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PowerLines

Central Electric Cooperative Welcomes New CEO/General Manager Matthew Boshaw

As we informed you in past Power Lines issues, our long-time CEO and General Manager, Larry Adams, is retiring. To prepare for his departure, the Central Electric Board of Directors conducted a diligent nationwide search to find his successor. On behalf of the full board of directors, I am pleased to welcome our new CEO and General Manager, Matthew Boshaw.

We believe that we have found, in Matt, a leader who is not only very qualified, but will be committed to our members and their needs: providing affordable and reliable electric service.

Matt has almost 20 years of experience in the electric utility industry, both in a large urban electric utility and a small rural one. He has been employed at Central Lincoln People's Utility District (PUD), an electric



James M. Burd
President of CEC's Board of Directors

distribution utility on Oregon's coast, since 1998 where he served as distribution engineering and operations manager, and acting general manager. A public utility district is very similar to a co-op. It is a not-for-profit and was created to serve the public. A PUD is also governed by an elected commission, much like our board of directors. Central Lincoln PUD's motto

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is, “providing the best possible electric service, at the lowest possible price”—which is consistent with Central Electric’s mission.

During his career Matt was also employed for several years at Commonwealth Edison Company in Chicago where he held positions including project engineer, reliability planner, and emergency restoration of power coordinator.

He holds a B.S. in Electrical Engineering from Michigan Technological University where he also played defensive end and linebacker for the football team.

Matt and his wife Lori have two sons: Ryan, age 20, and Maxwell, age 10. Besides spending time with his family Matt enjoys coaching youth, golf and woodworking, when time allows.

The board of directors is pleased that Matt has accepted the position of CEO and general manager. I hope you will welcome Matt to your co-op at this year’s annual meeting on Aug. 27 at Whitehall Camp & Conference Center near Emlenton.

CEC Linemen Assist Allegheny Power

On Feb. 7, 2010, nine CEC linemen arrived in Southern Pennsylvania to assist restoring electricity to Allegheny Power customers.



The linemen also traveled to Weirton, W.Va. to restore power. With the help of CEC electricity was restored to over 32,000 Allegheny Power customers.

We would like to thank Scott Best, Bill Betros, Greg Bly Clint Gallagher, Roger McCall, Doug McQuiston, Brice Stewart, Eric Terwilliger and Rich Vensel for a job well done!

CEC Conducts Annual Pole Testing

Regularly testing and treating poles on our distribution lines increases their life expectancy and reduces pole failures. We test each pole on our system every 10 years. To test a pole the inspector digs around the base, about 18 inches, and inspects and retreats the pole. Member-owned poles receive only a partial inspection and are not excavated to an 18-inch depth or treated.

Osmose Utilities Services, Inc. will begin testing in April and should finish by July. They will conduct testing in the following areas: Rimersburg substation: Clarion County, Madison, Toby, Porter, Redbank, Piney and Limestone

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The most common wiring mistakes are:

1. Working with a live wire
2. Using the wrong lightbulb
3. Not being grounded
4. Splicing, splicing, splicing
5. Hooking new lights to old wires

CEC Conducts Testing/From Page 2

townships; Fredricksburg substation: Clarion County, Perry, Licking and Toby townships; Beaver substation: Clarion County, Paint, Elk and Ashland townships.

Also, please remember posting items on utility poles endangers our linemen by making poles difficult to climb.



Members should watch for illegal postings on utility poles including signs, posters, birdhouses and private lighting. We thank you and appreciate your attention in this matter. If you have any further questions please feel free to contact Central Electric at 800-521-0570.

Always Call Before You Dig!



Spring has finally arrived! It is time to plant a garden, install a deck or build an addition to your existing home. But wait; before digging you should check to see if there are any underground facilities. It's easy, just call the Pennsylvania One Call System, Inc. at 800-242-1776 or visit www.paonecall.org to answer all your questions. Make sure you call at least three working days before you plan digging.

Whether you are an excavator, contractor, home builder or the general public the Pennsylvania Call System, Inc. can assist in getting you the information you need to dig safely. If you have any further questions feel free to contact Central Electric at 800-521-0570.

Attention High School Seniors: PREA Scholarship

A minimum of five \$1,000 PREA Scholarship Trust Fund in Memory of William F. Matson scholarships are available for the 2010 – 2011 college year.

Who is eligible?

The PREA Scholarship Trust Fund in Memory of William F. Matson offers scholarships to children of co-op members and employees of electric cooperatives in Pennsylvania and New Jersey who belong to the Pennsylvania Rural Electric Association (PREA). Applicants must be high school seniors. PREA will award a minimum of five \$1,000, one-time scholarships.

Applications and required information must be received no later than **May 10, 2010**. Finalists will be sent a follow-up questionnaire that must be returned by **June 11, 2010**. Scholarship awards will be announced at the PREA Summer Meeting in July. To download a PDF version of the application visit: www.prea.com or mail your request to: PREA Scholarship Trust Fund, P.O. Box 1266, Harrisburg, PA 17108-1266.

Be Careful when Tackling Home Wiring Projects

If spring sends you into the remodeling mode, consider checking with professionals before you migrate to the nearest hardware store. While do-it-yourself (DIY) projects can be very satisfying to complete, they pose risks when it comes to electricity.

“Mistakes can be costly — or even deadly,” warns John Drengenberg, consumer affairs manager for Underwriters Laboratories, Inc., (UL), a Chicago, Ill.–based not-for-profit firm that tests and sets minimum standards for electric consuming items. “The first and best safety tip is to call in an expert rather than be your own electrician.”

An ongoing study by the Quincy, Mass.–based Fire Protection Research Foundation has given UL engineers a better understanding of typical DIY wiring mistakes. The most common:

1. Working with a live wire

It may seem perfectly obvious, but thousands of DIYers receive electric shock injuries each year. To avoid becoming a statistic, always turn off the circuit breaker (or remove the fuse) before working on or replacing electrical equipment. If you have a pre-1940's home, be mindful that you probably have more than one breaker box, or panel board, as electricians call them.

2. Using the wrong lightbulb

Most lighting fixtures feature a sticker on the socket that tells you the proper type and maximum wattage of the lightbulb to use. Installing a different type of bulb, or one with higher wattage, will not only make the room brighter, but could also damage the lights and cause a fire. Heat is usually the catalyst in this case: the higher the wattage, the hotter the bulb and the hotter the wire that goes to the lighting fixture.

3. Not being grounded

For optimal safety, receptacles should be wired with the proper grounding and polarity. Generally, three-pronged outlets signify an effective ground path in the circuit. However, homes built before the mid-1960s probably don't have a grounding path, and simply replacing the existing outlet with a three-pronged outlet won't give you one.

“You see instances of this in homes with older wiring,” Drengenberg says. “It's no worse than if you plug your two-pronged device into a two-pronged outlet. But it does give the homeowner a false sense of security.”

Wiring with a grounding path usually sports a copper grounding wire with the cable. If you are uncertain about whether your home's wiring is grounded, inexpensive UL-listed outlet circuit testers are available to check for proper grounding and polarity. If your outlet is improperly grounded, call an electrician before moving forward in any project.

4. Splicing, splicing, splicing

Always make sure your wiring size and type match. Splicing wires by simply twisting them together and covering them with electrical tape is rarely a good idea. Instead, use wiring suitable to your home's wiring and place wiring connections in metal or plastic boxes to decrease fire risk.

Also keep in mind that circuits protected by 15-amp fuses or breakers should be wired with No. 14 AWG copper wire minimum. For 20 amps, use No. 12 AWG minimum size copper wire. Other guidelines apply, so if you expect to do any splicing, seek professional help before you begin.

5. Hooking new lights to old wires

Most light fixtures are marked with instructions for supply connections, such as “Use wire rated for

Tackling Home Wiring Projects/ From Page 4

at least 90C,” which refers to the maximum temperature — 90 degrees Celsius or about 200 degrees Fahrenheit — under which a wire’s insulation can safely be used. Again, if you have an older home (pre-1984, in this case), wiring may have a lower temperature rating than a new luminaire.

“This isn’t something most DIYers even think to consider,” Drengenberg cautions. “It probably won’t burst into flames immediately, but it does increase the risk of a fire.”

To avoid that risk, check your wire rating first and either upgrade it or buy fixtures within the supply connection range.

Article courtesy of Underwriters Laboratories, Inc.

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corner



www.central.coop
Check it out!
By Ken Maleski
CEC Consumer
Marketing Representative



Did you know spring cleaning can save you money? It’s true, by keeping your equipment clean and in good condition you save on repair bills. Below is a list of spring cleaning chores:

■ Air Conditioning Units

Clean debris inside and around the outside of the air conditioning units and heat pumps. Proper air movement is important for quality performance.

■ Window Air Conditioners

Remove the interior grill cover and wash the foam filter in warm soapy water. Make sure it is thoroughly rinsed and dried before reinstallation.

Spring Cleaning Can Save You Money

■ Furnace Filter

Clean or replace your furnace filter, especially if you plan on using central air conditioning this summer.

■ Dehumidifier

Clean the dust and dirt off the large coil on your dehumidifier.

■ Refrigerator Coils

Remove the front cover to your refrigerator coils and clean under there (you’ll be surprised what you find!)

■ Ceiling Fans

Clean the top of ceiling fan blades with warm water. You will find a lot of dust so be prepared!



Recipe of the Month

Layered Yogurt Fruit Salad

Ingredients:

- 1 container (6 ounces) thick and creamy key lime pie yogurt
- 2 tablespoons orange juice
- 2 cups fresh pineapple chunks
- 1 cup strawberry halves
- 2 cups green grapes
- 1 cup blueberries
- 2 cups cubed cantaloupe
- 1/4 cup flaked or shredded coconut, toasted



Directions:

1. Mix yogurt and orange juice; set aside.
2. In 2 1/2-quart clear glass bowl, layer fruit in order listed.
3. Pour yogurt mixture over fruit. Sprinkle with coconut. Serve immediately.

For more great recipes visit:
www.bettycrocker.com

Send Recipes to:

Jessica Brison at jbrison@central.coop or mail to
 Central Electric Cooperative, PO Box 329,
 Parker, PA 16049

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Read Power Lines and



Last Issue's Winner:

Attossa Henry of Knox

Read your issue of Central Electric Cooperative's Power Lines and win! It's simple — you can win a \$50 credit on your monthly electric bill by reading Power Lines and completing the quiz below.

Contest Rules

1. The contest is open to all Central Electric Cooperative members with active accounts as of the drawing date.
2. Only one entry per member is permitted.
3. Employees and directors of Central Electric, along with members of their immediate families, are not eligible.
4. The winning entry will appear as a credit on the member's bill and may not be redeemed for cash.

Complete, clip and enclose the quiz and personal information below and return it with your monthly payment. For a faster entry you may complete the survey online at www.central.coop.

1. True or False: Matthew Boshaw is CEC's new CEO/general manager.

Answer: _____

2. True or False: Always turn off your circuit breaker before working on or replacing electrical equipment.

Answer: _____

3. True or False: Cleaning the dust and dirt off the front of your refrigerator can save you money.

Answer: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone No: _____ **Account No:** _____



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