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# PowerLines

2014 Photo Contest Entry  
Photographer: Donece Toy of Kossuth

**Anniversary**

*by Matthew Boshaw, CEO & General Manager*

Last month's article was titled "Engagement Announcement" so "Anniversary" seemed appropriate this month. April 6 marks my seventh anniversary with Central Electric Cooperative (CEC). (Thank you all for your support, by the way.) I had worked for an investor owned utility and a public power company, and, while there are similarities when it comes to the distribution of electricity, there are significant differences that drew me to the cooperatives. An excellent example of those differences is the Youth Tour program.

I recently participated in selecting students to represent CEC for this year's Youth Tour. Each year we meet, and interview, some amazing high school juniors. Our committee is always impressed with how poised and accomplished these young people are at such a young age. This year's group was no

exception, but I took particular note as I have a son who is a junior this year. As a non-member and son of an employee, my son is not eligible for the program but it is wonderful to interact with such a fine group of his contemporaries. These students represent five different high schools in our service territory.

The Electric Cooperative Youth Tour has brought high school students to Washington, D.C. for a week in June every year since the late 1950s. Local electric cooperatives accept applications and select students for this program. Youth Tour students see their nation's capital and gain a personal understanding of American history. They learn about the political process and their role as citizens by meeting their elected officials who spend time with them and answer questions. While student groups are organized at the state level, they all

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come together for Youth Day when they get to meet each other and hear featured speakers who provide insight into the important roles electric cooperatives play in their communities.

Nearly 50,000 students from rural areas and small towns across America have participated in this program. Some of our Youth Tour alumni have gone on to design airplanes, lead companies and serve in the highest ranks of our government, including the U.S. Senate. While several of our alumni work in Washington, you will find even more alumni in your own community.

Senator Lyndon Baines Johnson inspired the Youth Tour when he addressed the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NRECA) Annual Meeting in Chicago in 1957. The Senator, and future president, declared, "If one thing comes out of this meeting, it will be sending youngsters to the national capital where they can actually see what the flag stands for, and represents."

Consequently, some Texas electric cooperatives sent groups of young people to Washington to work during the summer in Senator Johnson's office. In 1958, a rural electric cooperative in Iowa sponsored the first group of 34 young people on a weeklong study tour of our nation's capital. Later that same year, another busload came to Washington from Illinois. The idea grew and other states sent busloads of young people throughout the summer. By 1959, the "Youth Tour" had grown

to 130 students.

In 1964, the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NRECA) began to coordinate joint activities among the state delegations and suggested that co-op representatives from each state arrange to be in Washington, D.C. during Youth Tour week. The first year of the coordinated tour included approximately 400 young people from 12 states. Word of the program has continued to spread and today more than 1,500 students, and over 250 chaperones, participate in the Youth Tour every year.

So, in June of this year, Washington will be inundated with some of our best and brightest, including our representatives. The students always tell us what an amazing experience the Youth Tour is, and that it provides memories and connections that last a lifetime. After meeting these students though, I think it is fair to say that our federal representatives will have a great experience as well.

I would like to thank our board of directors for their continued support of this exceptional program, as well as all of the students who have participated, are participating, and will participate in the program for making it the growing success that it is.

"Youth Tour students see their nation's capital and gain a personal understanding of American history. They learn about the political process and their role as citizens by meeting their elected officials who spend time with them and answer questions."

Matt Boshaw, CEO & General Manager

# SAFETY MATTERS

## Bicycling Safely

It's a beautiful spring day, what could be more perfect than a bike ride? But wait! Before you get your bike out of storage it's important to know how to stay safe on two wheels.

- Protect your head. Always wear a helmet.
- Stay visible. If drivers can see you, they are less likely to hit you. Use lights when biking at night or in low-light conditions.
- Look, signal and look again. Use hand signals to let other drivers know where you're going. Always look and make eye contact. Don't assume others will stop.
- Stay alert. Watch for obstacles in your path.

- Go with the flow. Bike in the direction of traffic.
- Don't get distracted. Don't listen to music or talk on the phone while riding.
- Obey all traffic laws and lights.
- Be sure your bike is properly adjusted and the seat is in a comfortable position.
- Do a quick bike test. Check your brakes and your wheels. Make sure "quick release" wheels are properly secured.



## Thank a Lineman on April 10

America's electric cooperatives have designated the second Monday of April as National Lineman Appreciation Day.

On April 10, 2017, CEC will honor the dedicated men and women who often work in challenging conditions to keep the lights on. We proudly recognize all electric linemen for the services they perform around the clock in dangerous conditions to keep power flowing and protect the public's safety.

"Our lineworkers are the first responders of our electric distribution system. They work in all weather conditions on high voltage lines and, while the work is often hazardous, our lineworkers are dedicated to providing our members with safe, reliable electricity," said Matt Boshaw, CEC CEO & general manager.

CEC's linemen maintain over 3,200 miles of line in CEC's service territory.

CEC encourages members to take a moment and thank a lineman for the work they do and show support for those who light up our lives.



## Attention High School Seniors: PREA Scholarship

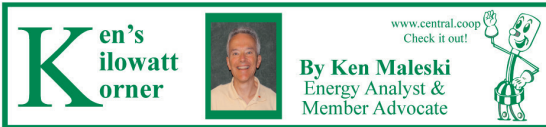
A minimum of five \$1,000 PREA scholarships, in memory of William F. Matson, are available for the 2017-2018 college year.

### Who is eligible?

The PREA Scholarship Trust Fund offers scholarships to children of 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 8, 2017**. Finalists will be sent a follow-up questionnaire that must be returned by **June 16, 2017**. Scholarship awards will be announced at the PREA summer meeting in July. To download a PDF version of the application visit [www.prea.com](http://www.prea.com) or mail your request to:

PREA Scholarship Trust Fund  
P.O. Box 1266  
Harrisburg, PA 17108-1266



Did you know you can review your electric use with CEC's online account management program, SmartHub? Did you also know you can see how much your electric bill is going to be before you receive it in the mail? The process is quick and easy.

To get started, log on to our website [www.central.coop](http://www.central.coop) and click on the SmartHub link in the top right corner. First-time users should click on New User, enter their CEC account number and their email address. Create a password and you're finished! Members who use mobile devices, such as smartphones and tablets, can download the SmartHub app for free!

Electric consumption information is found under the My Usage tab. Kilowatt-hour usage is displayed in bar graph form, along with daily temperatures. Data can be viewed in graph or tabular form and by year, month, week or daily consumption.

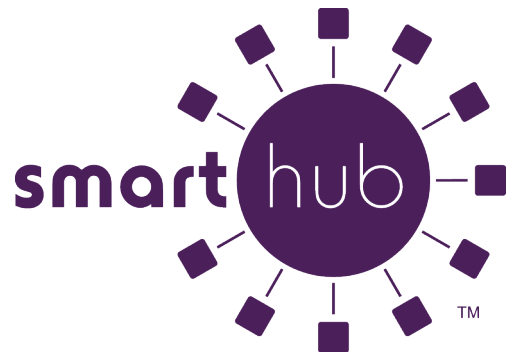
The My Usage feature also provides a way to track energy usage after you make changes at home (add an appliance, turn on an electric space heater, correct an electrical problem, etc.). The weather's

## Electric Usage with SmartHub

effect on energy consumption is also clearly illustrated to help answer your high bill questions.

It's also helpful for seasonal account members, who are not at their property, to know if they left something mistakenly "on."

SmartHub offers other features besides daily energy usage. Users can sign up to be notified when their bill is due, pay bills, review payment history, report an outage or ask for more information from a member service representative.



## Submit Your Photo and Win!

CEC is excited to announce its 2017 member photo contest! CEC will award prizes for the top three winners: a \$100 bill credit for first place, a \$50 bill credit for second place and a \$25 bill credit for third place. Submit your best photo for a chance to win! The subject of your photo can be beautiful scenery and landscapes, power line equipment or anything else you find appealing. You must submit your photo before June 9.

Members vote for the top five photos from June 19 through July 28. You may then vote for the top three photos beginning Aug. 1.

You can vote through our website at [www.central.coop](http://www.central.coop) or by visiting our office. You will also have the opportunity to vote using a ballot in our September Power Lines newsletter. CEC will announce the winners in late October.

If you have any questions about this contest, please email Renee Tritten at [rtritten@central.coop](mailto:rtritten@central.coop) or call 800-521-0570 x2151.

*By submitting a photo entry to this contest you are granting CEC permission to use the image in any and all of its publications, including internal and external newsletters and website, without payment. However, photo credit will be given. CEC reserves the right to disqualify any photo deemed inappropriate or offensive.*

### Rules:

1. Only one entry per member.
2. The photo must have been taken by a CEC member within one of CEC's seven service counties (Allegheny, Armstrong, Butler, Clarion, Forest, Mercer and Venango).
3. The photo should be submitted electronically to Renee Tritten at [rtritten@central.coop](mailto:rtritten@central.coop) by June 9. If you are unable to submit it electronically, please contact Renee to make other arrangements. When submitting a photo, you must include where the photo was taken, a brief description of the subject, who took the photo, how you would like to be recognized within the photo's credit line, and a title for the photo.
4. Employees and directors of CEC, along with members of their immediate families, are ineligible.
5. The prizes will appear as a credit on the winners' bills and may not be redeemed for cash.

## Save The Date: CEC's Annual Meeting!

Join us for our annual meeting Aug. 25, 2017 at Whitehall Camp & Conference Center in Emlenton.



Attendees will receive a Kentucky Fried Chicken meal, live entertainment, a bill-credit voucher and a chance to win a number of great prizes! Children are also encouraged to attend and will enjoy a variety of activities and prizes specifically for them!

Visit [www.central.coop](http://www.central.coop) or call 800-521-0570 for more information.

## CEC's Annual Pole Inspection

As part of CEC's ongoing effort to improve system reliability, contracted pole inspection crews will begin inspecting 6,000 poles in the areas of Rockland and Coalhill substations.

Inspections typically include a visual inspection, sounding the pole with a hammer and excavation up to 18 inches around the poles. Poles identified as having issues will either be addressed in the field by Osmose Utilities Services or by CEC personnel at a later time. All Osmose representatives and CEC employees carry company-issued identification.

The project will last several months. If you have any questions, please contact CEC's Bill Betros, assistant operations manager, at 800-521-0570 x2209.

We appreciate your patience and cooperation.

## Recipe of the Month

### Strawberry Angel Food Dessert

#### Ingredients:

- 1 large package of strawberry Jell-O®
- 16-ounce package frozen strawberries
- 2 tablespoons sugar
- 1 angel food bar cake torn into small pieces (or you can use one half of a round cake)
- 8-ounce tub of Cool Whip®

**Directions:** Mix 2-1/2 cups boiling water with Jell-O® mix. Stir in sugar and partially thawed strawberries. Cool until partially thickened. Fold Cool Whip® into the mixture. Cover the bottom of a 13 x 9 pan with half of the cake pieces. Pour half of the Jell-O® mixture over. Repeat. Chill until set.

*Thank you to Luann Marzullo  
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,  
716 Route 368, PO 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

Christina J. O'Donnell  
Director of Communication and  
Public Relations

Lisa A. Hoover  
Director of Member Services

Fred E. Terwilliger  
Assistant General Manager/COO

## Read Power Lines and Win!

Last Issue's Winner:

**C. Arthur Stahl of Knox**

Last Issue's E-Winner:

**Margaret B. Boorech of Knox**

Read Power Lines and win! It's simple — you can win a \$25 credit on your monthly electric bill by completing and returning the quiz below. And you have a second chance at another \$25 bill credit by submitting a quiz online at [www.central.coop](http://www.central.coop).

If you do not have access to the Internet, indicate that on the quiz and we will also enter you in the online drawing. Just complete, clip and enclose the quiz and personal information below and return it with your monthly payment. For quiz rules visit [www.central.coop](http://www.central.coop).

**1. True or False:** By attending the annual meeting you receive dinner, a bill-credit voucher and a chance to win a number of great prizes.

**Answer:** \_\_\_\_\_

**2. True or False:** SmartHub offers a way to track energy usage after you make changes at home.

**Answer:** \_\_\_\_\_

**3. True or False:** You should always bike against traffic.

**Answer:** \_\_\_\_\_

**How are we doing?** (no wrong answer)

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Acct. #:** \_\_\_\_\_



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