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Jody P. Weaver
President

Kenneth Durrett
Vice President

Althea M. Smith
Secretary/Treasurer

William J. Eichner
Kenneth D. Etzel
Nancy Lendyak
Bette D. Walters
Richard L. Weaver



PowerLines

Photographer: Linda Vallant of Homerville

Foundational Relationships

by Matthew Boshaw, CEO & General Manager

Relationships — let me state first that there are few people who know less about relationships between men and women than I, and my wife will certainly attest to that fact. I am sure women and men are in fact from different planets and I have no special insight into the relationship between them. I would like to think this article will be a little nod to the great radio personality Paul Harvey, and his series “The Rest of the Story,” as I will revisit a previous theme and hopefully add something to it. I have been with Central Electric Cooperative (CEC) for eight years now, and in that time I have written about 90 articles (there are a couple of months I am exempt in Power Lines). I have repeated topics people request or that I find particularly important. Some of those repeats have included safety, rates, reliability and the Cooperative

Difference.

I recently heard a speaker talking to a group of cooperative employees and board members about the Cooperative Difference in terms of relationships. (I think this could be the definition of “preaching to the choir.”) It did remind me, however, that it had been a while since my last article on the subject, and after reviewing my previous articles, I realized the relationship angle tied the others together well and perhaps gives the “rest of the story.”

For those who are regular readers, you might remember I have previously focused on the seven principles that define cooperatives: Voluntary and Open Membership; Democratic Member Control; Member Economic Participation; Autonomy and Independence; Education, Training and Information; Cooperation among Cooperatives; and Concern for Community. These

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“When our members have questions or concerns, they know us and call us. For example, many of you have been hearing news stories regarding electricity rate increases and have called to ask what our increase will be. I am happy to say we will not have any rate increase in 2018. Our cooperative business model and relationship with our member-owned power supplier, Allegheny Electric Cooperative, have allowed us to mitigate the need for current rate increases and provide rate stability. As a matter of fact, our last rate increase was in July 2016 and we are working hard to go through 2019 without an increase.”

Matt Boshaw, CEO
& General Manager

principles are important because within them are the very important cooperative ideals of local control by a member-elected board of directors, one member one vote, and the retirement of capital credits — just to name a few. I have written about the people, board, staff, and members and how important they are in making these principles real. But I was reminded by the speaker that these are just the parts — the real Cooperative Difference exists in relationships.

There are many relationships that help define the Cooperative Difference. There is the relationship between experienced and new employees that propagates the dedication to our members, and the principles listed above, and provides a sense of pride in what we do. There is a strong relationship between our members and employees. This is seen in more than just the cooperative/member relationship. Our employees live in the communities we serve, volunteer their time and effort, and are even sometimes CEC members themselves. When our members have questions or concerns, they know us and call us. For example, many of you have been hearing news stories regarding electricity rate increases and have called to ask what our increase will be. I am happy to say we will not have any rate increase in 2018. Our cooperative business model and relationship with our member-owned power supplier, Allegheny Electric Cooperative, have allowed us to mitigate the need for current rate

increases and provide rate stability. As a matter of fact, our last rate increase was in July 2016 and we are working hard to go through 2019 without an increase.

As representatives of the entire membership, our board of directors have important relationships with the members ensuring that what is most important to our members is communicated to myself and the staff. The board and staff relationship defines how we operate, and sets our priorities for the service we provide.

We all have relationships with elected officials at the local, county, state and federal levels. The positive relationships with public officials helped lead to the creation of the cooperative principles, and our formation as a cooperative. Our continuation of these relationships allows us to help shape rules that directly impact our ability to maintain and improve our service.

As I said in the beginning, I am no relationship expert, but I am certain all of these relationships, and the people that are involved in them, are truly the Cooperative Difference. They all need to be maintained and improved. Let me close by taking the opportunity to invite you all to attend our annual meeting next month (Aug. 24, 2018) and help us maintain and build on these all-important relationships, and highlight our Cooperative Difference.

Mark Your Calendar for Our 81st Annual Meeting

You are invited to attend our Annual Meeting on Friday, Aug. 24 at Whitehall Camp & Conference Center in Emlenton starting at 4:30 p.m. There will be a live performance by Keep Off the Grass (a local bluegrass group), a delicious meal from Kentucky Fried Chicken, and a chance to win a number of door prizes. The event also offers a health fair, drone demonstrations, information on solar panels, and more! Children ages 5 to 10 will enjoy a variety of activities and a prize specifically for them!

You can make reservations for the meeting, and for children's entertainment, by completing the form

below, visiting our website or calling us at 800-521-0570. Registration deadline is July 31.

For more information, directions or to check out the agenda visit www.central.coop.



Annual Meeting Registration Form

Name: _____

Address: _____

Account No: _____ Phone No: _____

Please reserve a total of _____ dinners for my family at the annual meeting on Aug. 24.

Children's entertainment is for children ages 5 through 10 only.

How many children will attend: _____ Ages of children: _____

Submit your question before the meeting to allow us to answer it efficiently. (You may ask a question at the meeting even if you did not submit it ahead of time.)

My question: _____

By attending the annual meeting, I grant CEC permission to use my likeness in photographs in any and all of its publications, including internal and external newsletters and website entries, without payment or other consideration.

Return this coupon to CEC by July 31.

Vote for Our Photo Contest!

Vote for the top five photos in our Photo Contest at www.central.coop. Online only voting will take place from June 18 to Aug. 2.

Members without the Internet will be able to vote through the September issue of this newsletter.

A big thank you and good luck to everyone who entered this year's contest!

When you hear a

Peak Alert

reduce electric use.

Help us help you save!

Visit www.central.coop or call us for more information.

Meter Readings

with **Laura Hensley**

Member Energy
Specialist



In the summer we often combat indoor humidity with air conditioning, but heavy use can increase your electric bill. However, maintaining indoor comfort can be achieved more efficiently by keeping moisture out.

Properly installed and vented exhaust fans are an inexpensive way to get moisture out. Perhaps the biggest culprit is the bathroom. Running an exhaust fan during showers, and for 15 minutes after, eliminates the residual moisture in the air. You may also consider adding a humidity sensor to allow the fan to run on its own when needed. In the kitchen, a range hood that is vented to the outside will remove

Combatting Humidity

moisture created by cooking.

There may also be other unsuspected ways for moisture to get into your home. Leaky, blocked, non-existent gutters, or downspouts can allow moisture in through the basement or foundation. Humid air can also find its way in through leaky roofs, plumbing, windows, exterior doors, and attic accesses. Sealing off any problem areas and considering upgrades, like replacement windows, will go a long way to eliminate excess moisture.

The use of a dehumidifier can assist in removing moisture. These units can use a considerable amount of electricity to operate, so run them only when needed. Be sure to empty often or properly drain.

These efforts will allow your cooling systems to run more efficiently and help to manage home cooling costs.

SAFETY MATTERS

It's Not Just a Green Metal Box

You have probably seen pad-mount transformers (big, green metal boxes) around your neighborhood or maybe even your yard. But do you know what the boxes are for? These “boxes” contain transformers that step down high voltage electricity to lower voltages needed for the underground wires supplying power to the lights and appliances in homes. They perform just like the gray, round transformers you have seen on power poles. Therefore, they must be recognized and respected for the equipment they contain. A box knocked askew by equipment, tampered with, or missing a lock, can become a serious danger.

These boxes are potentially dangerous, and are not to be played on or around. Make sure the utility

has properly locked the box. A pad-mount transformer that is not properly secured can be a serious hazard.

CEC also asks that you make sure to keep shrubs and structures at least 10 feet away from all sides of pad-mount transformers. When you are planting near them, consider the plants mature height, so you do not obstruct the transformer when fully grown. Make sure plant roots will not interfere with underground and buried cables. Remember, these boxes provide electricity to your home. Keeping the area around these transformers unobstructed can speed up restoration during outages and routine maintenance checks.

Nominees for Election to the Board of Directors

You may vote for one nominee from each county, no matter where you live.



Armstrong County: Nancy Terwilliger Lendyak,
Incumbent Nominee, East Brady

Mrs. Lendyak has been a CEC member since 1978 and was elected to the board in 2014.

Mrs. Lendyak has a Master's Equivalency from Clarion University. She is a retired Karns City teacher. She serves as a Griffith Morgan Scholarship Trustee, and volunteers for the: Red Cross, National Park Service/President's Park, Sugarcreek Township VFD Auxiliary, Karns City Communities that Care, and Audubon Society. She served as a Clarion University Alumni Board director.

Mrs. Lendyak is an elder at St. Paul's Community Church. She and her husband, Tom, reside in Armstrong County. They have three children and eight grandchildren.



Butler County: William J. Eichner, Incumbent Nominee, Eau Claire

Mr. Eichner has been a CEC member since 1970 and was appointed to the board in 2010. He earned his Director Gold Cooperative Certificate from the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NRECA) signifying he has earned all possible director accreditations.

Mr. Eichner is a North Catholic High School graduate. He is retired from Sisters of Divine Providence after 40 years of service. Prior to this position he served in the Vietnam War as a helicopter pilot.

Mr. Eichner owns and operates a farm in Eau Claire with his wife, Amelia, and is a member of St. Alphonsus Parish. They have three daughters, Theresa, Toni and Anne and four grandchildren, Sam, Madi, Alex and Michael.

**More information on candidates is available at www.central.coop.
Look for your official ballot in the mail.**

Use Your Voice — Vote for Your Directors!

A cooperative is owned and democratically controlled by the people who use its services. Each member has one vote regardless of their stake; that is, members can not buy more control than anyone else. This stands in stark contrast to investor-owned businesses where only shareholders have a vote in how the business is run; and even among shareholders, some have more votes than others. CEC has always operated under the principles of democracy, and we are dedicated to fulfilling that promise as we serve members today and in the future.

Recipe of the Month

Pork BBQ for Sandwiches

Ingredients:

- 3 pounds pork roast, seasoned with salt & pepper
- 6 medium onions, diced
- 1 cup water
- 1 cup ketchup
- 1 cup cabbage, finely grated
- 1-1/2 tablespoons mayonnaise

Directions: Roast pork for 2-1/2 hours at 350 degrees. Add onions and water, continue cooking for half hour. Add ketchup and continue cooking for half hour. In a separate bowl make the coleslaw — combine cabbage, mayonnaise and salt and pepper to taste. Put generous portion of meat on bun and add one tablespoon coleslaw. Enjoy.

Thank you to Pat Swank for submitting this recipe!

Send in your recipes to be shared today!

Send Recipes to: Renee Tritten at rtritten@central.coop or mail to CEC, P.O. Box 329, Parker, PA 16049

CEC Management Team

Matthew P. Boshaw
CEO & General Manager

Dennis W. Beggs
Director of Finance and
Accounting/CFO

Christopher W. Kossman
Director of Information Technology

Stephanie Deal
Director of Human Resources

Fred E. Terwilliger
Assistant General Manager/COO

Lisa A. Hoover
Director of Member Services

Read Power Lines and Win!

Last Issue's Winner:

Dolores Schill of Lucinda

Last Issue's E-Winner:

Byron Snyder of Leechburg

Read Power Lines and win a \$25 credit on your monthly electric bill by completing and returning the quiz below. You can also have a chance at another \$25 bill credit by submitting a quiz online at www.central.coop.

If you don't have access to the Internet, indicate that on the quiz and we'll also enter you in the online drawing. Just complete and enclose the quiz and personal information below and return it with your monthly payment.

1. True or False: Keep shrubs and structures five feet away from all sides of pad-mount transformers.

Answer: _____

2. True or False: Our last rate increase was in July 2016 and we are working to go through 2019 without an increase.

Answer: _____

3. True or False: Leaky or blocked gutters can allow moisture in through the basement or foundation..

Answer: _____

How are we doing? (no wrong answer)

Name: _____

Phone: _____ **Acct. #:** _____



Central Electric Cooperative

A Touchstone Energy Cooperative

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