

# member CONTACT

Boone Electric Cooperative

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## Annual Membership Meeting

Friday, July 11, 2008

Boone County Fairgrounds



- Free barbecue or fried chicken meal from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m.
- Business meeting at 7 p.m.
- Entertainment by Curreykorn, carnival rides, safety demonstration and sno-cones for the kids!
- Energy Efficiency & Healthy Living Information Booths!

***Don't miss your chance to win prizes including a grand prize of \$750 or \$250 in free electricity.***

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Watch for your registration card on the front cover of the July *Rural Missouri* magazine.

Don't forget, you have to be present to win any prizes.

*Boone Electric Cooperative will be closed Friday, July 4, to celebrate our nation's Independence Day.*

### Community Support Programs You Can Add to Your Bill

#### Round-Up

Helps fund the Boone Electric Community Trust which provides financial assistance to charitable organizations in BEC's service area.

#### C.A.S.H.


Provides utility assistance to low-income senior citizens and persons with disabilities. Funds administered by City/County Health Department.

#### H.E.L.P.

Provides utility assistance to low-income families with children. Funds administered by City/County Health Department.



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# Back in the Saddle

*Doug Landon has turned his personal struggles into an opportunity to help others.*



Rosemary Lahmann

Landon "ponies" one of his show horses. Halter horses are judged on conformation and muscling. The best way to build muscle is through exercise. The blanket on the horse's neck "sweats" the neck to get that area of the body in shape for competition.

**D**oug Landon wanted to be a horse trainer from the time he was a young boy. He's a good one; a world champion no less. But this Clark, Missouri, trainer's greatest feat might be the four-day horse show he organizes in St. Louis each March.

Called the March To The Arch, the American Quarter Horse Association (AQHA)-approved show is a benefit for cancer research. Landon himself is a survivor of testicular cancer, diagnosed more than four years ago. Following 18 months of difficult chemotherapy, and with his cancer in remission, Landon decided to do something to help other people with the disease. Over its first three years, the charity show has raised \$115,000 for cancer research.

"It's just been amazing," Landon says of the show. "This year we had more than 600 stalls for horses and 5,000 entries. People from California to Florida came this year, and even some from Germany."

The show is a mixture of serious and fun. Most of the regular Quarter Horse show classes are included, as well as laugh-until-you-cry classes like one that has the most well-respected male trainers in the country riding horses while dressed in drag.

"I hope next year we can add another day to the show," Landon continues, which would make it a five-day event. The show is a large undertaking for the Boone County trainer, but one he aims to continue. Landon told *The Quarter Horse Journal* in an April 2007 article, "As long as I am able to put on a show and there is not a cure for cancer, there will be an annual AQHA horse show to raise money for research."

Landon is a native of Illinois, but relocated to Missouri 12 years ago. From his training facility near Clark he primarily travels to shows across the upper Midwest, from South Dakota to Tennessee. He specializes in halter classes, which are like the

beauty contests of the equine industry. In these classes, which are broken down by age and by sex, exhibitors lead their horses into the arena to stand together while the judge scores them based on their body conformation.

Like other trainers, Landon shows all year trying to accumulate enough points for his horses to qualify for the AQHA World Championship Show in Oklahoma City. He has shown several world and reserve champions, including the 2007 reserve champion aged mare. (A mare exhibits in the "aged" class when she reaches four years old. Horses turn a year older each January 1 regardless of their actual birth date.)

Another show Landon enters every year is the Quarter Horse Congress, the largest Quarter Horse show in the country, held in October in Columbus, Ohio. Exhibiting a Congress champion horse is nearly as prestigious as showing a world champion.

In addition to showing horses for clients, Landon also works with amateur and youth halter showmen. Most of his weekends are spent at a show, particularly from spring through the World Championship Show in November. Landon usually leaves home Wednesday or Thursday with a trailer of horses. He returns Sunday or Monday for a couple of days recovery, washing clothes and repacking the trailer for the next weekend.

The handful of mares Landon breeds all



*Doug Landon, cancer survivor, has trained numerous champion halter horses from his home arena near Clark.*

foal early in the year when his show schedule is a little less hectic. Those foals are bred to be halter horses, as the mares are winners in the arena and are bred to either World or Congress champions.

On a personal level, Landon is engaged to Lana Brooks, a Boone County native, and the reason the trainer moved to the area. "We've only been engaged 10 years," he laughs when asked about a wedding date, "so what's the rush. We just really haven't had a lot of time to plan anything."

These days, Landon is too busy showing horses and preparing for a benefit show that he hopes someday won't be necessary.

*Halter horses are bathed and groomed daily with conditioner for their hair coat, mane and tail. By the age of this filly, the horses are accustomed to the water hose.*



Rosemary Lahmann

# The Power of the People



Todd Culley  
General Manager  
and CEO

The power of a grassroots campaign is in the people. The basis of any grassroots effort is the ability of ordinary people to influence people in powerful positions.

Boone Electric Cooperative and other cooperatives statewide and nationwide are in the midst of two different grassroots campaigns.

Last month I told you about "Our Energy, Our Future," a campaign encouraging electric cooperative members to contact their elected officials with questions regarding our future energy supplies. Many of you acted, as Missouri ranks third in the number of e-mail messages sent to Washington D.C. All told, more than 77,000 messages have been sent from cooperative members nationwide.

It's easy to contact our officials and begin the dialogue. Simply log onto [www.ourenergy.coop](http://www.ourenergy.coop). The correspondence asking our officials to take up the energy issue is prepared for you on this site. You simply enter your name and choose Boone Electric Cooperative as your affiliated cooperative.

When you send this message it is automatically addressed and sent via e-mail to Senators Bond and McCaskill and Congressman Hulshof. Other cooperative members across Missouri and the nation are sending the same message to their senators and representatives.

For those of you who haven't yet contacted our officials, please do so. We need to make sure that our energy future is part of their agenda. Missouri's statewide goal is to send 250,000 letters or e-mails from co-op members to D.C.

Missouri electric cooperatives experienced another grassroots campaign in May involving our elected officials in Jefferson City. The Missouri House of Representatives was scheduled to debate a bill, which, if passed, could have been detrimental to Citizens Electric Corporation's territory around St. Genevieve, MO.

Cooperative employees and members were urged to contact their state representatives immediately asking them to oppose the legislation.

The people spoke and lawmakers listened. Because by the end of the day, legislators contacted the Association of Missouri Electric Cooperatives, our statewide office and lobbying group, saying they heard our message loud and clear and even asked us to stop sending the e-mails. They had seen enough!

Never underestimate the influence of a grassroots campaign. Today, help us to better meet your future energy needs by contacting your representatives in the U.S. Congress at [www.ourenergy.coop](http://www.ourenergy.coop). Your voice will be heard.



## Touchstone Energy

Boone Electric Cooperative is a member of Touchstone Energy, a national alliance of local, member-owned electric cooperatives providing a high standard of service to customers large and small.

In order to qualify as a Touchstone Energy partner, electric cooperatives must be active members of their community and be dedicated to serving all customers with integrity, accountability, innovation and commitment to their community.

## Local Radio Station to Broadcast Energy Program

Beginning Saturday, June 7, KRES Radio in Moberly will broadcast Doug Rye's "Home Remedies" syndicated radio program. Rye, known as "the King of Caulk and Talk," offers tips to help listeners lower their energy bills. The call-in show airs from 9-10 a.m. on Saturday mornings.

Rye is a licensed architect who also helps people customize new homes to be more energy efficient or alter existing

homes. He is well known in the electric cooperative industry and has spoken before thousands of people spreading his energy efficiency message. Find out more information at [www.dougrye.com](http://www.dougrye.com).

Rye's program is brought to you on KRES Radio (found at 104.3 FM) by Boone Electric Cooperative, Macon Electric Cooperative, Howard Electric Cooperative and Consolidated Electric Cooperative.