

# The Seventh Fold

**THE SIGHT OF THE AMERICAN FLAG REVERENTLY FOLDED INTO A** triangle of star-studded blue is a haunting yet inspiring sight. It takes 13 folds to build that iconic pattern, which signals the end of a military day. Our flag, folded so, is commonly incorporated into retirement, funeral and patriotic holiday services. When flag-folding ceremonies are held, there is an unofficial but poignant script that may be recited, giving symbolism to each fold. The first fold symbolizes life, and each fold thereafter pays tribute to God, country and countrymen. The seventh fold is assigned in loving tribute to our military, as protectors of our flag and our ideals.

Folds of Honor, a nonprofit founded to honor fallen and disabled U.S. service members and help their families, has adopted the folded flag as their standard and logo. FOH is a charitable organization, with a mission to help bridge the financial gap for military dependents adversely affected by war. To do this, the organization provides scholarships to the children and spouses of service members who have fallen or been severely injured in service.

Since its inception in 2007, the organization has awarded more than 13,000 educational scholarships in all 50 states as well as Guam, Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands. Nearly 1,500

of those have been awarded to Texans.

There are two types of scholarships: The FOH higher education scholarships are for spouses or children attending or accepted into a two- or four-year degree or certification program. The children's fund scholarships provide financial support for children from kindergarten through 12th grade and can be used for tuition, tutoring and other related school costs, such as uniforms and books.

Maj. Dan Rooney, U.S. Air Force, founded FOH. "There are more than 1 million dependents of killed and disabled servicemen and women," he says. "Folds of Honor is serving a mission to fill a void for those whose lives are changed forever because of the call of duty. We are grateful for the individuals and organizations who have made this possible for our families and loved ones since 2007."

The goal of the program is to help lessen the financial hardship many of these families experience through lost wages and/or steep and ongoing medical costs. The criteria to determine scholarship awards is based on a point system, also taking into account the service-connected disability rating established by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs.

Rooney, currently a T-38 pilot in the Air Force Reserves, is



## FOLDS *of* HONOR

*The seventh fold is a tribute to our armed forces, for it is through the armed forces that we protect our country and our flag against all enemies, whether they be found within or without the boundaries of our republic.*

—Author unknown

Source: The American Legion, legion.org



also a professional golfer on the PGA Tour. He has leveraged his love of the military and his love of the game to develop Patriot Golfing Day, the largest funding source for FOH.

In support of FOH, some East Texas locals, through a new nonprofit entity named Patriot Sporting Challenge, are holding

#### **FOLDS OF HONOR**

5800 N. Patriot Drive  
Owasso, OK 74055

**Learn about it here:**  
[foldsofhonor.org](http://foldsofhonor.org)

Lake Fork, surrounding the tiny hamlet of Yantis.

The founders of Patriot Sporting Challenge and event organizers, Brian Dick, Micheal Rogge, Chuck Roy and Executive Director Garry Schnabel, say they believe this is the first time an event with this mix has been presented. They aim for it to be annual, with proceeds going to FOH. “There is a coalition of Texas-based companies that are putting together an

a fundraising sporting competition that incorporates golf—but, in a twist, adds a fishing tournament and clay shooting event. This trilogy event is named Lunkers, Bunkers & Clays, and in addition to raising funds, it also highlights the facilities and natural resources near

event that has duality of focus,” Roy says. “One is for the obvious reason, the benefit of Folds. But the other is for the benefit of our community. We have an extraordinary lake, a pristine golf course and a state-of-the-art shooting facility with Lake Fork, The Links at Land’s End and Hidden Lakes Hunting Resort. We want to showcase them and many other supporting area businesses.”

The inaugural Patriot Sporting Challenge competition will be open to 72 four-person teams and will take place over two days, October 27 and 28. It’s novel in that two persons will compete in a modified golf scramble/best ball, called a shamble, while the other two teammates compete in a catch-and-release “heaviest string” fishing tournament. One of the four also will compete in a shooting event. In shooting, the selected team member will compete to knock the most sporting clays out of the sky. After the three events, all scores will be combined at the end of the second day to name the top winner. On golf, Schnabel adds that there will be several side-game competitions, as is typical of any tournament. “Let me put it this way,”

**Some of the organizers of Lunkers, Bunkers & Clays, left to right, are Micheal Rogge, Chuck Roy, Nancy Roy and Executive Director Garry Schnabel at the event’s headquarters venue, The Links at Land’s End.**



**LUNKERS, BUNKERS & CLAYS**  
**Friday-Saturday, October 27-28**

For tickets and information, contact Garry Schnabel at phone (817) 296-8985 or email gar26308@gmail.com.

<b>FRIDAY</b>	<b>8 a.m.</b>	Registration opens
	<b>9:30 a.m.</b>	Shooting competition begins with assigned shooting times
<b>All day</b>		Practice open (all activities)
<b>5 p.m.</b>		Reception, dinner, live auction and entertainment by Don Woods
<b>SATURDAY</b>	<b>7 a.m.</b>	Fishing tournament begins
	<b>9 a.m.</b>	Golf tournament begins
	<b>3:30 p.m.</b>	Awards ceremony
	<b>6 p.m.</b>	Public dinner and entertainment by DonWoods

he says. “There will be plenty of opportunity for fun!”

According to ongoing discussions, the organizers anticipate participation from some professional golfers and fishermen, but others need not worry, as handicaps will be in play. In addition to the pros there will be keynote speakers during the two-day event, including Gold Star Spouse Ginger Gilbert Ravella; Ed Pulido, USAF, Major, (retired), senior vice president, public relations and military affairs, FOH; and Diane Nemecek, regional development manager, FOH..

The four-person team entry fee is \$2,000, which includes all weekend festivities for all team members. Entertainment by Quitman country music recording artist Don Woods will be featured on both Friday and Saturday nights, with Saturday being a public-ticketed dinner event (\$25 per person) starting at 6 p.m.

Since this is a first-time event, the organizers are working hard to develop the plan and pull together the supporting cast. For an event of such magnitude, they are looking to the community for help. For Lunkers, Bunkers & Clays to be a

success, volunteers will be needed to perform duties in registration desk support, scorekeeping, food service, parking and many other positions over two days. Commemorative T-shirts will be given to workers. For businesses and individuals, there are many sponsorship opportunities, starting at tee sponsorships for \$250 and upward.

Schnabel says, “I have been asked many times, ‘Why are you doing this?’ This seemed like my call of duty. I am a fortunate veteran, as I was not wounded or killed. And it is one way I can give back to my colleagues and their families. In fact, I think it is everyone’s call of duty.”

After our American flag is folded 13 times, it’s tucked in to form the triangle that some say resembles a cocked hat reminiscent of ones worn by those serving in the United States Armed Forces. Supporting Folds of Honor is one way we can all tip our own hats to these heroes.

Hidden Lakes Hunting Lodge, The Links at Land’s End and many of the addresses surrounding Lake Fork, which is bordered by Wood, Rains and Hopkins counties, are served by Wood County Electric Cooperative.



## NOTICE OF MEETING

# WCEC 79<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

**Friday, October 6 | Governor Jim Hogg City Park, Quitman**

Entertainment 12:30 p.m. • Meeting 2 p.m.

The employees, staff and directors of Wood County Electric Cooperative are looking forward to seeing members at our 79th annual meeting. Before the meeting, the public is invited to attend a concert by the fun and entertaining Almost Patsy Cline Band, a two-time Texas Touring Roster act sponsored by the Texas Commission on the Arts.

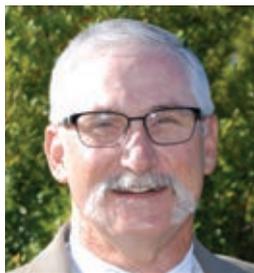
Members should receive their mailed ballots soon for the election of directors for WCEC districts 2, 3 and 7. On the ballot are incumbents Burke Bullock, board member for District 2; Kenneth Langley, board member for District 3; and Lewis Young, vice president and board member for District 7.

As a reminder, if you have not already, please detach and mail your postage-paid ballot to arrive by the deadline of noon, October 5. Members who do so will be entered into a drawing, and four will be randomly selected to receive a \$250 credit toward their electricity bill.

Bring the other half of the card with you to the annual meeting. This card will be used for participation in door-prize drawings. As always, there will be many special prizes donated by our generous vendors. We hope to see you at the annual meeting!



**BURKE BULLOCK**



**KENNETH LANGLEY**



**LEWIS YOUNG**



## Wood County Electric Cooperative

501 S. Main St. • P.O. Box 1827  
Quitman, TX 75783

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Debbie Robinson

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## Contact Us

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**1-866-415-2951**

### FIND US ON THE WEB

**wcec.org**

### MEMBER BENEFITS AND SERVICES

- Online account access and bill payment
- Paperless E-Bill services
- Free bill-paying app
- Visa, MasterCard, and Discover accepted
- SmartPower prepaid electric system
- Scholarships and youth programs
- Safety and energy conservation programs

### MOBILE CONVENIENCE CENTER

**Monday**, First Methodist Church, *Van*  
**Tuesday**, Family Dollar, *Mount Vernon*  
**Wednesday**, City National Bank, *Hawkins*  
**Thursday**, Brookshire's, *Winnsboro*  
**Friday**, Economy Drug, *Grand Saline*

CALENDAR: TAPHOUSE\_STUDIOS | © Istock.com