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The HELSF

"Murphy McConnaughey" Sporting Clays Event



The HELSF "Murphy McConnaughey" Sporting Clays Committee wishes to express to Cathy and Will McConnaughey our appreciation for their participation and support of our clay tournament. The event was held in beautiful weather and by the comments, a great time was enjoyed by some 120 shooters!

HEL president, Jeff Techmanski, opened our clay event welcoming everyone and introducing Cathy and Will, as well as

Cathy's parents, John and Ruth Orahood. Jeff noted that from this event all proceeds go to the HEL Scholarship Foundation.

The Clay Committee is appreciative of our corporate sponsors listed below. Their cash donations helped to raise \$5000 for the Scholarship Fund.

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The HEL Circuit

Published three times a year by The Houston Electrical League.

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President's Message

By Jeff Techmanski

As my term as President comes to a close, I would like to reflect on some of the leagues' accomplishments over the past two years. As you read this letter you are witness to one major achievement, and that is our leap forward in the area of communications. Thanks to Jim Krepper, who started the ball rolling years ago with the HEL website, our On-Line Buyers Guide, and our SWEE web site. Jim's vision and true passion for this league is a testimony to the success we have all experienced over the years. I have witnessed first hand how he accomplishes this and it can be attributed to his attitude, work ethic, and general can-do spirit for the betterment of others. This past year Mark Seilkop stepped forward to take on the job of coordinating our newsletter and its move to the paperless electronic form that you see here. Mark has lead the way in gathering news, events, pictures and sponsor ads that pertain to our industry. He performs a great service for our membership by organizing and placing this all on line, not to mention the valuable resources that we save. The old days of printing and mailing the Circuit have passed by the way, as we are now able to produce the Circuit completely electronically. I send my thanks to Mark and Jim for making this possible.

Our committee chairperson for the HEL Golf has taken this bi-annual event to new heights. Scott Weddle and his team have done an outstanding job of hosting a first class event twice a year at Cypresswood Golf Course. Contributions to the scholarship fund are now averaging over \$5,000.00 per event. Scott has been a tremendous addition to the board and his efforts have contributed needed dollars for the scholarship fund. Thanks also to all our sponsors who continue to step up and support the golf events. You are the real reason we can host a fun golf outing and still produce proceeds for the scholarship foundation.

Our scholarship committee experienced a passing of the torch. Mr. Mickey DeHart, who chaired this committee since its inception stepped aside and allowed Jeff Metzler to take the reigns. I have to think that Mickey will always have a place in his heart for the success and longevity of this committee. During my years as a board member I watched first hand a man who kept a firm position as to the parameters and rules for qualification, while always

operating this committee in a fair and honest manner. The board, the members, and most of all, the students can thank Mickey for upholding the highest of standards for all recipients of an HEL scholarship. For the past several years Jeff Metzler worked with Mickey on the scholarship committee. I am certain under Jeff's leadership this program will continue to strive for excellence, and perform with the level of integrity we have witnessed in the past. Continued success to Cindy Sitterle, Jim Sims, and Jeff. They have represented the league well at both Universities we sponsor and to our members who receive scholarships.

The dynamics of our Board of Directors has changed as well during my term. I can only hope my original mission of creating an open, honest environment was beneficial to the league. This agenda enabled the volunteers in our industry to come together to share ideas, create interest, and work as a team for the common purpose of bettering our league, its membership, their children and the worthy scholarship recipients. We crossed many bridges during the past few years, hoping always to reach the other side with commonality. I believe we have succeeded. The new officers and board of directors that now take over can continue the shared vision we have seemed to create amongst ourselves. The league is poised to benefit from this energy and team spirit. The Board of Directors of this league includes some of the finest men and women I have ever worked with. We are a league that is admired and respected throughout the country and that credit goes to you the members and sponsors who believe in what we are all about.

Let me also thank my fellow officers; Keith Hessemer, Phil Metz and Jim Simms. It was a pleasure to work with you throughout the years. Your support always made me comfortable to try new ideas, maintain our course, and have a little fun along the way. I would also like to thank all the committee chairs, the board of directors, and of course the volunteers past and present, who continue to lead by example. Personally, I am planning to become more involved in the HELSF. The task at hand will be to create interest in our foundation from the electrical industry, as well as from the many other organizations and foundations that have resources available. The time has gone quickly, however the journey will continue. Merry Christmas.

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Kilowatt Kookers Getting Ready to Cook

Gus Smith, HELSF Kilowatt Kooker chairman would like to invite all HEL members to attend the HELSF cookoff booth at the World Championship Barbecue Cookoff being held Feb. 20, 21, & 22, 2003 at the Reliant parking lot.

This booth is a fundraiser for scholarships to deserving students. The team sells sponsorships and day passes to HEL members and their guest to enjoy barbecue, drinks and good company. The levels of sponsorship are Gold - \$2,000, Silver - \$1,000 and day passes for \$35.00 each per person which entitles the guest to eat during the scheduled serving time on each day. The team has donated over \$185,000 to the scholarship foundation since their first appearance in 1995. Sponsors name will be displayed in the booth and recognized in the HEL electronic newsletter.

To obtain information about sponsoring or purchasing day passes, contact Gail Maza at 713-207-7518.

H.E.L. Board Meets - November 5, 2002

The H.E.L. Board of Directors meeting for November was held November 5, 2002 at Reliant Center.

The meeting was hosted by John Dunn of Siemens Energy & Automation in the Siemens conference room at the Center. Following the meeting and lunch the Board was treated to a behind-the-scenes tour of Reliant Stadium guided by Owen Arkinson, also of Siemens.

The tour included the security systems rooms, HVAC systems, the electrical room, Texans' exercise room, press area and a spectacular view of the stadium from the scoreboard level. Members were allowed on the floor of the stadium although the grass was not in place, in preparation for an upcoming concert.

The tour was interesting and informative and the Board would like to thank John & Owen for making it possible.



Sporting Clays (continued from page 1)

Panduit Corporation, Powell Electrical Mfg., Phoenix Contact, Priority Wire & Cable, Reily/Wesco, Rexel/Summers, Siemens, Square D Company, Truluck's Restaurant, Unity Mfg., Warren Electric Group, Wholesale Electric Supply, and Wildcat Electric Company.

We also wish to thank Gail Maza, Lana Connor, May McMIndes, and Alice Bohlae for their help.

The shot gun winner was Mark Idoux; Bird Hunt winner was Scott Weddle. The 1st Place Team Two Man Flush was Richard Wihshusen and P.J. Donner. They each received a trophy and one year membership to the American Shooting Center. The 1st place Pair in

the Air winner was Shawn Foss. He received a trophy and one year membership to the American Shooting Center. High overall shooter was Ross McClintock. High overall Woman Shooter was Jency Daucherty. High Overall Pump Shotgun was Rick Wiley. First Place Team in Class A was Rick Wiley, John Petty, Don Schexnauder, and Bob Duncan. The first place team Class B was Keith Manuel, Glen Guy, Andrew Sadler, and Chad Hennig.

For I am Here

*You won't be alone, for I am here
Forever watching, forever near*

*My time on earth has ended too soon,
and you must finish what I cannot do.
Your faith is strong, your love un-matched,
A better friend I could not have asked.
You won't be alone, for I am here
Forever watching, forever near*

*The man of the house, and yet too young,
I'm proud to have such a wonderful son.
As you grow and prosper over the years.
You won't be alone, for I am here
Forever watching, forever near*

*A beautiful young lady, I have watched you
become
Tender, sweet, and full of fun.
Your life will move on, time will heal the tears,
You won't be alone, for I am here
Forever watching, forever near*

*I couldn't be blessed anymore than I was,
To have such a family with so much love.
No longer in pain, my spirit is strong.
Leaving the earth, but never gone.
My love is around you, for I am here
Forever watching, forever near*

*In the memory of Murphy McConnaughey
July 2, 1952 - June 22, 2002*

Carol Cline





winter HELSE Fall Golf Tournament

Brrrrrrrr was the theme of the H.E.L.S.F.'s recent golf tournament. The event seemed fated not to take place after being rained out on October 22nd and then again on November 8th. But we persevered and the outing did take place on Thursday, December 5th!

One hundred forty six hearty golfers showed up and, while there was no rain, it was **downright cold!** In addition to the usual beverage carts, golfers were treated to fortified coffee and hot chocolate.

On the Cypress course the winners were: 1st Place - Brian Smajstria, Greg Conn, Larry Coyle & Ken Plunkett. 2nd place - Charlie Clemons, Nic Graham, Pat Lopez & Ken Smith; 8th place - Mark Fink, Nelson Burrus, Buddy Leonhart & Roger Toler; 16th place - Bob Fitzgerald, Bill Kresge, Al Adamcik & Clark Hessemer. Longest drive - Alan Brown; Closest to the pin - Ken Plunkett.

Traditions winners were: 1st place - Rob Munson, Randy Watkins, Bill Sammons & Tom Malone; 2nd place - Jim Krepper, Mark Ferris & Clint Sands; 8th place - Ted Leftwich, Bobby Roberts, Randy Glover & Gary Thompson; 16th place - Jeff Techmanski & Doug Huber. Longest drive - Bill Sammons; Closest to the pin - Mark Reed.

Thanks to all sponsors who helped to make this event profitable for our Scholarship Fund: Champion Fiberglass, Cooper Power Systems, Cooper Wiring Devices, Crawford Electric, Crouse Hinds, Cutler Hammer, C.W. Utility, Dekoron Wire & Cable, ECP Tech Services, EGS Electrical Group, Graybar Electric, Houston Wire & Cable, Manhattan CDT, Panduit Corp., Powell Electrical Mfg., Priority Wire & Cable, Reily/WESCO, Rexel Summers, Siemens Energy & Automation, Square D Company, Turtle & Hughes, Velocity Express, Wholesale Electric, Wildcat Electric Supply.

The League and Chair Scott Weddle would like to thank the many volunteers who made this event possible: Mary Frances Burnett, Jennifer Massey, Susan Love, Becky Maxwell, Robin Bell, Shelia Wilkenson, Jim Pokluda, Drew Dyer, Matt Mierschin, Beau Brown, Bob Archer, Phil Metz, Ron Angst, Brad Elledge, Kevin Gregoire, Jimmie Pavlu and Alice Bohlae.



FIRST PLACE TRADITIONS: Rob Munson, Randy Watkins, Bill Sammons and Tom Malone.



WHO IS THE MASKED WOMAN?:
Thanks for everything, Mary Frances!



FIRST PLACE CYPRESS: Brian Smajstria, Greg Conn, Larry Coyle & Ken Plunkett.

Corner Kreppers



Thanksgiving has come and gone. I hope your Thanksgiving was a pleasant time spent with friends and family. Once again, I ate too much. But, it gave me a reason to reflect on how thankful I should be. I recently received an email, which I will not plagiarize here. It listed every day things to be thankful for, and how fortunate the person was to have what he or she had. Suffice to say I am grateful. I am reminded about a program from the 50's named "Medic". It starred Richard Boone. He was a doctor and was treating a patient in the hospital. All the details are not clearly remembered about the patient's circumstances. But, I vividly remember the comment made by the doctor. It was in the form of a story. The patient was feeling very sorry for himself. The doctor related the story with the ending, "I cried because I had no shoes, until I met a man that had no feet". Obviously, that has stayed with me for a long time. That statement reminds me of how fortunate I am.

As we approach Christmas and New Years, we are under the specter of a war. Hopefully, cooler heads will prevail and we will not have to send our military into harms way. We already shoulder the burden of policing every hot spot around the world. The shame of it is we are so disliked and envied. It is another case of jealousy reaching untenable levels.

Congratulations to Scott Weddle and his crew(Alice Bohlae, Mary Frances Burnett, Robin Bell, Becky Maxwell and others) for the great job of finally pulling off the golf outing. It was a little chilly, but, a good time was had by all. A great big THANK YOU to the team.

Finally, let me extend to you the most sincere wishes for a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. May Santa bring you your every desire and 2003 be healthy and prosperous.

Fall Meeting: General Meeting - November 13, 2002

The League held its fall General Meeting and Luncheon Wednesday, November 13th at the Holiday Inn Select. Mary Frances Burnett organized the luncheon, took reservations and oversaw check in. President Jeff Techmanski presided over a brief meeting including the announcement of a fundraiser organized by Jim Sims. Also on the agenda was an announcement of the election of a new Associate Board Member, Chris Coursey of Bell and McCoy as well as the new slate of officers for 2003. It was noted that there are three vacant positions for any interested members. Scott Weddle announced that the golf tournament has again been re-scheduled for 11:00 on Thursday, December 5th. Charlie Pulido recognized the members of the Sporting Clays Tournament committee and reported that the event netted approximately \$5000 for the League. Scholarship committee chair Jeff Metzler announced the parents/sponsors of qualified entrants for the Fall scholarship draw. Five names were drawn and the winners announced.

The guest speaker was Giff Nielsen, Sports Director and anchor for KHOU TV/ Channel 11. Giff entertained the group with his humor including anecdotes about the Oilers in the late 70's & early 80's. He also spoke of his time and experience as a member of the press and the importance of respect in that role.

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Watt's New?

Scholarship Winners



FROM LEFT: Walter Davis, Jeff Metzler, Greg Webster, Steve Jackson, Don Jackson, Jeff Techmanski, Paul Weathersby, Abdul Hooda.

There were **18 applicants**, the most ever, and five winners. They are as follows:

<u>Student</u>	<u>Parent</u>
Chris Davis	Walter Davis
Karim Hooda	Abdul Hooda
Steve Jackson	Don Jackson
Stacey Weathersby	Paul Weathersby
Amy Webster	Greg Webster

Electrical Old Timers

Electrical Old Timers dinner will be held on Tuesday, April 29, 2003 at the Houston Engineering & Scientific Society building, 5430 Westheimer. Anyone with 15 years in the Houston Electrical industry is eligible to attend. Entertainment to be announced.

HEL Night at the Rodeo is Planned

Mark your calendar for Saturday, March 8 at 4:00 for HEL Night at the Houston Livestock Show & Rodeo. HEL has purchased 100 tickets for HEL members. There is a 10 ticket limit per company. Contact Mary Frances Burnett at 281-481-6181 to reserve your tickets. The star performer has not been announced but watch the mail for a flier with the star's name and the section where the tickets are located.



Panduit's Houston office is pleased to welcome Jimmie Pavlu as the newest member of our sales team. Jimmie joined us November 15th and brings to the Panduit sales force a broad range of experience in the industry.



Cable USA is pleased to announce the appointment of Brett Vance as President and General Manager of the Dekoron Wire and Cable division. He will lead the Texas-based company with headquarters located in Houston, and the manufacturing facility located in Mt. Pleasant, Texas.

Vance has more than 11 years of experience in the wire and cable industry, and most recently served as Vice President for Business Development at Cable USA, a member of The Marmon Group of companies. He is a graduate of the Miami University MBA Program.



Check out this photo of Bell & McCoy's scary inside sales group decked out for Halloween!

MaryAnn Newhouse announced her retirement after 20+ years in sales, and will be missed by many in the industry. Bell & McCoy celebrated their 30th



anniversary this year by moving into a new building and announcing the opening of a new training facility for distributors and contractors.

Go to www.bellandmccoy.com to sign up on-line for scheduled training classes.



Exciting events are taking place at Tesla Power! In September, Len Ross was promoted to President. Mr. Ross, one of the founding members of Tesla, has implemented several organizational changes.

Recent promotions include:

Merritt McNeel to Manufacturing Manager, Rodney Odneal to Electrical Supervisor, Jim Ingram to Sales Manager, Julio Parpacen to Sr. Sales Representative, Donald Norris to Inside Sales Manager, Brad Wojcik to Engineering Manager, and Molly Thompson to Materials Manager.