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PowerLines

And We Were Happy to Get It

by Matthew Boshaw, CEO & General Manager

Have you ever been told the story of your parents or grandparents walking five miles to school, up hill, both ways, in the snow just to get an education? Invariably it was followed by some version of “and we were happy to do it.”

Recently, I have had the good fortune to hear and read stories about the first time our members received electricity in their homes. The stories are often very poignant and illustrated a significant point to us here at Central. When cooperatives got started back in the 1930s our mission was clear, bring electricity to those who do not have it to improve lives. This mission was shared by our members, employees, board of directors and even our legislators (local and national). This

was the single important goal to improve lives with a service they were happy to get.

Flash forward to my first Annual Meeting in August. I responded to questions from our members regarding legislative changes affecting our rates, and participation with renewable energy opportunities. Our role as owner–members of Allegheny Electric Cooperative (AEC) has put us in a good position regarding both of these issues. First, carbon legislation or administrative regulation will have less impact on our power purchase rates because AEC owns about 70 percent of our generation in the form of the Susquehanna Nuclear facility and the Raystown hydroelectric facility. Only 30 percent of our power requirements are purchased on the open market with exposure

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to additional costs associated with carbon restrictions limited to that amount. Additionally, our conservation load management program and Raystown ownership meet the renewable energy requirements for the state and

maintaining the system. This has resulted in positive trends in both our reliability and our rate competitiveness. While we understand these things are important and you expect more from your cooperative, we expect the current trend to continue with our

Having CEC install a GenerLink™ transfer switch for you eliminates:

1. Involving an electrician
2. Cutting into your home's electrical system
3. Hiring an electrical inspector



allow us, through AEC, to consider renewable power purchases on a case-by-case and cost-effective basis.

Because of the commitment to, and success of, our original goal and as illustrated by the questions that our members are asking, it is clear that our members' expectations have changed. Electricity was once a luxury, but has become a part of everyday life that we don't even notice, unless it isn't there. As I have mentioned in previous articles, your desire for safe, reliable power at competitive and affordable rates has replaced the "bring the power" part of our original mission. We put a great deal of our resources into efficiently

efforts. There is an important piece of that original mission that hasn't changed. It is our goal to work with our members to make their lives better. That is a big part of what we call the *cooperative difference*. We are not a faceless company, we are your cooperative. You may have noticed that my picture isn't always a part of these articles. Instead I have asked to include our group picture as a reminder that we are all working together to meet your expectations. Central's Board of Directors and Member Aware Advisory Committee (MAAC) represent all of you in our daily decisions. We also solicit your feedback through annual surveys. We are looking for

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suggestions on the best ways to keep you informed of the steps we are taking and the challenges ahead. I encourage you to call, write, or e-mail us or talk to an employee, board or

MAAC member and let us know how we can better inform you of the work we do. I look forward to hearing from you and assure you that regarding your feedback, “We are happy to get it!”

CEC’S 73rd Annual Meeting

CEC conducted its 73rd Annual Meeting Aug. 27 at the Whitehall Campgrounds near Emlenton. This year’s theme was “Wired in the Past, Grounded in the Present and Energizing the Future.” During this meeting the members elected Margery S. Terwilliger of Armstrong County and William J. Eichner of Butler County to the board of directors. Terwilliger has served as a director since 2002.

More than 1,700 attended the meeting that opened with the Parker Post 7073 presenting the American flag and Heather Check singing the National Anthem. Entertainment was provided by the “Drymill Road” band.



Parker Post 7073



William J. Eichner
of Butler County



“Drymill Road” band



Heather Check



Children’s Entertainment



Matthew Boshaw
CEO & General Manager



Members venture into
the marketing tent



CEC’s Board of Directors
Not Pictured: Bette Walters
and James Burd

The Cooperative Difference

Courtesy of NRECA's Straight Talk

Every October since 1930, not-for-profit cooperatives of all stripes have celebrated Cooperative Month. During this time, it makes sense to highlight the qualities that make electric cooperatives different from other types of utilities and businesses.

For starters, electric cooperatives are owned by those they serve. That's why those who receive electric service from us are called members, not customers. Without members, there would be no Central Electric Cooperative.

Members maintain democratic control of our cooperative, which means they elect fellow members to represent them on the board of directors every August at our Annual Meeting. As a bonus, cooperative members receive special benefits through programs such as energy audits, the Water Heater Program and WildBlue. We also return margins (profits) to our members in the form of capital credits.

One principle that sets us apart from other businesses is our concern for community. As a cooperative, we have a special responsibility to support the areas in which our members live and work. From sponsoring the local fair to supporting new jobs and industry through our economic development efforts, we stand as a driving force in our community.



Of course, cooperatives span all industries, including credit unions, dairy operations, healthcare, housing and much more. There are more than 29,000 cooperatives across the nation. And not all are small or rural. Just look at nationally known cooperatives like Sunkist®, Ace Hardware® and Land O' Lakes®.

Overall, cooperatives are more accessible than other types of businesses. We give our members a voice, and we are local — living and working alongside those we serve.

That's the cooperative difference.

CEC Offers the GenerLink™ Transfer Switch

Now you can operate your emergency generator safely while protecting line workers from dangerous back feeds with a GenerLink™ transfer switch. CEC installs the transfer switch neatly into your meter socket, eliminating:

- Involving an electrician
- Cutting into your home's electrical system
- Hiring an electrical inspector



The GenerLink™ provides a three-prong, snap-locking connector and a 20-foot cable that connects your generator to the meter socket, transfer switch. It

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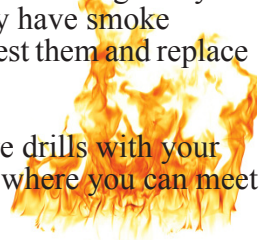
also has a yellow indicator light warning you when your house's electrical load is approaching the generator's capacity. A green indicator light signals the homeowner that the utility has restored power allowing the generator to power down.

Install a GenerLink™ at your meter for only \$689.20. Call CEC today at 1-800-521-0570, ext. # 2172 today or visit www.central.coop to learn more.

October is Fire Safety Month

Here are some tips to keep your family safe.

- Install smoke detectors throughout your home. If you already have smoke detectors installed, test them and replace the batteries.
- Practice and plan fire drills with your family, pick a place where you can meet outside the home.
- Test all windows and doors in your home, making sure they open easily and are accessible for all family members.



Ken's ilowatt orner



www.central.coop
Check it out!

By Ken Maleski
CEC Consumer
Marketing Representative



Just like our bodies need an annual check up our homes need yearly maintenance. With winter approaching now is the perfect time to have your furnace or heat pump system inspected by a trained professional. Since heating accounts for over half the energy you will use this year, having an efficient heating system is the key to operating at peak performance.

A trip to your nearby Home Depot or Lowe's is in order for some caulking, a can of spray foam and weather stripping. These products work best when installed in temperatures above freezing. And remember, you do not have to be a professional to use them.

Another area to keep in mind is the attic. Northwestern Pennsylvania buildings are required to have ceiling insulation levels equivalent to R-38. Blown or loose-fill cellulose is easy to install, even with only one

Fall Maintenance

person doing it. And attic temperatures this time of year makes the job bearable.

Now is also a good time to purchase a few extra furnace filters for the winter months ahead. The inexpensive, one-inch variety works just as well as the expensive fancy, pleated ones. If you have a humidifier on your furnace, it may need checked to ensure all water lines are clean and not filled with algae. While we are on the subject of water, why not drain a few gallons out of the water heater to remove damaging sediment.

And last, but not least, check all chimneys and dryer vent pipes for nests or leaf-build up. You'll be surprised what you may find. Also clean out roof downspouts to help keep your basement dry. I know you probably already do most of what was mentioned. But sometimes we all need a little nudge to get going. An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure. Your home will thank you!

2010 Annual Meeting Recipe Winner

Tater Tot Casserole

Ingredients:

- 1 1/2 pounds hamburger
- 1/2 cup diced onions
- 1 cup mushroom soup
- 1/2 can milk (10.5 ounce)
- 1/2 cup grated cheddar cheese
- 1 bag tater tots

Directions:

1. Fry together hamburger and diced onions.
2. Mix together mushroom soup and milk.
3. Combine all of the above ingredients into a 9 X 13 inch pan and top with tater tots and cheese.
4. Bake on 350 degrees Fahrenheit for 1 hour.

Recipe submitted by Grace Becker of Tionesta

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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*Director of Engineering and
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Read Power Lines and



Last Issue's Winner:

Marilyn Lander of Venus

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/quiz.

1. True or False: CEC's newly elected board member, William J. Eichner is from Forest County.

Answer: _____

2. True or False: Purchasing a GenerLink™ transfer switch from CEC eliminates hiring an electrician.

Answer: _____

3. True or False: The month of October is both Cooperative and Fire Safety Month.

Answer: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

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



Central Electric Cooperative

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