

# Empowering You To Stay Safe



## MESSAGE FROM GENERAL MANAGER ALAN LESLEY

**AT COMANCHE ELECTRIC** Cooperative, we take seriously our duty to provide reliable electricity to our members in the safest, most affordable manner possible. Though we work hard to fulfill that promise year-round, perhaps there is no better time to reiterate our commitment than during National Electrical Safety Month.

Over these next few weeks, as our lineworkers and behind-the-scenes staff go about their vital work as steadfastly as ever, we ask you, our members, to consider your role as our partners in ensuring your comfort and safety. Amid the drumbeat of daily routines, balancing work and family, we all can sometimes grow complacent about seemingly innocuous habits or practices that could bear tragic consequences.



PAUL HART | ISTOCK.COM

One critically important example of this during swimming and boating season involves the risk of electric shock drowning. Docks and marinas carry electricity sources, which faulty wiring or damaged cords can release into water invisibly. As few as 10 milliamps can cause paralysis and drowning. That is one-fiftieth the amount used by a 60-watt lightbulb. You should not swim near a dock or marina unless you know its

wiring is in good repair. You should also never swim near a boat while it's running.

If you see an electric shock drowning taking place, never enter the water. You could become a victim, too. Turn the power off if possible, call 911 and throw a life preserver to the victim or reach out with a fiberglass hook to help the victim get out of the water.

We recommend hiring a licensed electrician to inspect home pools, spas and hot tubs and make any repairs or upgrades necessary to keep the wiring up to date and safe.

Here are a few additional tips for enjoying a day at the pool without risking your well-being or anyone else's:

- ▶ Outdoor electrical outlets (including pools and spas) should be covered and kept dry when not in use.
  - ▶ Use a ground-fault circuit interrupter for electrical devices used outdoors. Portable GFCIs are available for \$12-\$30 and don't require tools for installation.
  - ▶ Make sure all electrical equipment used for swimming pools, including cleaning equipment, is grounded and working properly. If you notice pool lights flickering, stay out of the water until a licensed electrician has resolved the issue.
  - ▶ Electrical devices and cords should be kept at least 10 feet away from pools and spas. Whenever possible, use battery-powered devices outdoors instead.
  - ▶ Never handle electrical devices while you are wet, either from swimming or perspiration.
  - ▶ Make sure there are no power lines over a swimming pool, and never swim during a thunderstorm. Thunder means lightning is close enough to put you at risk of electrocution.

Our intent in relaying this information is not to frighten but to illustrate how we all must keep a watchful eye toward safety whenever and wherever electricity is present, and remain especially vigilant in settings where its presence may not be obvious.



## Local Chapter of American Cancer Society Receives Operation Round-Up Grant

**THE COMANCHE ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE ASSOCIATION'S OPERATION ROUND-UP** program awarded a \$500 grant to the Comanche County unit of the American Cancer Society for its Bunco for the Cure fundraiser in February. The fundraiser, a product of the De Leon Chapter and now in its 14th year, sold 220 tickets and raised more than \$5,000 at the one-night event. All proceeds from the event go to the American Cancer Society.

The date for the next Bunco for the Cure has been set for Friday, February 22, 2019. Ticket sales begin in January. To volunteer time, contact Laura Brown at (254) 893-3799 or Sharon Lesley at (254) 893-6644. Donations can be mailed to P.O. Box 126, De Leon, TX 76444.



M-IMAGEPHOTOGRAPHY | ISTOCK.COM

### Happy Mother's Day

Sunday, May 13

"All that I am, or hope to be, I owe to my angel mother."  
—Abraham Lincoln



MOUSSABT | ISTOCK.COM

### Memorial Day

Comanche EC will be closed Monday, May 28, in observance of the holiday.



P.O. Box 729, Comanche, TX 76442

Operating in Brown, Callahan, Comanche, Eastland, Mills, Shackelford and Stephens counties

#### HEADQUARTERS

201 W. Wrights Ave.  
Comanche, TX 76442

#### EARLY OFFICE

1801 CR 338  
Early, TX 76801

#### EASTLAND OFFICE

1311 W. Main St.  
Eastland, TX 76448

#### OFFICE HOURS

**Comanche Office:** Monday–Friday, 7:30 a.m.–4:30 p.m.

**Early Office:** Monday, Wednesday and Friday, 7:30 a.m.–4:30 p.m., closed 1–2 p.m.

**Eastland Office:** Tuesday and Thursday, 8 a.m.–4 p.m.

#### General Manager

Alan Lesley

#### Board of Directors

- Randy Denning, District 1
- Pete McDougal, District 2
- Ruby Solomon, District 3
- Monty Carlisle, District 4
- Troy Stewart, District 5
- Loren Stroebel, District 6
- Phil Taylor, District 7

#### Report an Outage

CECA crews are available 24/7 in the event of a power-quality issue by calling 1-800-915-2533.

## Contact Us

#### CALL US

**1-800-915-2533** toll-free

#### FIND US ON THE WEB

**www.cecacoop**



**facebook.com/CECA.coop**



# *FREEDOM BIRDS*

## *FILL THE SKIES OF BRECKENRIDGE*

BY SHIRLEY KIDD DUKES

Mark your calendar for Memorial Day weekend, May 26–27, when the much-anticipated Breckenridge Airshow will return for its 21st performance.

### **History of the Air Show**

From 1977 to 1996, the Breckenridge Airshow entertained many spectators, both young and old. Under the guidance of Howard Pardue and Eddie Holmes, as well as a number of other local volunteers, the Breckenridge Airshow made history and a reputation in Breckenridge, a small town west of Fort Worth.

Pardue, a native of Breckenridge and a United States Marine Corps veteran, was widely recognized as one of the best warbird pilots around. Upon receiving his wings at Naval Air Station Pensacola, Pardue became a fighter pilot and flew most of the Marines' high-performance aircraft of the time. He eventually became a flight instructor and served 12 years' active and reserve duty, retiring as a major. In addition

to being selected by the Navy to participate in legacy flights, Pardue also raced in the Reno National Air Races for 29 years, where he was a crowd favorite. A collector of vintage military aircraft, Pardue was a true enthusiast for anything that flew and strongly supported the warbird community. Pardue died in 2012, doing what he loved best, flying his F8F Bearcat.

Holmes, known as "Fast" Eddie, was instrumental in the coordination, growth and success of the Breckenridge Airshow. His shared passion for World War II airplanes contributed to his increased presence in the aviation community. His energy and enthusiasm for this event created memories for those who participated in the World War II show, from veteran pilots to young future aviators. His connections helped



CHRIS ENORY/SUNDOG ART PHOTOGRAPHY

**The Tora! Tora! Tora! crew will once again be on hand to entertain and educate at the 2018 Breckenridge Airshow.**

*“Many people have the opportunity to travel to visit a museum but rarely does the museum come to visit you. Attending an air show where Tora! Tora! Tora! is performing is like having a 3-D museum come to visit you.”*

—From the website of *Tora! Tora! Tora!*

**Left: Japanese Zero being chased by a P-40 in the Pearl Harbor re-enactment by Tora! Tora! Tora!**

the Breckenridge Airshow gain worldwide recognition and resulted in a large following that returned annually.

In 1996, Pardue and Holmes made the decision to end their run as air show coordinators. Thus begun the 21-year hiatus between the original show and the air show of today.

### **The Air Show Today**

The resurrection of the Breckenridge Airshow was a perfect storm. Anna “Ace” Ezell Shortes and Rhonda Crawford, who grew up on Airport Road with the Ezells, had been handing an “Airshow Checklist” back and forth since 2007. The women kept passing it back and forth in hopes one would actually start planning. In 2015, shortly after Crawford became the executive director of the Breckenridge Chamber of Commerce, Ezell Shortes approached her with a very serious request: Bring back the air show!

Crawford set up a meeting with the Ezell family, along with then-President Parker Wylie and incoming President Cory Crenshaw. From that meeting Crawford became a newly

minted air show coordinator and Ezell Shortes became a pilot coordinator. The rest is history.

### **The Performers**

While the list of performers is not complete as of this writing, the following performers have made a commitment to showcase their “birds.”

#### **AeroShell Aerobatic Team**

The AeroShell Aerobatic Team is a familiar name in air show lineups, having performed in the industry for more than 25 years. The crew performs a series of loops, rolls and bomb bursts in close formation for a classic aerobatic routine. The team’s T-6 aircraft, known as “The Pilot Maker,” was originally introduced as a basic trainer for the U.S. Army Air Corps in 1938.

#### **Carl Best and his North American T-6G “Miss Texas”**

Best performs loops, Cuban Eights, and barrel and aileron rolls along with other amazing maneuvers in the sky.

## Dagmar Kress

Kress is the owner of Dagmar Aerobatics and operates a Pitts S2C aircraft out of Denver Centennial Airport. She was featured in the March edition of *Sport Aerobatics* magazine.

## David Martin Aerobatics

Martin puts on a unique air show demonstrating the extraordinary maneuverability of the Breitling CAP 232. He is well-known in the aerobatic community for his ability to tumble the plane in unparalleled style and accomplishes gyroscopic maneuvers never duplicated by others.

## Mid America Flight Museum

The Mid America Flight Museum has emerged over the past five years as a major aircraft museum. Starting with five aircraft culled from the Glover family collection seven years ago, the collection has grown to an astonishing 41 civilian and ex-military warbirds, which rivals many of the more established collections and museums that have existed for decades.

## SRC Airshows

SRC Airshows is owned and operated by Stephen Covington of Longview. As pilot, Covington amazes with aerobatic performances in his highly modified Pitts S2S, Raptor.

## Tora! Tora! Tora!

*Tora! Tora! Tora!* began in 1972, when six replica Japanese aircraft used in the movie of the same name were donated to the Commemorative Air Force. The Gulf Coast Wing requested assignment of the aircraft and began developing an act for presentation at air shows. The act debuted at the Galveston Air Show on June 25, 1972. By 1977, *Tora* had gained national exposure and by the following year began to make appearances in Canada and Mexico. In 1991, *Tora* participated extensively in the 50th anniversary year commemorations of Pearl Harbor, and, in 1992, *Tora* tackled the challenge of sending two replica Zeros to Alaska to participate in the 50th anniversary commemoration of the raid on Dutch Harbor. Throughout the '90s, *Tora* was in demand at air shows throughout the country, and, in 2000, *Tora* participated in the filming of the movie *Pearl Harbor*.



JOE RUDDY



JOE RUDDY



CHRIS ENOKYUNDOG ART PHOTOGRAPHY



CHRISTOPHER EBDON/ANBPix

Aerial view of 2017 Breckenridge Airshow featuring 68 warbirds over Memorial Day weekend

Sixty-eight warbirds were on display at the 2017 air show, and 2018 is shaping up to be just as impressive. Included in the lineup are multiple P-51s, Sea Furies, Corsairs, B-52s, a B-17 and many more.

To view photos and videos from past shows, purchase tickets, get information on schedule changes or anything else related to the show, call (254) 559-2301 or visit the website at [breckenridgeairshow.com](http://breckenridgeairshow.com).

**Top Left: Stable of P-51 Mustangs.** The P-51 is a single-seat, single-engine fighter aircraft originally designed and produced by North American Aviation for the British Royal Air Force and later adopted by the U.S. Army Air Forces. The P-51 is widely regarded as the finest all-around piston-engined fighter of World War II to be produced in significant numbers.

**Middle: SB2C Helldiver.** The Helldiver bombers were designed to replace the SBD Dauntless aircraft as the main dive bombers of the U.S. Navy. They were built larger to carry heavier armament in terms of both defensive weapons and ordnance. Production of the aircraft began November 29, 1940. They first saw action during the carrier raid on Rabaul, New Britain, in the Solomon Islands on November 11, 1943.

**Bottom: Row of T-6 Texans.** The North American T-6 Texan was known as “The Pilot Maker” because of its important role in preparing pilots for combat. Derived from the 1935 North American NA-16 prototype, a cantilever low-wing monoplane, the Texan filled the need for a basic combat trainer during WWII and beyond.

# SCHEDULE

<i>SATURDAY, MAY 26</i>	<i>SUNDAY, MAY 27</i>
<p><i>9 A.M. GATES OPEN</i></p> <p><i>1 P.M. AIR SHOW PRACTICE BEGINS</i></p> <p><i>5 P.M. PRACTICE ENDS, AIRPORT CLOSSES TO GENERAL PUBLIC</i></p> <p><i>7:30 P.M. TWILIGHT PHOTO TOUR BEGINS (PASS-HOLDERS ONLY, CAN ARRIVE AS EARLY AS 7:15 P.M. BUT NO LATER THAN 7:45 P.M.)</i></p>	<p><i>9 A.M. GATES OPEN</i></p> <p><i>1 P.M. AIR SHOW BEGINS</i></p> <p><i>5 P.M. AIR SHOW ENDS AND AIRPORT CLOSSES TO GENERAL PUBLIC</i></p> <p style="text-align: center; margin-top: 20px;"><i>FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION AND TICKET SALES, VISIT <a href="http://BRECKENRIDGEAIRSHOW.COM">BRECKENRIDGEAIRSHOW.COM</a></i></p>
<p><b>SCHEDULE SUBJECT TO CHANGE</b>  <i>AIR BOSS TO DETERMINE SEQUENCE OF PERFORMERS. DUE TO THE NATURE OF AIRCRAFT, WEATHER, AIRPORT OPERATIONS AND ANY MULTITUDE OF OTHER REASONS, AIRCRAFT FLYING SCHEDULE AND TIMES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT NOTICE.</i></p>	



## Sheet Metal To Be Auctioned

**AS A RESULT OF A RECENT CONSTRUCTION PROJECT, COMANCHE ELECTRIC** Cooperative Association has a large amount of used sheet metal that will be auctioned through a closed-bid process. These pictures represent examples of the material that is available for bid.

Because of the large quantities, CECA has established lots for the bidding process. More information and a listing of lots and minimum bid prices can be obtained in person at the CECA office at 201 W. Wrights Ave. in Comanche. This information also can be emailed or faxed upon request by contacting CECA at 1-800-915-2533.

Sealed bids can be mailed to CECA, Attn: Sealed Sheet Metal Bid, P.O. Box 729, Comanche, TX 76442, or dropped off in person at the office in Comanche. In all correspondence, please include a phone number where you can be reached. Questions can be directed to Shorty Hatley at 1-800-915-2533. The deadline for bids is noon, May 15. Bid winners will be notified by May 18.

CECA reserves the right to reject any or all bids at the discretion of the board of directors.

## Make Your Yard Work for You

**“LOCATION, LOCATION, LOCATION” IS A MANTRA** of real estate, but it also applies to shading your home. Positioning the right combination of plants and trees strategically can yield shade and unearth energy savings.

The U.S. Department of Energy determined that proper placement of just three trees on a property can save an average household \$100–\$250 in yearly energy costs.

- ▶ Use trees and plants to shade a window air conditioner to increase its efficiency by as much as 10 percent. But keep the plants at least three feet from the air conditioner.

- ▶ Shrubs and trees can form windbreaks or protective walls that keep wind chill away from a home. Evergreens, especially when combined with a fence to deflect or even lift wind over a home, are particularly effective. Leave two to five times the mature height of the trees or shrubs between the windbreak and your home.

- ▶ When selecting shade trees, keep in mind the mature height of the tree and the shape of its canopy in relation to your home’s height. These factors are important because they influence how far from the house you decide to plant a tree. Shade trees can drop the surrounding air temperature by as much as 9 degrees.

- ▶ Shading takes time—a 6- to 8-foot deciduous tree planted near a house will begin shading windows in a year, but it may take 5–10 years to shade the roof.

- ▶ Make planting shade trees due west of west-facing windows your first priority.



- ▶ Select a tree that can be planted within 20 feet of the window and that will grow at least 10 feet taller than that window. If you have the space, use as many trees as needed to create a continuous row along all major west- and east-facing windows.

- ▶ To block summer heat while letting sun filter through in the winter months, use deciduous trees, or those that lose their leaves seasonally. Evergreens and shrubs are ideal for providing continuous shade and blocking heavy winds.

Start planting savings and let your yard do all the work—but remember to always avoid planting near underground and overhead utility lines.



ANTONYSPENCER | ISTOCK.COM

# Prepare for Twister Season

**THANKS TO *THE WIZARD OF OZ*, KANSAS HAS BEEN IMMORTALIZED** as the land of tornadoes.

In reality, Texas is first in the U.S. when it comes to twister touchdowns, averaging 155 each year. For most of the state, peak tornado time is April–June, but in South Texas, activity typically peaks in November. Regardless of the location, most tornadoes occur between 3 and 9 p.m.

Last year's tornado count of 1,406 surpassed the national average of 1,253 and was well above the 2016 count of 971. Texans saw 176 tornadoes in 2017, 21 more than average.

No one knows yet what the 2018 season holds, but being prepared is smart.

## Before a Tornado

Determine the safest place in your home and at work so you can go there quickly if there is a tornado warning. A small, interior, windowless room, closet or hallway on the lowest level is best. Stay away from windows, doors and outside walls. Put as many walls as possible between you and the outside. Do not open windows. Get under a sturdy table and cover your body as best you can with blankets or pillows. Mobile homes, even if tied down, do not offer protection from tornadoes.

As in any emergency, be sure to have an emergency kit that contains survival basics. Visit [ready.gov](http://ready.gov) for details.

Be alert to changing weather conditions. Listen to NOAA Weather Radio, commercial radio or television newscasts for the latest information.

## Look for These Danger Signs:

- ▶ Dark, often greenish sky.
- ▶ Large hail.
- ▶ A large, dark, low-lying cloud (particularly if rotating).
- ▶ A loud roar, similar to a freight train.

If you see approaching storms or any of the danger signs, be prepared to take shelter immediately.

## Know the Terms

**Tornado Watch:** Tornadoes are possible. When there is a watch, move near enough to a shelter to be able to get there quickly if you see signs of a tornado approaching. Remain alert for approaching storms.

**Tornado Warning:** A tornado has been sighted or indicated by weather radar. Take shelter immediately.

## Tornado Facts

Wind from tornadoes can reach more than 300 mph with damage paths more than 1 mile wide and 50 miles long.

They may strike quickly, with little or no warning.

They may appear nearly transparent until dust and debris are picked up or a cloud forms in the funnel.

If you are under a tornado warning, seek shelter immediately! Most injuries associated with high winds are from flying debris, so remember to protect your head.

Comanche Electric encourages you to always be prepared and stay safe.