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Get Involved with
Co-ops Vote

Schedule an Electrical
Safety Program

Vote for Our Photo
Contest

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PowerLines

**2014 Photo Contest Entry
Photographed by Bonnie Mahle of Miola**

The “Face” of the Cooperative

by Matthew Boshaw, CEO & General Manager

Since I began at Central Electric Cooperative (CEC) six years ago, I have written an article for this newsletter each month. Currently the total number of these is around 70. I know the math would suggest more but there are a few months I am preempted. Those months remind me of the few times teachers wouldn't give homework. Who knew I would actually have to write essays when I grew up — go figure. Shortly after I began writing these articles I made a change. Instead of a picture of me at the top of the article, when space allows, you see a picture of our entire staff. I

didn't do this because I am shy. I did this because I believe strongly all of us support our mission and our membership. Therefore, we are all the “face” of the cooperative.

We recently completed an organizational structure review and have begun implementing the changes. This is an exercise we go through every four years or so. We don't do it, or make changes, because we consider things to be somehow broken. We use the process as a way to guard against complacency and identify areas where we can be more efficient and improve.

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“I have been a part of many planning and change processes over the years and this was by far the best I’ve ever experienced. As we expanded the participation to more employees, the enthusiasm continued. The results have yet to be determined as we are just beginning our implementation, but our team is strong and committed. Even if all of our changes result in no improvement, our improved ability to work together, to weather storms, solve problems and make improvements will benefit the organization for years to come.”

Matt Boshaw, CEO & general manager

The first time through this process, with my participation, was 2012. We made some significant changes improving what we do in several areas. As you might imagine, in 2012 I had only been here a short time and our team was just getting to know each other. Our senior staff was a little guarded during the organizational review process. There was a little apprehension on all of our parts. Like any team who has run the same offense for years, a change can concern the players about where their skill set fits in the new playbook. A few of the bigger changes allowed us to focus our efforts in human resources, information technology and project management. The results have been significant. The value of these positive outcomes went far beyond the efficiencies and improvements that were intended. In my mind, the biggest thing that came out of the first review was a recognition that our goal was to better utilize the unused or underutilized talents of all of our employees.

Armed with that goal, working closely together on multiple strategic planning processes, weathering a tragedy together and simply working closely for four additional years, we started a second organizational review. The difference in the process was remarkable. The discussions were open, candid and collaborative with the interests of the organization as a whole put first. Absent was the “how does this affect me?” concern. I have

been a part of many planning and change processes over the years and this was by far the best I’ve ever experienced. As we expanded the participation to more employees, the enthusiasm continued. The results have yet to be determined as we are just beginning our implementation, but our team is strong and committed. Even if all of our changes result in no improvement, our improved ability to work together, to weather storms, solve problems and make improvements will benefit the organization for years to come.

I use many of my articles to extoll the virtues of our employee team. They cover a wide range of disciplines: linemen who install and maintain our infrastructure, member service representatives who provide answers to all of your inquiries, and an engineering staff committed to finding ways to improve our system, just to name a few. The others, myself included, are here to provide support to these functions and our team members as well as to you, our members. I am proud of the team of people who work on your behalf and honored to be a part of it. Some of our new changes are intended to get more of our employees out in front of more of you so they can inform, educate and demonstrate their respective areas of expertise. In this way, we hope you can better see and know all of us who are the “face” of the cooperative.



Earn a \$50 Bill Credit

Members who have an electric water heater not purchased from CEC can earn a \$50 one-time bill credit and continue receiving monthly \$2.50 credits by participating in our Load Management Program. This program installs a demand response unit, free of charge, that cuts power to your tank when demand for electricity is high and expensive. Water heaters are a perfect choice for demand reduction because they act as a thermal energy storage battery. Control time is tailored to accommodate tank size and number of family members. The program is only active when

necessary. Many participating members have commented that control activity is not recognizable.

Load management has saved millions of dollars on power costs since it was instituted over 28 years ago. It delays building expensive power plants and lessens grid stress for reduction on regional environmental pollution.

Load management on electric water heaters is a winner for everyone. Simply call Caitlin Reed at 800-521-0570 x2195 with your tank size (gallons) and number of family members to earn a \$50 bill credit while helping to stabilize future power costs.

Sign-up for weekly energy-saving E-Tips by contacting Ken at kmaleski@central.coop.

SAFETY MATTERS

Pokémon Go Safety

Talk to loved ones about how to catch Pokémon safely and responsibly. It seems the entire world is playing Pokémon Go and interacting with each other about it, but with all this fun there are some potential dangers gamers should pay attention to.

- Watch where you are going. Remember to stay aware of your surroundings. Watch the environment you are in and potentially dangerous obstacles such as ditches, trees, steps, roads and wires.
- Don't break the law. Avoid trespassing, including climbing fences, roaming through your neighbor's field, and entering property that is not yours.
- Avoid suspicious locations. One man was targeted by armed robbers while hunting Pokémon at a gas station. Remember to watch

where you're going and always be where others can see you.

- Pokémon characters move to different locations. If the Pokémon is on another's land or is by a dangerous obstacle, wait until it moves away from the danger and provides a safe way to catch it. If you stand still for a few moments, your radar field should bring it out of hiding.
- Hunt in pairs. When Pokémon appear, they appear for everyone and can be caught by every person in your area. Hunting in pairs can reduce the risk of being robbed and even help recognize nearby hazards.
- Do not drive, ride your bike, or skateboard while playing. You can't play the game and drive/ride safely so just do one of them at a time.



Co-ops Vote

Your voice can be heard! And it's now easy! Visit vote.coop to identify your elected officials, register to vote or learn about issues!

Once you create your user name and password you can:

- Find key election information, including candidates within your ZIP code.
- Click on a link to register to vote.
- Learn about absentee ballots and early voting in your state.
- Learn about issues of importance to electric cooperatives.
- Get reminders about the upcoming election.
- Recruit friends, family and co-workers to become co-op voters.
- Pledge to be a co-op voter.

You can also stay updated by liking the Facebook page — Co-ops Vote Pennsylvania and following the Twitter Account — [@coopsvotepa](https://twitter.com/coopsvotepa).

Co-ops Vote is a nonpartisan program introduced by the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NRECA), to boost voter turnout in cooperative areas. During the 2012 presidential election, voter turnout was down 18 percent in rural areas. In Pennsylvania, rural voter turnout has dropped 13.5 percent since the 1992 presidential election. This program is designed to engage cooperative members.

Co-ops Vote does not endorse or recommend candidates; however, it educates members on candidates' stances on issues of importance to cooperatives.

Electrical Safety Programs

CEC understands the importance of teaching electrical safety. Our hope is to demonstrate to everyone electrical dangers they might be exposed to by offering a variety of **FREE** safety demonstrations for adults and youth.

Our Safety City program is geared toward youth and can be brought to any organization, event or school. It demonstrates how to avoid everyday dangerous electrical situations.

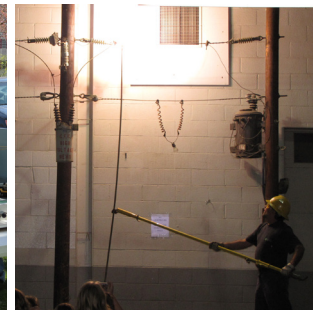
Live, high-voltage demonstrations are available at our headquarters in Parker for both adult and youth organizations.

We also have a First Responders Electrical Hazard Training. First responders know emergencies can involve electric lines and equipment. They also know they are likely to be the first on the scene.

This program is designed to help them identify and handle situations involving electrical equipment and **STAY SAFE**.

Call today to schedule your **FREE** presentation! Call 800-521-0570 and ask for Renee.

Together, we can save lives and prevent potentially hazardous electric-related situations.



Appliance Rebate Program Suspended

This year CEC helped many members save money on purchasing new Energy Star appliances while helping the environment. Due to the tremendous success of our rebate program, our funds are depleted. We hope to offer a similar program to members in 2017. Read your Power Lines and visit our website for updates on this program.

Power Lines

Photo Contest Voting

After 45 members submitted breathtaking photos for our 2016 Photo Contest, online voting has narrowed it down to five contestants. Please vote from the below photos for the three you feel deserve to be our winners! The photo with the most votes will receive first place and a \$100 bill credit, second place a \$50 bill credit and third a \$25 bill credit. You can also vote on our website until Oct. 17. We will announce the winners in late October and in December's Power Lines newsletter.



Photo #1

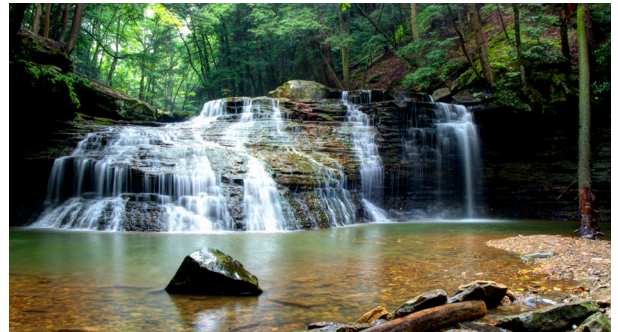


Photo #2

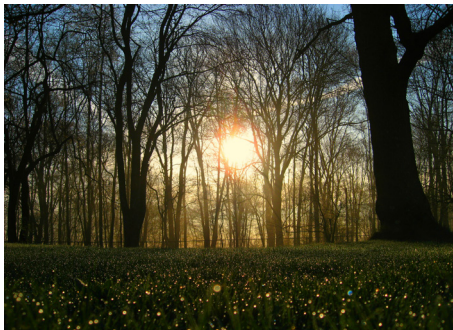


Photo #3



Photo #4



Photo #5



Photo Contest Voting Form

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Please check the boxes for the three photos you wish to vote for.

Photo #1

Photo #2

Photo #3

Photo #4

Photo #5

Return this coupon to CEC by Oct. 17, 2016.

Recipe of the Month

Apple Cake

Ingredients:

- 5 cups apples, diced (do not peel)
- 2 cups white sugar
- 1 teaspoon cinnamon
- 1 cup walnuts
- 2 eggs
- 2 teaspoons baking soda
- 2 cups flour
- 1/2 cup Crisco® oil
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 1 teaspoon vanilla

Directions: Heat oven to 350 degrees. Place apples in ungreased pan. Beat eggs and pour over apples; mix well. Add sugar, salt, baking soda, cinnamon, vanilla and walnuts; mix again. Add oil and flour; mix all together. Bake for one hour. Serve with whipped topping or ice cream.

Thank you to Connie Black 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:

Jeff Ray of Butler

Last Issue's E-Winner:

Stan Kopka of Kittanning

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: We do an organizational structure review every six years to guard against complacency and identify areas to improve.

Answer: _____

2. True or False: Load control times are tailored to accommodate tank and family size.

Answer: _____

3. True or False: You should not drive, ride your bike or skateboard while playing Pokémon Go.

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

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