



PowerLines

Inside: Learn How To ...

Make a Difference

Apply for the PREA
Scholarship

Stay Safe While
Working Outdoors

“Watts” Inside

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Have You Met CEC?

by Matthew Boshaw, CEO & General Manager

It is a little difficult for me to believe that it is now April 2011 and I have been with Central Electric Cooperative (CEC) for a full year. The time has flown and a lot has been accomplished. Whether it is decreasing outage time for our members, giving a safety presentation to a group of fifth-graders or meeting with legislators and community leaders on your behalf, CEC’s dedicated staff does all it can to make sure we meet your needs. Unlike larger investor-owned utilities, CEC has a special relationship with our members.

In previous articles I made reference to how cooperatives began. In 1937, the members who started our cooperative were simply looking to improve their lives with electricity and the benefits it offered. Delivering

electricity to our members is still our core business, however we offer so much more, thanks to our dedicated staff. Every month you hear from me on a significant topic that is written with a Pulitzer Prize in mind (this is just my little pitch to have my article overtake the recipe and Ken’s Kilowatt Korner in popularity). These articles only scratch the surface of what CEC does, and doesn’t always let you know who is behind the scenes. I thought I would spend a moment discussing the important things we do here and recognize a few of the nearly 70 employees that work for you. Ken, (Ken’s Kilowatt Korner) works with our residential members providing energy audits and expertise in CEC’s products and services. His counterpart, Chris, provides similar services to our

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Have You Met CEC?!

From Page 1

commercial and industrial accounts. However, their efforts do not stop there, they both represent CEC on various economic development and community groups. Next we have Jessica, who makes me sound less like an engineer in my monthly Power Lines articles, and Matt

throw at them with professional courtesy. Kris, Sheila, Jessica and Chris from the finance and information technology departments also work hard supporting our whole organization, making it easier for us to focus on the members. Obviously I am unable to recognize everyone individually but the entire team puts

Spring Safety:

1. Teach children to stay away from electrical transformers and substations.
2. Keep all electrical devices and cords away from water.
3. Place waterproof covers on all outdoor outlets.
4. Inspect power tools for frayed cords and broken plugs, and replace.
5. Never touch a person or object that has made contact with a power line.



(Safety MATTERS) a new arrival to the team, who works closely with the line crews on operational and safety matters. And what about those line crews? Twenty-five men who are trained, or in training as journeymen linemen. These guys are part of your communities, serve on local boards, regularly volunteer and most importantly keep the lights on. Josh, Jeff, Rocky, Eric, Tim and Scott just to name a few go out during the worst weather, all hours of the night to restore your service, in addition to upgrading lines and maintaining our system on a daily basis. Then we have our dedicated consumer services department. Janet, Mitzi, Tara, Dawn and more who assist you with new payments and services, and handle anything else you or I

forth an amazing effort!

Okay, now that I am done bragging about our wonderful staff let's get back to the title of this article. "Have You Met CEC?" I bet you have and don't even know it. We are your neighbors, youth coaches, fellow parishioners and friends. Over the next year you will hear from us through some additional outreach efforts. We are always looking for feedback from members. Even though we prefer the good, we also want to recognize and learn from the bad. So talk to your neighbor, write us a note on your bill, give us a call, or visit our Web site at www.central.coop and let us know if our efforts are moving in the right direction. Also, check out our group picture and see if you can find any familiar faces. Thanks in advance for your help and a great first year!

CEC Improves Long-Term System Reliability

As part of CEC's ongoing effort to improve system reliability, crews are replacing aged wire, poles and associated equipment in Washington Township, Armstrong County. All electric lines in Sherret, Wattersonville Road and Montgomeryville will be completely rebuilt and modernized to ensure continued reliability to our members. During system improvements members might experience momentary interruptions.

We are also working on line-clearing and rights-of-way maintenance with electric circuits originating from Prospect Substation. Tree trimming crews access these rights-of-way to perform maintenance and may have personnel and equipment on members' and others property at times to perform the work.

All projects, including smaller-scale line improvements throughout the service territory, are scheduled to last several months. For more information on system improvement projects contact CEC's Engineering Department at 1-800-521-0570 ext. 2195. We appreciate your patience and cooperation in this matter and will complete the work required as quickly and professionally as possible.

Save the Date!

CEC's Annual Meeting is on Saturday, Aug. 27, 2011 at Whitehall Campgrounds in Emlenton, Pa. at 11 a.m. This year's Annual Meeting **will not** include children's entertainment or any form of child care.

Make A Difference!

Join Co-op Owners for Political Action and make your voice be heard! ACRE is the electric cooperative movement's political action committee (PAC). Your contributions enable electric cooperatives to get our issues in front of legislators across the state and nation! Please complete the form below and join today!

Contributions to the NRECA Action Committee for Rural Electrification® (ACRE®) are not tax deductible. Contributions to ACRE are voluntary and will be used for political purposes. You have the right to refuse to contribute without reprisal. Any contribution guidelines presented are merely suggestions. You are free to contribute more or less than the suggested amounts, or not at all. NRECA will not favor or disadvantage anyone by reason of the amount contributed or a decision not to contribute.

ACRE Co-op Owners for Political Action

Membership Categories

Regular Membership:	\$25
Century Club Membership	\$100
President's Club Membership	\$150

Make an Annual Contribution

Make checks payable to "PREA ACRE."
Return this form to Central Electric Cooperative,
PO Box 329, Parker, PA 16049.

Add Monthly Contribution to Electric Bill

- Regular: \$2.08 a month (\$25 a year)
- Century Club: \$8.33 a month (\$100 a year)
- President's Club: \$41.67 a month (\$500 year)
- Please renew my amount at this level annually.

Membership Information

Name: _____
Address: _____
City: _____
State: _____ Zip: _____

Federal Election Law requires the following information for contributions equal to or exceeding \$200:

Employer: _____
Occupation: _____
Signature: _____
Date: _____

CEC's Annual Pole Inspection

CEC regularly tests and treats poles on our distribution lines. Pole inspection increases their life expectancy and reduces failure. Poles are tested 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 a partial inspection. Cooperative owned poles are excavated to an 18-inch depth and treated.

Osmose Utilities Services, Inc. will begin testing in April and should finish in July. The areas where testing will be conducted are: Fredericksburg Substation, Karns City, Butler County; Cowansville Substation, Cowansville,

Armstrong County; and the Clearfield Substation, Butler, Butler County.

Also, please remember posting items on utility poles endangers our linemen by making poles difficult to climb. Members should watch for illegal posting 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 CEC at 1-800-521-0570.



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 check to see if there are any underground facilities. It's easy, just call the Pennsylvania One Call System, Inc. at 1-800-242-1776 or visit www.paonecall.org to answer all your questions. Make sure you call at least three working days before you plan to dig.

Whether you are an excavator, contractor, home builder or the general public the Pennsylvania Call System, Inc. can assist you in digging safely. If you have any further questions feel free to contact CEC at 1-800-521-0570.

Attention CEC Members

CEC would like to remind you that our annual member surveys will start in late May 2011. If you are randomly chosen to participate in the phone survey, we would like to thank you in advance for your cooperation.

Attention High School Seniors: PREA Scholarship

A minimum of five \$1,000 PREA Scholarships in Memory of William F. Matson are available for the 2011–2012 college year.

Who is eligible?

The PREA Scholarship Trust Fund offers scholarships to children of cooperative 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.

Applications and required information must be received no later than **May 9, 2011**. Finalists will be sent a follow-up questionnaire that must be returned by **June 1, 2011**. 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.

Ken's
ilowatt
corner



By **Ken Maleski**
Residential Analyst
& Advisor

www.central.coop
Check it out!



Every season has a “to do list.” Spring is always a great time to tune up lawn and garden equipment. But how about cooling equipment? To make your equipment more efficient here are a few things you can do:

- Wash and dry your window air conditioning unit foam filter (found behind the inside front grill).
- Clean leaves, sticks and debris away from your outdoor air conditioning or heat pump unit.

The “To Do List”

- Clean dehumidifier coils and drain plug.
 - Remove dust from the top of ceiling fan blades.
 - Repair torn window and door screens.
 - Clean lint out of the clothes dryer vent pipe.
 - Replace your furnace filter.
- You'll be glad you did!



SAFETY

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Spring Safety

It's springtime and many folks enjoy working outdoors. Keep in mind that with outdoor tasks comes electrical hazards. Here are some tips to follow when working outdoors that will keep both you and your family safe:

- Teach children to stay away from electrical transformers and substations.
- Keep all electrical devices and cords away from water.
- Place waterproof covers on all outdoor outlets.



Matt Alderson
Manager of Safety and
Operational Support

- Install ground fault circuit interrupters (GFCIs) in outlets where water may be present.
- Inspect power tools for frayed cords, broken plugs and replace.
- Store power tools indoors.
- Unplug power tools when not in use.
- Never touch a person or object that has made contact with a power line.

Source: *Electrical Safety Foundation International; CPSC*

Recipe of the Month

Rhubarb Pie

Ingredients:

- 3 cups rhubarb
- 1-1/2 cups sugar
- 2 eggs
- 4 tablespoons flour
- 2 refrigerated pie shells

Directions:

1. Wash rhubarb and cut into 1/2 inch pieces.
2. Combine sugar, flour and beaten eggs to rhubarb. Mix thoroughly.
3. Place mix in unbaked pie shell and cover with remaining shell.
4. Bake at 350 degrees Fahrenheit for 30 to 40 minutes.

Recipe submitted by Laura Dupe.

All recipes submitted will automatically be entered in the 2011 Annual Meeting Recipe Contest.

Send Recipes to:

Jessica Brison at jbrison@central.coop or mail to Central Electric Cooperative, 716 Route 368, PO Box 329, Parker, PA 16049

CEC Staff

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CEO and General Manager

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Dennis W. Beggs
Director of Finance

Christina J. O'Donnell
Director of Communication and Marketing

Stephanie Deal
Director of Human Resources and Administration

Fred E. Terwilliger
Director of Engineering and Operations

Read Power Lines and



Last Issue's Winner:

Steven B. Mould of Monaca

Read your issue of CEC'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 CEC 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/quiz.

1. True or False: This year's Annual Meeting will not include children's entertainment or any form of child care.

Answer: _____

2. True or False: The PREA Trust Fund Scholarship awards 15 scholarships to cooperative members per year.

Answer: _____

3. True or False: Never touch a person or object that comes into contact with a power line.

Answer: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

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



Central Electric Cooperative

A Touchstone Energy Cooperative

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