

## Inside: Learn How To ...

Make A Difference:  
Join ACRE® Today!

Fall Into Energy  
Savings!

## “Watts” Inside

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# PowerLines

2013 Photo Contest First-Place Winning Photo  
Taken by Jim Parkes of Emlenton

## Questions from the Floor

by Matthew Boshaw, CEO & General Manager

We held our 77th Annual Meeting on Aug. 22. The rainy weather followed by the steamy humidity seemed to scare some members off as our attendance was lower than expected. As one of the few people in a suit that day, I can certainly understand their decision not to come. With that said, it was an excellent meeting and, as always, I thoroughly enjoyed the opportunity to interact with members. Each year following my remarks, which had people on the edge of their seats, I take a few minutes to answer what we call, “Questions from the Floor.” These are a combination of questions submitted in advance and those that are asked in person at the meeting itself. This year there were fewer questions submitted in advance allowing me the opportunity to provide more in-depth answers. For the benefit of those of you who were unable to

come to the meeting, I’d like to share with you the questions of your fellow members and my responses.

**Question #1: “How do the linemen stay safe in bad weather when there are lines down and poles broken?”**

The safety of our employees and the public is of great importance to Central Electric Cooperative (CEC) because, as the question suggests, our linemen are at particular risk. Even in the best weather conditions they work at heights and often on energized lines. The linemen are trained extensively to follow safe work practices and identify potential hazards. CEC linemen are required to follow the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) and CEC’s safe work practices, and National Electric Safety Code requirements. In limited situations linemen can wait until conditions are safer to proceed with work. Line work is a

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particularly dangerous profession and those who serve in it provide us a remarkable service. You might remember a recent article that I wrote concerning a day in the life of our linemen that illustrated their work in detail.

In honor of line workers' service to the public, Rep. Donna Oberlander sponsored House Resolution 566 recognizing June 22, 2014 as "Line Worker Appreciation Day" throughout the Commonwealth. We had a framed copy of that resolution displayed at the Annual Meeting and it now is displayed at our Parker office.

### **Question #2: "Why do our lights blink so much? Just to reset everything?"**

Blinking lights can be caused by normal system operation, or causes out of our control. We design our system with protective and sectionalizing devices. Some of these devices have the ability to temporarily interrupt power and allow a non-permanent fault condition to clear itself preventing a lengthy power outage. For example, if a tree limb was to blow into our line and create a fault condition, a recloser would open briefly to give the limb a chance to fall off the line. If it does fall off, you would see a blink but your power would remain on. If it doesn't, the power would go off in your area.

### **Question #3: "Can you improve and go more wind and solar?"**

I would like to start with a reminder that CEC is a distribution

cooperative and doesn't own any electric generation directly. Having said that, CEC is a member-owner of Allegheny Electric Cooperative (AEC), a generation and transmission cooperative headquartered in Harrisburg, Pa. We are obligated to purchase all of our power through AEC. AEC is a 10 percent owner of Susquehanna Nuclear Station and 100 percent owner of the Raystown Hydro Electric Facility. These resources supply 65 to 70 percent of Pennsylvania cooperatives' power needs. The remainder is supplied through contracts with other power generators. This mix of generation gives us a very stable price and significantly less exposure marketplace volatility recently caused, for example, by various generation resources closing. As part of their mandate from their member-owners, AEC regularly studies the feasibility of potential generation projects and makes investment decisions based upon their findings. These projects sometimes include wind, solar, hydro-electric and natural gas electricity generation.

I hope these answers are helpful to all of you. If you have any questions for us, don't wait until the next Annual Meeting, just give us a call or drop us a line and we would be happy to help. I look forward to seeing all of you at next year's Annual Meeting.

"If you have any questions for us, don't wait until the next Annual Meeting, just give us a call or drop us a line and we would be happy to help. I look forward to seeing all of you at next year's Annual Meeting,"  
Matt Boshaw, CEO & General Manager.

# SAFETY



Matt Alderson  
Manager of Safety and  
Operations Support

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## Safe Work Practices for Buried Utilities

Whether you are installing a sprinkler system, building a fence or planting a tree, homeowners and professionals need to know where utility lines lie underground. The following tips will help keep you and your contractors safe.

### Potential Hazards When Excavating:

- Electrical contact
- Fire/explosions from gas leaks
- Damage to expensive utility lines



### Safe Work Procedures:

- The operator of machinery shall be aware of underground utility locations prior to performing work.

■ All work shall be in compliance with the federal, state and local underground facility protection laws.

■ There is a national “call before you dig” number, 811. Calling this one number anywhere in the United States will connect you with a local underground utility locator service.

### Action Steps for Locating Buried Utilities:

- Call 811 prior to performing any underground work.
- Make sure that you call enough in advance to get the utilities marked before you need to do the work.
- Make sure that you only dig and work in areas that are clearly marked that is safe.

## To Celebrate the Holidays CEC will be Closed:

Thanksgiving, Nov. 27 (normal hours will resume Nov. 28)

Christmas Eve, Dec. 24, closing at noon

Christmas Day, Dec. 25 (normal hours will resume Dec. 26)

New Year’s Eve, Dec. 31, closing at noon

New Year’s Day, Jan. 1 (normal hours will resume Jan. 2)

## Check on our Photo Contest!

You can vote online until Oct. 17 and the winners will be posted on Oct. 21 at [www.central.coop](http://www.central.coop).

## Fall Into Energy Savings

As scarves and light jackets leave closets this fall, be ready to cut the chill and your energy bill with these seasonal tips:

- Set your thermostat no higher than 68 degrees and be sure to lower the temperature when you go to bed or are not at home. This saves money and keeps you warm.
- During the day, open shades and curtains to allow solar heating. Close them at night to retain the day's heat.
- Check your home's weather stripping for air leaks around doors, windows, baseboards, and where pipes, wires, and vents enter the house.

Make sure the warm air you paid for doesn't escape.

- Have your heating system serviced by a contractor who is certified through the North American Technician Excellence (NATE) program, and replace furnace filters at least once every three months. Clean filters once a month during the heating season to keep the system at peak performance.

Want more home energy efficiency tips? See how little changes can add up to big savings at [www.TogetherWeSave.com](http://www.TogetherWeSave.com).



If you place much trust in The Farmer's Almanac, it says this winter is going to be like last year's. That means heating costs are going to take a big chunk out of your wallet again. Your home may already be well insulated with caulking, weather sealing and added insulation. But what about your heating system?

Now is the time for preventative maintenance, before your heating professional is overwhelmed with requests or your furnace quits working in the middle of the night! Here are a few items I leave to a good heating, ventilation, and air conditioning (HVAC) professional to check. If your furnace tech does half the stuff on the following list, they're earning their keep. If all they plan to do is stick a shop vac hose inside the furnace to remove dust and debris ... you can do that yourself!

Before hiring a contractor, ask if they:

### Fossil Fuel Systems

- Analyze and compare combustion gases to unit specifications

## Heating System Tune Up

- Check heat exchanger for cracks and corrosion
- Check burners for proper ignition, burner flame and flame sensing
- Conduct carbon monoxide test

### Heat Pump Systems

- Check heat pump refrigerant for proper charge level
- Inspect and clean indoor and outdoor coils

Both system types should have a static air pressure and temperature rise check. In addition, an amp-draw test should be conducted on the blower motor and compared to specs.

You can learn more about saving money on your energy bills by signing up for my weekly energy savings E-Tips — call 1-800-521-0570 x2172 or email me at [kmaleski@central.coop](mailto:kmaleski@central.coop) today!

## Make a Difference: Join ACRE®!

Join the Action Committee for Rural Electrification (ACRE®) Co-op Owners for Political Action and have your voice joined with rural electric members across the country. This program is a nonpartisan political action committee established to support political candidates who share common public policy goals with rural electric cooperatives.

One only has to read the paper or watch the news to know that the electric utility industry as a whole is under unprecedented pressure with new laws, regulations and mandates coming daily. In our area alone new regulations have idled thousands of megawatts of electric generation causing the elimination of thousands of local jobs. Reliability of service and the livelihoods of local families, not only in the electric utility industry itself but in supporting industries such as coal producers, have been harmed. Your contributions will make sure that the voices of rural consumer-owners are heard and we are allowed to continue our mission to provide safe, reliable and affordable electricity.

Join Co-op Owners for Political Action today by completing the adjacent form and sending it in with your bill. You can also visit our website at [www.central.coop](http://www.central.coop) or contact your ACRE® coordinator, Chris Panian at 800-521-0570 x2171.

*Contributions to the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (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.*

### Membership Form

*Yes I Want to Join!*

#### There are two easy ways to contribute:

1. Have the amount added to your next electric bill.
2. Submit a check made payable to ACRE.

#### Add a one-time contribution to your electric bill:

- Regular: \$25
- Century Club: \$100
- President's Club: \$500
- Other
- Please renew my amount at this level annually

Amount enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_

#### Membership Information

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

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

\_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_

State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Account: \_\_\_\_\_

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

Employer: \_\_\_\_\_

Occupation: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Return this form to  
Central Electric Cooperative, 716 Route 368,  
P.O. Box 329, Parker, PA 16049.**

## Recipe of the Month

### Pumpkin Pie Dip

#### Ingredients:

- 1 15-ounce can of pumpkin
- 2 small boxes vanilla instant pudding
- 2 8-ounce containers of Cool Whip
- 1-1/2 teaspoon pumpkin pie spice
- 1-1/2 teaspoon cinnamon

#### Directions:

Mix all together. Serve with ginger snaps or vanilla wafers. Can also be used as a pie filling. If doing this, use a graham cracker crust and freeze. Take it out of the freezer 30 minutes before serving.

*Thank you to Carole Mrozek  
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:

**Walter Orzechowski of Polk**

Last Issue's E-Winner:

**Ronald Hunsberger Jr. of Emlenton**

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:** 65 to 70 percent of Pennsylvania cooperatives' energy needs are filled from renewable energy sources (nuclear and hydro).

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

**2. True or False:** Preventative maintenance is waiting until your furnace stops during the night.

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

**3. True or False:** Always call 811 prior to performing any underground work.

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

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

\_\_\_\_\_

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

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

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

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



Central Electric Cooperative

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative

716 Route 368 • PO Box 329 • Parker, PA 16049-0329 • [www.central.coop](http://www.central.coop)  
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