from Emmco & Assoc. reports that over 116 shooters enjoyed a hot sunny afternoon of shooting and fun. All proceeds from this event fund the scholarship foundation. Thanks to the Clays committee: Gail Maza, Robin Bell, Cindy Sitterle, Rick Wiley, James Prejean, Ross McClintock, Murphy McConaughy and Brian Michna for all their hard work in planning the event. The corporate sponsors were: 3M, Burndy Corporation, Burrus & Matthews, CED, Crouse-Hinds, Cutler-



Clay's Committee

Hammer, ECP Tech Services/Electrical Controller Products, Dekoron Division of Cable USA, E-Tel, Jim Edwards Company, Emmco & Assoc., FusePlus, Graybar, Houston Wire & Cable, OmniCable, NEC, Inc., Powell Electrical Manufacturing, Square D Company, Reily/WESCO Deer Park, Reily/WESCO Houston, Siemens Energy & Automation, Trulucks Restaurant, Unity Manufacturing, Warren Electric, Wholesale Electric and Wildcat Electric Supply. Their cash donations helped raise the \$3500 that was donated to the

scholarship fund. First place Pistol winner was Brian Michna; second, Romano Chiari; third, John Petty; fourth, Rusty Shannon. High woman pistol shooter winner was Tara Jones. Two-stand game winner was John Petty III, Three-stand winner was a tie between Chris Hendricks and Bray Vincent. High overall shooter and high pump shooter was Rick Wiley. High woman shooter was Jency Daughtery. First place team in Class A was Rick Wiley, Don Schexnaider, John Petty and Bob Duncan. First place team in Class B was Scott Boyd, Rodney Kroon, Rick Edwards and Brad Bishop.



EVENT SNAPSHOTS



Three-Stand Winners: (left to right) **Bray Vincent**, Committee person, **Cindy Sitterle** and winner, **Chris Fredricks**



Jency Daughtery: High overall shooter woman for Clays



1st Place Class B Team



High pistol woman shooter: **Tara Jones**



Pistol winner: **Brian Michna**



High overall pump and Clays shooter: **Rick Wiley**



Jency Daugtery tries her hand in the Pistol Competition



Two-Stand Game Winner **John Petty III** with committee person **Cindy Sitterle**

HEL – Fall 2001 Bowling League

The 2001 Fall Bowling League had another good season although there were only 11 teams (1 was Verizon Wireless – not even electrical – that was really digging). We would like to thank the 10 electrical teams that participated. They were:

- Wholesale Electric Supply – 1st place
- Cutler Hammer – 2nd place
- Lighting Management Consultants, Inc. – 3rd place
- Putterman & Scharck
- Winn Lange/Hughes
- CED
- Rexel/Summers
- Specified Lighting
- Reliant

The league will be contributing \$3,634.50 to the scholarship fund. A donation of \$1,494.50 is from the 50/50 fund. Winn Lange/Hughes collected the largest 50/50 pot of \$223. Special thanks to you, Winn Lange/Hughes.

The league looks forward to seeing an even larger attendance for the 2002 Spring League, which should begin around April 2 (note the new day – Tuesday). Look for a flier in the spring. In the meantime, you can contact Marsha Peters at Lighting Management Consultants, Inc., (713-777-4562) or Brandon Tidwell at Rexel/Summers, (713-316-1700) if you have any questions or comments.

HEL Night at the Rodeo

The Houston Electrical League has purchased 150 seats for the Saturday, February 24, 2002 rodeo performance at the Reliant Astrodome. Once the star has been announced, a flier will be mailed to all HEL members and a listing will be posted on the Web site. The cost of a ticket is \$14 which includes entrance to the livestock and rodeo. Contact Mary Frances Burnett at 281-481-6181 for additional information.



Krepper's Korner

Jim Krepper
EBR

As Jeff mentioned, The League is going paperless. In the future, newsletters and event notifications will be made via

the Internet. This move will accomplish two things.

First, it will make all news items available to you, on the Web, almost when it happens. The second thing this move will do for us is save money. Since we are about giving out scholarship money, the costs incurred mailing these items comes off the top.

Another thing we can look forward to is a current Buyers Guide. The respective company will maintain the data on each page. So, if you have not reviewed your page lately, you need to verify the

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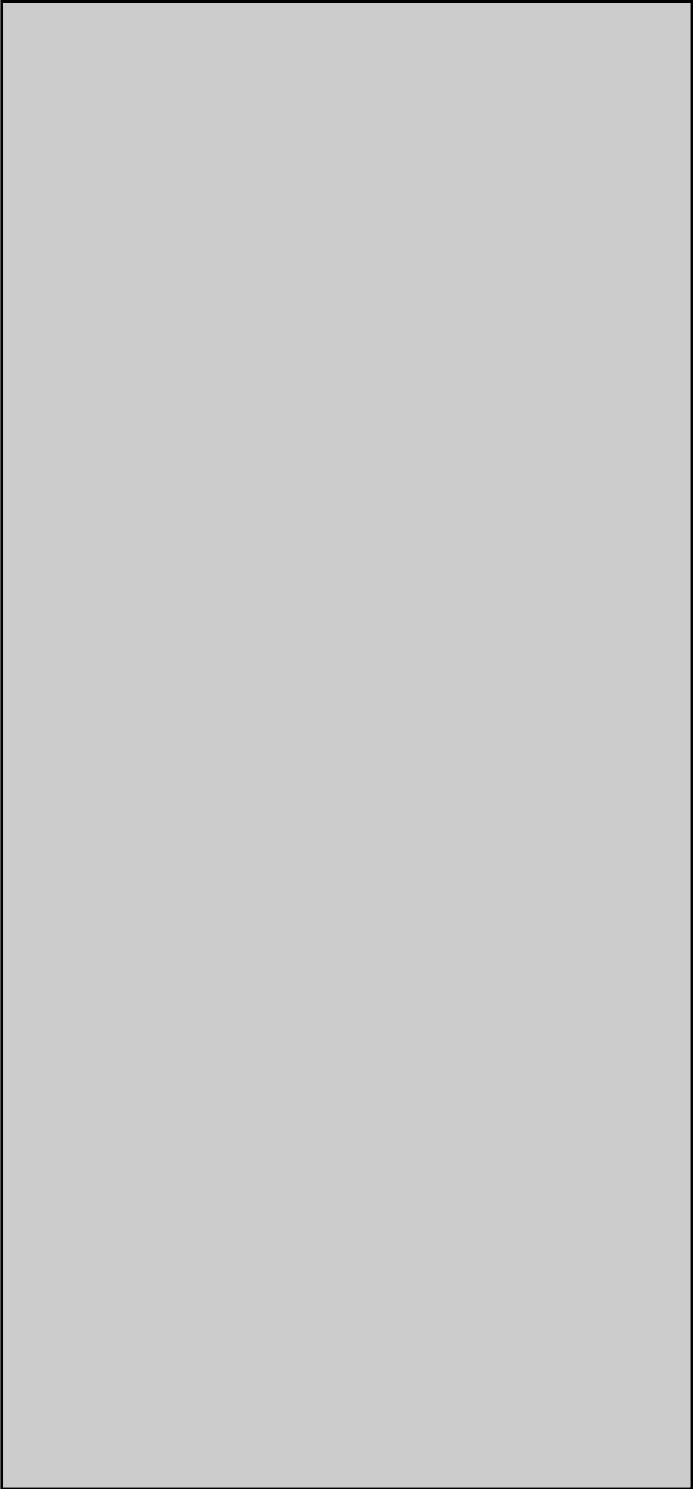
A comment on The SWEE show: The show dates are May 7 and 8, 2002. If you are responsible for securing the booth space, I recommend you move to get it sorted out and secured. We have maintained the floor plan from the previous show. This was to make it as easy as possible for groups to have the same area as last time. Sales are progressing on schedule, with the show at about 50% sold and invoiced. We look forward to everyone returning for our 15th biennial show.

Distinguished Service Award Presented

Jim Krepper, past Distinguished Service Award winner, presented Jeff Techmanski the plaque for his service to HEL during 2001. Jeff has been a member of HEL for eight years. He has served on the Board of Directors as an associate, treasurer, secretary, vice president and presently is president and chairman of SWEE 2002. He also does volunteer work for Woodside Civic Club, serving for the past three years as their president. He started his electrical career at Broan Nuton as district manager and after 12 years, moved to E-Tel in Outside Sales.

He has been married to Terri for 11 years and has two sons, Ryan, 7 and Ross, 6. The winner of this award is voted on by previous winners. Congratulations, Jeff!

UPCOMING HEL/ FOUNDATION EVENTS



Randalls' & Gerlands Community Fundraiser

The Houston Electrical League Scholarship Foundation has formed a partnership in two local grocery stores' community rebate program. Stop by your local Randall's or Gerland's and designate your card to HELSF and 1% of your purchases will be donated to the HEL Scholarship Foundation. The cards are free and can be obtained at the courtesy booth. The Randall's member number is 5397 and Gerland's is 109050. Be sure and tell the courtesy booth these numbers so your purchases can be credited to our quarterly check that is mailed to the foundation.

SWEE 2002 Sales Report

As of December 15, 181 manufacturers were contracted for booth space at SWEE 2002 being held



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- MVMCC Vacuum Retrofit Programs
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May 7 and 8 at the George R. Brown Convention Center. The cost is \$1100 which includes carpet, daily cleaning and a sign. To see a list of exhibitors that have already signed up to participate, look at www.swee.org. To reserve your space, contact Jan Cashin the new booth sales chairman at 281-752-7004. Jan works for Powell Manufacturing and will be the contact person through this show. Gail Maza is no longer available to assist the show due to new responsibilities at Reliant Energy. Reliant Energy will continue to donate postage and printing and some administrative support, but not the support of Gail. Please refer to the www.hel.org Web site and see the board of directors listing for questions about any upcoming events. The board listing reflects who is chairing which event. Please refrain from calling Gail any more unless it is an emergency.

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Watt's New

Bell & McCoy are happy to announce their new Web site www.bellandmccoy.com. At your fingertips you can have links to their employees, have links to their factories, check out "What's New" and print a current line sheet.

Houston Wire & Cable congratulates New York-based Quermback Electric for having the honor of being our millionth customer. Steve Reber and Rose Staso of our Philadelphia Regional Distribution Center and Daniels Associates are credited with the sale. Houston Wire is the nation's largest value-added marketer of wire and cable selling exclusively to the electrical

distributor since 1975. We have \$40 million of inventories strategically located in nine regional distribution centers throughout the United States, with 24-hour/7-day delivery service.

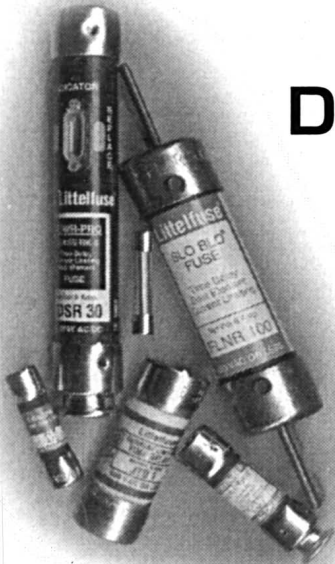
Illuminating Engineering Society will host a seminar Jan. 15th from 11-1 p.m. at the HESS club. The topic "Nikola Tesla-Edison's Alter Ego and Modern Prometheus" The cost is \$25 for members and \$30 for non-members which includes lunch. Please RSVP no later than Jan. 11 to Steve Brown at 713-462-6258, fax is 713-462-6282 or e-mail at stevebr@FSGconnect.com. They're also offering their Spring lighting course, which is included as an insert to this newsletter.

Emmco & Assoc. is pleased to announce that they are now representing Atlas Electric Corp. There is local inventory in the Houston warehouse.

Warren Electric reports that Greg Marshall is now the Branch Operations Mgr of WEG Tyler/Longview. Dudley Boultinghouse has moved positions from corporate operations to the operations department in Accounting. Warren Electric Group was ranked No. 5 - Div. Top 100 Diversity Entrepreneurs Award, Div2000.com, Top Family-Owned Business in Texas, Baylor University & Governor Rick Perry, Honorable Mention Supplier of the Year - ACIT 2001 Greater Texas Region Division 1.

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facility at 8810 Emmott Road (1/2 mile from old location). We have also added Tom Danowski and Charles Gilbert (both formerly of C-B Gear) to our team. The new facility will feature a PLC, HMI and VFD Training Lab, open to customers and vendors.

Construction is scheduled to be complete in December.

We continue to offer 24-hour service to the industry (electrical controls, DC & AC drives, PLC, etc.) Sabre represents most brands of VFDs, and has recently added DC and AC servo drives and systems. We design and manufacture custom control packages to meet customer requirements.



Rear (left to right): **Mark, Charles, John, Tom**
Front (left to Right): **Vernon, Suzie, Chris, Clint, Horace**

The HEL Circuit

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