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**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



# PowerLines

2014 Photo Contest Entry  
Taken by Kristie Dworek of Clarion

**Five Years**

*by Matthew Boshaw, CEO & General Manager*

In April 2015, I reached a milestone of serving as your CEO/general manager for five years. When I mentioned my approaching anniversary at the office, I was asked if I was referring to my employment or wedding anniversary. I replied, “my employment. I have no idea when my wedding anniversary is.” As you can imagine, my wife loves that joke and she often reminds me to keep my day job. (And for the record, I most certainly do know when my wedding anniversary is.)

Five years have gone by amazingly fast and Central Electric Cooperative (CEC) has seen a lot happen in those years. During this time, 13 employees have retired and another six have left for various reasons. Nineteen people may not seem like many but with only 71 employees, they represent a huge amount of knowledge and experience. Our

board of directors has seen its share of turnover as well with three of eight being new members in the past five years. I often dedicate these articles to the dedication, hard work and accomplishments of those that work here and are on our board, but I think these numbers make those efforts even more remarkable. Our membership has grown slowly over this same period, but it has grown, and we have maintained and improved our efficiencies in countless areas. The next generation of CEC employees is here today and they are demonstrating the same enthusiasm and commitment to the membership that their predecessors set as the standard.

Any look back at the last five years must include a remembrance of the tragic loss of our colleague and friend in a fatal accident. We carry that with us every day and it has changed us all. We are a stronger group that has a better

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understanding of priority and the need to work together. We have reminders around us in the form of several memorials at our facility, but none of us need a reminder, it is with us always.

A look back at our weather and outages provides a mixed bag of results as you might expect in western Pennsylvania. We have seen hot dry summers and mild wet ones. Our winters have been everything from mild and snowless to “the Polar Vortex” with seemingly endless snow. We have had Super Storm Sandy, thunder snow and everything in between! Our weather-related service interruptions have often been as volatile as the weather itself. In the past five years we have experienced years of the fewest hours of outages, and other years when we have struggled. Through it all we have maintained our efforts in both service restoration and preventive maintenance and, so far this year, things are going well. (Not that I am superstitious or anything but would you all please knock on wood with me now?)

Last month I talked about politics and the cooperative movement. I am very pleased to say that CEC’s participation with ACRE, the political action group affiliated with cooperatives, has increased by 87 percent in the past five years. I joked with our board that the increase happens to coincide with my arrival but the actual credit goes to our employees, board, member participants and ACRE Coordinator, Chris Panian.

Chris has kept ACRE front and center with employees and membership and the response has been great! This program can’t, and doesn’t, try to compete financially with other political action committees and lobbying groups but, with the contributions it does make, allows us to leverage the grassroots support of 900 cooperatives across the country and let our legislators know how what they do impacts us. Please keep up your support and, if you haven’t joined yet, please consider joining the cause and helping our voice be heard.

I could go on and on regarding the past five years, but our editor would just have to cut it out, so let me close these five years with a loud and resounding THANK YOU! Thanks to our members, our employees and our board for providing me with the opportunity to serve. The first five years have been challenging and invigorating and I am excited to begin the next chapter with you all. I look forward to many years of service and working with you to make CEC the best it can be.

“Thanks to our members, our employees and our board for providing me with the opportunity to serve. The first five years have been challenging and invigorating and I am excited to begin the next chapter with you all. I look forward to many years of service and working with you to make CEC the best it can be.”  
Matt Boshaw, CEO & general manager

**Don’t Forget to Enter  
Our Photo Contest!**

**Visit [www.central.coop](http://www.central.coop)  
for more information.**

## Local Teens Selected for Youth Tour

Five local high school juniors were recently selected to attend the June 2015 Electric Cooperative Youth Tour in Washington, D.C. The 2015 winners are: Jonathan Best, Union High School; Samantha Gallaher, Karns City High School; Ashley Janecek, Keystone High School; Skye Mitchell, Franklin High School and Andrea Shay, Karns City High School.

They will join over 1,500 students from across the nation to see the U.S. Capitol, meet with congressmen, tour national monuments and memorials, and visit the National Zoo and Smithsonian museums. Students learn about electric cooperatives, U.S. government and history, and attend educational seminars.

The idea for an annual Rural Electric Youth Tour was born from the 1957 address by then U.S. Senator Lyndon Baines Johnson before electric cooperative leaders. Then in 1964, the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NRECA) began to coordinate the program as "Youth Tour Week." All expenses are paid from unclaimed Capital Credits and are at no cost to CEC members.



Samantha Gallaher



Ashley Janecek



Jonathan Best



Skye Mitchell



Andrea Shay

# SAFETY MATTERS

## Power Line Safety in Emergency Situations

There are a variety of situations that leave the public and first responders exposed to electrical dangers. The following tips cover three dangerous situations and how to keep yourself and your loved ones safe.

### Fallen or Low-Hanging Wires:

- When arriving at the scene, before getting out of your vehicle, examine the surroundings carefully and make sure you are parked well away from the fallen wires. If at night, use a flashlight to examine the surroundings carefully from your vehicle window.
- Park your vehicle a distance of at least 10 feet from the wires.

### Fallen Line on Top of, or Under a Vehicle with People Inside:

- Stay in the vehicle until the electric utility personnel arrive.
- If the vehicle catches fire, this is the only time you exit the vehicle by jumping clear of the vehicle and shuffling/bunny hopping away to a safe area.

### Trees Contacting Power Lines:

- Trees can conduct electricity. Anyone coming into contact with a tree while it is touching a power line is likely to receive a shock resulting in serious injury or death.
- Never touch or climb a tree that is close to, or touching, a power line.



Matt Alderson

Manager of Safety & Operations Support



It's hard to believe that summer is just around the corner. Now is the time to get ready by doing some maintenance around the home to save on energy costs.

■ **Cooling Equipment:** Have a professional inspect your central air conditioner or heat pump to make sure it has a proper refrigerant level. Outdoor and indoor coils could stand a cleaning for proper operation. Remember to replace the air filter. Any window air conditioning units should have the foam air-filter washed in warm, soapy water and dried before installing.

■ **Dehumidifier:** Check coils for dirt, debris or mold and clean with a mild detergent. Check cords for damage.

■ **Refrigerators and Freezers:** Move units away from wall, and clean dust and lint from coils. Always leave at least a 3-inch space behind unit for proper

## Get Ready for Summer

air flow. Check door gasket seals for cracks or mold build-up.

■ **Windows and Doors:** Now is a good time to caulk and seal around windows and doors to prevent cooling loss. Mesh window screens are effective in blocking solar heat gain. They should cover the complete exterior of windows and are most effective on east- and west-facing windows.

■ **Fans:** Remember to clean and dust ceiling or window fans before using them.

■ **Lighting:** Change out any old incandescent bulbs to light emitting diode (LED) bulbs that reduce heat production and increase energy savings.

■ **Pool Pump and Filter:** Inspect and clean swimming-pool pump's intakes and filters for proper operation and energy savings.

Good preventive maintenance goes a long way, not only with lowering energy bills, but reducing premature equipment failure. Have a safe and energy-efficient summer!

## Hassle-Free Water Heaters



Member Herb Jankovich (left) with Dr. Waterheater.

Installing a water heater and participating in our load management program is as easy as lifting a finger and calling 800-521-0570. Let Dr. Waterheater, Inc. remove and discard your old tank and replace it with a Rheem® unit for only \$466.98 plus tax.

## Always Call 8-1-1 Before You Dig!

Spring has finally arrived! It's 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 8-1-1 or visit [www.paonecall.org](http://www.paonecall.org) for answers to all your questions. Make sure you call at least three working days before you plan to dig.

Whether you are a contractor, home builder or landowner the Pennsylvania One Call System can assist you in digging safely. If you have any further questions feel free to contact CEC at 1-800-521-0570 x2195.



**Know what's below.  
Call before you dig.**

## Mark Your Calendar for our Annual Meeting of the Members Picnic

Attend this year's Annual Meeting of the Members on Friday, Aug. 21 at Whitehall Campgrounds at 4:30 p.m. for a delicious meal, a bill-credit voucher and a chance to win a number of door prizes.

You can make reservations for the meeting and for children's entertainment by completing the adjacent form or calling us at 1-800-521-0570. Registration deadline is July 31.

For more information, or to check out the agenda, visit [www.central.coop](http://www.central.coop).



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

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

**Map No:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone No:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Please reserve \_\_\_\_\_ dinners for me.**  
*Limit of four meals per member.*

**I will be bringing \_\_\_\_\_ children with me.**  
*By attending the annual meeting, I grant CEC permission to use my likeness in photographs in any and all of its publications, including internal and external newsletters and website entries, without payment or other consideration.*

**Return coupon by July 31, 2015 to:**  
**Central Electric Cooperative, Inc., 716 Route 368,  
P.O. Box 329, Parker, PA 16049-0329**

## Tellers Needed for Election

The cooperative board of directors is seeking CEC members to serve as tellers for the annual meeting on Aug. 21. The committee tabulates director election ballots returned prior to the meeting, via Internet or by mail, and votes cast at the meeting. Tellers must arrive by 4 p.m.

Eight tellers are needed: one from Armstrong

County, two from Butler County, two from Clarion County, one from Forest County and two from Venango County. If more members volunteer than are needed, a drawing will be held by our judge of elections. If there are no volunteers the cooperative directors will appoint needed tellers.

### 2015 Tellers Committee

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

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

**Please reserve \_\_\_\_\_ dinners for me.**

**Map No:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Phone No:** \_\_\_\_\_ **County:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Return coupon by July 31, 2015 to:**  
**Central Electric Cooperative, Inc., 716 Route 368, P.O. Box 329,  
Parker, PA 16049-0329**

## Recipe of the Month

### Tortilla Roll Ups Recipe

#### Ingredients:

- One package Hidden Valley® Fiesta Ranch Dips Mix®
- Two 8-ounce packages of cream cheese
- 2 cups cheddar cheese
- Jalapeno peppers (Jean used 1/4 cup or more)
- Two packages soft-tortilla shells

#### Directions:

Mix all ingredients together. Spread mixture on tortilla shells and roll them up. Cut them in half and enjoy!

(This recipe makes a large batch perfect for Memorial Day cookouts. You can also make a half batch for smaller gatherings.)

*Thank you to Jean Sankey for submitting this recipe!*

## Send in your recipes to be shared today!

#### Send Recipes to:

Renee Tritten at [rtritten@central.coop](mailto: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  
*CFO, Director of Finance and Accounting*

Christopher W. Kossman  
*Director of Information Technology*

Stephanie Deal  
*Director of Human Resources*

Christina J. O'Donnell  
*Director of Member and Community Relations*

Lisa A. Hoover  
*Director of Member Services*

Fred E. Terwilliger  
*Director of Engineering and Operations*

## Read Power Lines and Win!

Last Issue's Winner:

**Ralph Mong of Emlenton**

Last Issue's E-Winner:

**John Foertsch of Saxonburg**

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:** The only time you should exit a vehicle, when a downed power line is near, is if it catches fire.

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

**2. True or False:** Preventive equipment maintenance can lower your energy bills.

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

**3. True or False:** ACRE leverages the grassroots support of 900 cooperatives across the country.

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

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

\_\_\_\_\_

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

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

\_\_\_\_\_

**Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_

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



**Central Electric Cooperative**

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