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Democratic Member
Control

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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
Photographed by Mackenzie Hohn of Chicora

You Have a Voice

by Matthew Boshaw, CEO & General Manager

Each year, two of our eight board members stand for re-election. Solicitations are made for candidates, and our staff and nominating committee review the necessary criteria and certify each candidate's eligibility to participate in the election. The election is held, and the winners are announced at our annual meeting. This year's meeting is Aug. 21. I hope you will consider joining us to participate in the business of your cooperative and enjoy good fellowship with members and staff.

Our eight-person board is elected by the membership, from the membership. The cooperative business model is unique. Being member owned and locally controlled are fundamental principles of how we operate. As our membership only totals about 25,500, each vote carries a great deal of significance, so you have a loud voice in their selection. Our

board represents the interests of all 25,500 members and acts in the best interest of all. We take every opportunity to gather input from our members and make improvements, changes or additions that represent the membership's best interests. We survey our members annually, survey those who attend the annual meeting and also take questions and comments from individual members throughout the year. I am going to be initiating a new direct outreach to members that we will call “Ask Matt.” We will solicit questions and comments via our website and this newsletter, and I will respond to those questions so that others who might have the same question can also get the answer. I have done this in the past, on a limited basis, before the annual meeting. I usually dedicate one article per year to sharing questions from your fellow members and my responses, but this

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will attempt to increase the quantity and, hopefully, the scope of the answers given.

In addition to asking for your questions, I want to take this opportunity to invite you to join the Action Committee for Rural Electrification (ACRE) Co-op Owners for Political Action[®]. ACRE supports legislators and candidates at the state and federal levels. Candidates who receive ACRE funds support positions favorable to electric cooperative members. ACRE members receive publications, keeping them informed. Membership is voluntary and contributions are not tax deductible. This represents yet another way that you have a voice in the issues that impact your cooperative and, by extension, your electric service. Our board and employees participate in ACRE, and the co-op owners' arm allows members to participate, as well. The funds that are raised by this political action committee are only a fraction of those raised by the large lobbying and special interest groups vying for legislators' attention. Our difference, and why we are effective, is the "Cooperative Difference." ACRE doesn't represent a small group with deep pockets but a large, grassroots group with enough members to get a seat at the table. When a cooperative representative interacts with a legislator, they represent more than 900 not-for-profit rural electric cooperatives and public power districts, providing retail electric service to more than 42 million

consumers in 47 states, with retail sales accounting for approximately 12 percent of total electricity sales in the United States. ACRE is the group that makes that happen and, in turn, informs and educates members on the issues that have the biggest impact on their access to reliable, affordable power.

Please do your part in keeping your voice heard: attend the Central Electric Cooperative (CEC) Annual Meeting and vote for your directors; send me your questions and comments so that I can share them and their answers with everyone; and join ACRE Co-op Owners for Political Action[®] and make sure the interests of rural electricity are heard in Harrisburg and Washington, D.C.

Thank you for taking the time to consider these ideas, and for participating in the business of your cooperative and using your voice!

"Please do your part in keeping your voice heard: attend the Central Electric Cooperative (CEC) Annual Meeting and vote for your directors; send me your questions and comments so that I can share them and their answers with everyone; and join ACRE Co-op Owners for Political Action[®] and make sure the interests of rural electricity are heard in Harrisburg and Washington, D.C."

Matt Boshaw, CEO & general manager

**Learn more about
our annual meeting
or join ACRE
Co-op Owners for
Political Action[®] by
visiting our website at
www.central.coop or
calling us at
800-521-0570.**

CENTRAL ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE BOARD OF DIRECTOR NOMINEES

You may vote for one nominee from each county,
no matter where you live.

FOREST COUNTY

Bette has been a CEC member since 1977. She has served on the board of directors since 1988 and is a former board president. Bette serves as CEC's Pennsylvania Rural Electric Association (PREA) Director in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania. She is retired from the Penn State University Cooperative Extension. She obtained a bachelor's degree in home economics from Indiana University of Pennsylvania and a master's degree in communication from Clarion University of Pennsylvania.

Bette D. Walters
Tionesta, Pennsylvania
Incumbent Nominee



VENANGO COUNTY

Althea has been a CEC member since 1979, and has served on the board of directors since 1995. She became a credentialed cooperative director in 1999 and continues to take director education classes. Althea serves as secretary and treasurer to the board. She is retired from Venus Telephone Corporation. She and her husband, Eugene Smith Jr., live near Venus. They have two daughters, two grandsons and two granddaughters.

Althea M. Smith
Venus, Pennsylvania
Incumbent Nominee



Our Future Rests in Your Hands

For folks new to CEC and for those old hands who might need reminding, we want to introduce you to the Second Cooperative Principle: "Democratic Member Control," one of seven guidelines that govern cooperative operations. That means you, as a member of CEC, ultimately select who represents you on the cooperative's board of directors and determines the strategic direction of our local, not-for-profit business.

Like any successful democracy, our decision-making process does not operate in the dark. We keep you informed about the financial condition of the cooperative, tell you when situations arise that could affect your bill or service, and educate you about the issues involved. We do this through these pages in Power Lines, in letters or other communication

included with your bills, and, most importantly, during face-to-face conversations, whether at our annual meeting or other events, or even just a conversation in the local supermarket.

In a democracy, member participation is crucial. That's why it is important for you to attend our various meetings and let us know when issues arise that need our attention. Consider giving your time, whether in service on the board or on various committees.

Cooperatives are different than other forms of businesses because of you, our members, and because of the way decisions are made. We welcome and encourage your involvement. After all, it's YOUR cooperative.



Staying cool this summer doesn't have to mean cranking up the air conditioning and spending a lot of money. Here are some no-to-low cost energy-saving tips to beat the heat and save money.

No Cost

- Program your thermostat to work around your family's summer schedule. Set it a few degrees higher when no one is home. We recommend 80 degrees. Programmable thermostats make the job easy and can save about \$180 every year in energy costs.
- Check your HVAC system's air filter every month. If the filter looks dirty, clean it, but replace the filter at least every three months. A dirty filter will slow air flow and make the system work harder to keep you cool.
- Run your ceiling fan to create a cool breeze. If you raise your thermostat by only 2 degrees and use your ceiling fan, you can lower cooling costs by up to 14 percent. Remember that ceiling fans cool you, not the room, so when you leave the room make sure to turn the fan off.
- Close curtains and shades before you leave your

Cooling Tips for Every Budget

home to keep the sun's rays from heating the interior of your home. If you can, move container trees and plants in front of sun-exposed windows to act as shade.

- Radiant heat gain from the sun makes cooling systems work extra hard. Close blinds or drapes on east-facing windows in the morning and west-facing windows in the evening.

Low Cost

- Remember to have your HVAC system serviced annually to ensure it's running at optimum efficiency for money and energy savings.
- Swap out incandescent bulbs with more energy-efficient lighting choices — Energy Star qualified lighting not only uses less energy, it also produces about 75 percent less heat than incandescent lighting.
- Seal your ducts. As much as 20 percent of the air moving through your home's duct system is lost due to leaks and poor connections.
- Make sure that connections at vents and registers are sealed where they meet your floors, walls and ceilings. These are common locations for leaks and disconnected duct work.

Vote for the top five photos in our Photo Contest at www.central.coop!

Online only voting will take place from June 29 to July 31. Members without the internet will be able to vote through the September issue of this newsletter.



2014 Photo Contest First-Place Photo,
Taken by Scott Lessner

Mark Your Calendar for our Annual Meeting of the Members

Don't miss this year's annual meeting, Friday, Aug. 21, 2015, at Whitehall Camp and Conference Center, beginning at 4:30 p.m. Enjoy dinner, entertainment by the Windy River Band, children's entertainment, and the chance to win great prizes.

Reserve your spot today by calling

1-800-521-0570. Deadline is July 31. Members who register by this date, and attend, will receive a \$5 bill credit. They will also be entered in a special drawing on Aug. 24 to win bill credits for \$100, and \$50.

For more information, or to see the agenda, visit www.central.coop.

Annual Meeting Registration Form

Name: _____

Address: _____

Account No: _____ Phone No: _____

Please reserve _____ dinners for my family. (Limit of four meals per member.)

Number of children attending children's entertainment _____ Ages of children: _____
(Limited to ages 5 to 10 years old. A child with a medical condition must be accompanied by an adult.)

Contact name and phone number at meeting in case of emergency: _____

Submit your question before the meeting to allow us to answer it efficiently. (You may ask a question at the meeting even if you did not submit it ahead of time.)

My question: _____

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 this coupon to CEC by July 31, 2015.

SAFETY MATTERS

Bicycle Safety

Bicycle riding is a great way to have fun and enjoy the outdoors. Before using your bicycle, make sure it is ready to ride. Always inspect it to make sure all parts are secure and working properly.

- Wear a properly fitted bicycle helmet.
- Adjust your bicycle to fit. Stand over your bicycle. There should be 1 to 2 inches between you and the top bar. The seat should be level front to back. The seat height should be adjusted to allow a

slight bend at the knee when the leg is fully extended.

- Check your equipment. Before riding, inflate tires properly and check that your brakes work.
- See and be seen. Wearing white has not been shown to make you more visible. Instead, always wear neon, fluorescent, or other bright colors when riding.
- Watch for, and avoid, road hazards, like potholes. Any number of such hazards can cause a crash.



Recipe of the Month

Summer Squash Soup

Ingredients:

- 1/2 cup celery, diced and a few chopped leaves
- 1/2 cup carrots, diced
- 1 medium onion, chopped
- 6 cups diced yellow or green squash, unpeeled
- 2 to 3 tablespoons basil, chopped
- 2 to 3 tablespoons parsley, chopped
- 6 cups milk
- 1-1/2 to 2 tablespoons butter
- salt and fresh ground pepper to taste
- Parmesan cheese or bacon crumbles for garnish

Directions: Cook celery, carrot and onion in small amount of water until tender. Add squash and cook until tender. Add basil, parsley and milk; heat but don't boil. Add butter, salt and several twists of pepper. Garnish with parmesan cheese or crisp bacon crumbles.

Thank you to Margaret Boyer 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
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:

Charles Loibl of Kennerdell

Last Issue's E-Winner:

Dennis Regal of Butler

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.

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.

1. True or False: Raising your thermostat by 2 degrees and using your ceiling fan can lower cooling costs by up to 14 percent.

Answer: _____

2. True or False: Co-ops account for about 12 percent of electric sales in the United States.

Answer: _____

3. True or False: Wearing white makes you more visible when bicycle riding.

Answer: _____

How are we doing? (no wrong answer)

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ **Acct. #:** _____



Central Electric Cooperative

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative

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Customer Service 1-800-521-0570 • Emergency Outage Number 1-800-282-8610

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