

**Inside:
Learn How To ...**

Join Our Member
Aware Advisory
Committee (MAAC)

“Watts” Inside

CEC’s 80th Annual Meeting 3
 Harvest Safety 4
 Get Ready for Winter 4
 Make a Difference:
 Join the MAAC 5
 Sweet Potato Casserole
 Recipe 6

Board of Directors

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

Power Lines



Photographer: Lugene Crawford of Parker

It’s Always Safety Season

by Matthew Boshaw, CEO & General Manager

Everyone refers to this time of year differently. For some it’s hunting season, for others it’s football season, the beginning of hockey season (especially since the Pittsburgh Penguins have won back-to-back Stanley Cups) and even the start of holiday season. But I call it safety season. There are a few topics I repeat in these articles as I feel they are more important than other issues and, in this case, the most important. I noticed recently I had not written a safety related article in 2017 and I wanted to remedy that. I find regular reminders that keep safety foremost in our thoughts helps guard against complacency and can make all the difference in the avoidance of an accident.

In an effort to make sure we are not complacent, we make regular changes to our safety program. Each year we look at our practices, procedures, equipment

and communication to look for ways we might improve or refresh our safety program. In the business of providing electricity, there is nothing more important than safety — there is no separation between work and safety. We need to work safely. The benefits are significant and many. Most importantly, we are all able to go home at night and see our families. There is also the added benefit of team building that comes from coworkers looking out for one another in addition to numerous other benefits. This business is an inherently dangerous one and, unfortunately, the hazards cannot be entirely eliminated.

Last year we implemented a new safety program called Speak Up, Listen Up. We did this to take advantage of the team building mentality I mentioned earlier. The program encourages every level of employee to speak up when

... Safety Season /Page 2

... Safety Season /From Page 1

“Safety should not be something separate and difficult; it needs to be ingrained in everything we do. Electricity is essential to so much of our lives so, please make using it safely a part of what you do. Join all the employees of your cooperative in taking responsibility for our own safety as well as looking out for the wellbeing of those around us. Taking safety seriously, together, will make us all safer. If you have questions or concerns, give us a call and we will help. Please be safe out there!”

Matt Boshaw, CEO & General Manager

they have a safety concern and listen up to every concern, regardless of who identifies it. This puts a great emphasis on personal responsibility and looking out for each other. This practice has proven worthwhile and started conversations about how we might build upon it.

In past years, we have had two safety committees, one for field personnel and the other for our office employees. This year we have taken a recommendation to combine these committees into a single group, allowing all employees to benefit from all of the good safety suggestions. We have charged this group with the responsibility to actively discuss safety matters throughout the organization and make recommendations to our management team. All departments are represented in the group. Our safety manager participates as do different members of the management team. The committee has already made some outstanding recommendations that have directly impacted our employees' safety.

This committee also considers how we can improve communication to the public on safety. Because we work with and around electricity every day, electrical safety is in the front of our minds all the time. The same usually can't be said for those of you who don't work in this business. We have been providing Safety City presentations to school kids around our service territory for many years. This year we have increased the

number of presentations, and the number of employees giving those presentations, in an effort to educate more people about electrical safety.

We make every effort to build and maintain our electric lines so they are available to serve you safely. With that in mind, everything we do to educate our membership about electricity and the potential hazards it poses will help make you safer. Consider this my request for you to be an active participant in the safety of our electric system. Look around when things are operating the way they are supposed to, and notice how things look. So when things are not in order you might better recognize a potential hazard, and avoid it. Please don't try to fix the problem, but instead call us so we can return things to a safe condition.

Safety should not be something separate and difficult; it needs to be ingrained in everything we do. Electricity is essential to so much of our lives so, please make using it safely a part of what you do. Join all the employees of your cooperative in taking responsibility for our own safety as well as looking out for the wellbeing of those around us. Taking safety seriously, together, will make us all safer. If you have questions or concerns, give us a call and we will help. Please be safe out there!

CEC's 80th Annual Meeting

CEC conducted its 80th Annual Meeting on Aug. 25 at Whitehall Camp and Conference Center near Emlenton. During this meeting, our members re-elected Jody Weaver of Clarion County and Ken Etzel of Venango County to the board of directors.

Over 1,000 people attended the event. Kentucky Fried Chicken catered the dinner and Hazlett Tree Service donated bottled water. American Pie provided entertainment and Enhanced Visual Aerial Solutions offered information and demonstrations with drones.

The meeting opened with CEC's Stacey Bechtel singing the National Anthem. Ray Errett of Cranberry, and Gerald Ochs of Lucinda won the \$100 bill credit grand prizes, William Hartzell of Tionesta and Wayne Orvis of East Brady won the \$50 bill credits and one child who attended won an iPad.

After the annual meeting, the board of directors elected officers Jody Weaver, board president; Kenneth Durrett, vice president; and Althea Smith; secretary/treasurer.



CEC's Board of Directors



**2016-2017
Member Aware
Advisory Committee
(MAAC)**



SAFETY MATTERS

Preparation and Awareness are Keys to a Safe Harvest

Harvest season is one of the busiest times of the year for farmers — and the most dangerous. Before taking to the fields, please be aware of power lines and keep equipment far away from them.


- Keep yourself and equipment at least 10 feet away from power lines in all directions, at all times.
- Use care when raising equipment. It can be difficult to estimate distance, and sometimes a power line is closer than it looks.
- Always lower portable augers or elevators to their lowest possible level, under 14 feet, before moving or transporting them. Wind, uneven ground, shifting weight or other conditions can cause you to lose control of equipment and

make contact with power lines.

- Never attempt to raise or move a power line to clear a path.
- If you are on equipment that makes contact with a power line, do not exit the equipment. When you step off the equipment you become the electricity's path to ground and can receive a fatal shock. Wait until line crews have de-energized the line and confirmed it is safe for you to exit the vehicle. If the vehicle is on fire and you must exit, jump clear of the vehicle with both feet together. Hop as far from the vehicle as you can with your feet together.




Ken's
kilowatt
corner



www.central.coop
Check it out!

By Ken Maleski
Energy Analyst &
Member Advocate



Last month I wrote on tuning up your heating system. Here are a few other items to consider that increase comfort and lower your energy bills.

- Caulk and seal windows, doors, and wall penetrations (plumbing, electrical, etc.).
- Add plastic films to windows if they leak or are single pane.
- Seal and insulate attic access hatches.
- Reverse ceiling fan direction to blow upwards.
- Replace furnace filters.
- Do not block heating registers with furniture or curtains.
- Keep south-facing curtains open on sunny days to collect natural heat.
- Close curtains at night to reduce radiant cooling.

Get Ready for Winter

- Lower thermostat 10 to 15 degrees when away from home or sleeping to save about 10 percent per heating season (programmable thermostats work perfect for this).
- Remember to drain one to two gallons out of the water heater to remove sediment.
- Weather-proof and seal any window air conditioning unit that will not be removed.
- Check around the bottom of doors for leaks and repair.

As a safety reminder, replace batteries in your smoke detectors and carbon dioxide alarms. Do the above and sleep comfortably knowing you have done your part for energy efficiency.

Make a Difference: Join the MAAC!

Are you interested in serving on a respected committee and sharing your ideas with cooperative members? Then the Member Aware Advisory Committee (MAAC) is the perfect opportunity for you! CEC is looking for members to serve on the 2018-2019 MAAC committee. This committee establishes effective communication between cooperative members, the board of directors and management.

As a MAAC member you have the chance to discuss and contribute your ideas on issues directly concerning cooperative members. You will also have the chance to submit recommendations to the board of directors and management on improving services and procedures. The committee will meet eight times (once a quarter) throughout the 2018-2019 term.

We will select representatives from the following counties: Armstrong, Butler, Clarion, Forest and Venango. In keeping with the cooperative's bylaws, Allegheny County members shall be affiliated with Butler County and Mercer County members with Venango County.

MAAC members must be residential members with their permanent residence on cooperative lines in the county they represent. In addition to residential members, the committee will also include a seasonal representative who is required to have a seasonal account on cooperative lines.

All interested members must be in good standing with the cooperative to be considered. The board of directors will appoint members if there are no volunteers for a specific county.

Those who have served on either the MAAC committee or CEC's board of directors are ineligible. MAAC members receive a per diem and mileage compensation for attending each meeting.

We would like to recognize the 2016-2017 MAAC members for their dedication and outstanding efforts. They are: John and Vicky Curtis of Armstrong County; Frank and Karen Halstead, and Tom and Sherry Young of Butler County; Daniel and Heather Casper, and Greg and Roberta Faller of Clarion County; Richard and Mary Carnahan of Forest County; Craig and Rose Adams, and Bob and Tina Hoover of Venango County; and seasonal representative M.D. Rearick.

If you are interested in serving on the MAAC committee, please complete the coupon below and send it to: Central Electric Cooperative, MAAC Committee, 716 Route 368, P.O. Box 329, Parker, PA 16049. Coupons must be returned by Dec. 1, 2017. If you have any questions please contact Ken Maleski at 800-521-0570 x2133.

Member Aware Advisory Committee

I would like to volunteer to serve on the 2018-2019 MAAC Committee

Name: _____

Residential or Seasonal (circle one) Account Number: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____ County: _____

Recipe of the Month

Sweet Potato Casserole

Casserole:

- 3 cups mashed sweet potatoes or two cans of unsweetened
- 1 cup sugar
- 1/4 cup oleo
- 1 teaspoon vanilla

Topping:

- 1/2 cup butter
- 1 cup brown sugar
- 1 cup chopped walnuts
- 1/3 cup flour

Directions: Mix casserole ingredients together. Place in baking pan. Mix all topping ingredients together. Put on top of casserole mixture. Bake uncovered at 350 degrees for 45 minutes.

*Thank you to Mary Ellen Edinger
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:

Margretta Forster of Cowansville

Last Issue's E-Winner:

George Kroha of Harrisville

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: We educate individuals about the importance of electrical safety.
Answer: _____

2. True or False: You and any equipment should be at least 10 feet away from power lines at all times.
Answer: _____

3. True or False: Lowering your thermostat when you're away or sleeping can save you about 5 percent per heating season.
Answer: _____

How are we doing? (no wrong answer)

Name: _____

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



Central Electric Cooperative

A Touchstone Energy Cooperative

716 Route 368, P.O. Box 329, Parker, PA 16049

Newsletter Editor: Renee Tritten