

# Power Lines

P.O. Box 329  
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www.central.coop



**Central Electric Cooperative, Inc.**  
A Touchstone Energy Cooperative  
*The power of human connections*



photo by Member Jerry Gressley

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YOUR CENTRAL ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE NEWS CONNECTION

October 2008

## Annual Meeting Wrap-Up Report

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### Board of Directors

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**Margery S. Terwilliger**  
Vice President

**Althea M. Smith**  
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**Robert F. Schroth**  
**Robert F. Sterrett**  
**Bette D. Walters**  
**Jody P. Weaver**

"Building for the Future" was the theme of Central's 71st Annual Meeting. The event was held on Aug. 22, 2008 with more than 1,600 members and guests in attendance.

Richard Weaver, president of the board, focused his discussion on the cost of energy and rate caps. Weaver stated, "the good news for Central Electric members is that, because we don't have rate caps and we own a significant portion of our generation, you will not see those same large increases in your bill." He also expressed the cooperative's concern with members resorting to small electric space heaters this winter to keep warm. He stated, "Central Electric discourages this practice as space heaters are designed for smaller areas. They are an inefficient way to heat your living space and can cause fires."

Central's CEO and General Manager Larry Adams addressed the cooperative's plans on infrastructure improvements to the



**Larry Adams**  
CEO & General Manager

existing buildings. Larry stated, "both buildings are in need of attention because of age, growth and the way we operate." After considering several options the board authorized the plans for renovating the warehouse and replacing the office building. Larry expressed the importance of improving our facilities and the positive effects it will have on the cooperative's future operations. Larry stated, "It's something that needs to be done before the maintenance needs of the current facilities become critical."

**Annual Meeting/Page 2**



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# Power Lines

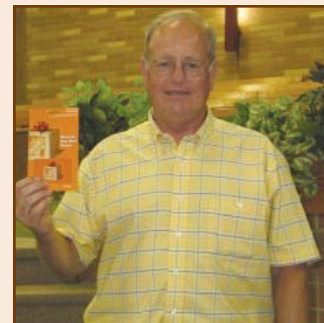
## Annual Meeting/From Page 1

Larry closed by addressing members on copper theft from cooperative facilities and asked for help in reporting any incidents dealing with theft. “Members can help by letting us know if you see anyone acting suspiciously near substations or lines. Report it by calling our outage number and we’ll notify police. Don’t take action yourself,” he stressed.

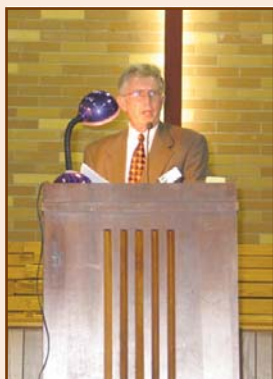
Lastly, members re-elected Richard Weaver of Clarion County and Robert Schroth of Butler County. Jody Weaver of Fryburg was appointed to fill the Clarion County vacancy after Bud Francisco, a former Central board member, announced his retirement. Overall, this year’s Annual Meeting was a huge success!



The Allegheny Drifters prepare for their performance.



Walter Cooper of Butler is this year’s grand prize winner of a \$500 Home Depot gift card.



CEO and General Manager Larry Adams addresses the members.



Tim from U\$X Federal Credit Union explains to members the benefits of a credit union.



Members wait for the business part of the meeting to begin.



Members eagerly await their turn in line for a delicious KFC chicken dinner.



John Relihan is ready to answer members’ questions about water heaters.



Lucy, who is part of the Wild World of Animals, put on quite a show during children’s entertainment.



By Christina O'Donnell

# Power Lines

## Time Travel in Central Electric Territory

What would it be like to travel back in time? Central Electric members Fred Brezel and Dave Cooper, owners of Cooper's Lake Campground, do just this every August when kings and queens, knights, and those of "gentle born" descent invade the campground for the Pennsic War. The campground has been family owned and operated since 1971 and is located one hour north of Pittsburgh off I-79 in Slippery Rock.



The Pennsic War is held by the Society for Creative Anachronism (SCA), an international organization devoted to bringing the Middle Ages and Renaissance to life through research and re-creation. (Unlike Civil and Revolutionary war folks, they don't re-enact.) With over 100,000 participants worldwide, it is one of the largest living history societies in the world. Drawn together by their common interest and enthusiasm for medieval history and the intricate workings of daily life, SCA members find immense joy in centuries-old traditions. Attending an

SCA event is a step back in time. SCA members adopt personas: dressing and speaking the way those individuals may have at the time.

Everyone starts out "gentle born" and is addressed as "m'lord" or "m'lady." However, there is the opportunity to advance based on skills, achievement and honor. Honor is held in high esteem and reflected in all aspects of Pennsic. Kings become kings by successfully defending the honor of their chosen queens. Once reaching that status, they are greeted by others with a bow of the head, and the greeting "your majesty!" When kings and queens "retire" after their six-month training and six-month service, they become counts and countesses and dukes and duchesses. They are then greeted, "your grace!"

During the year, combatants complete a rigorous training regimen. They learn what it feels like to be "injured" or "killed" and are expected to be honest and honorable in their injuries or fatalities in battle. They maintain their skills through regular attendance at combat practices. Safety is vital and equipment is inspected before the beginning of each event.



## Time Travel/From Page 3

The Pennsic event is an opportunity for SCA members to enjoy each other's company and compete in their chosen activities. It is closed to the public. The battles and other activities award points, and a tallied score determines which kingdom wins that Pennsic. At the event, participants enjoy both combative, and peaceful activities.

Pennsic is the war between two large regional SCA groups called kingdoms: the Kingdom of the East and the Middle Kingdom. Participants compete in archery, thrown weapons, siege weapons, long swords and spears.

Peaceful pursuits include classes on textiles, clothing, stitching, embroidery, knitting, weaving; glass, wood, and leatherwork; art, poetry, music; and other interests including brewing, dancing, jewelry, storytelling, languages; herbs and gardening; and even medieval etiquette on flirting and hand kissing.

Pennsic is the single largest annual event of the SCA in terms of attendance. As of 2007 there have been 36 Pennsic Wars. In 2008 Cooper's Lake hosted 11,597 participants at its Pennsic War.

Fred Brezel and Dave Cooper hope that the event will continue to grow into the future. (Or is it the past?)



*On a personal note, my guide Lynn Shafic-Averill, or Lady Jacquetta de Mehun at Pennsic, has participated in SCA for 28 years. Her kids were raised attending events and learned the SCA honor code. Lynn has received many compliments over the years for how polite and honorable her son is. He says "please," "thank you," and opens doors for people. While it comes naturally to him now, her son once explained that "chicks love it when you open doors for them!"*



Guide Lady Jacquetta de Mehun



# Power Lines

## Convenient Ways to Save at the Pump From U\$X Federal Credit Union

All members and employees of Central Electric Cooperative, Inc. and their families are eligible for membership in U\$X FCU. Here's a look at another great benefit of credit union membership exclusively from **YOUR** credit union.

### Tips for Saving at the Pump

We all get sticker shock at the gas pump these days! Here are some tips to help you boost your mileage:

- Avoid sudden stops, quick starts and high speeds.
- Keep your tires properly inflated. Remove excess weight from your vehicle.
- Keep your engine tuned up and check your air filters regularly.
- Combine errands into one trip whenever possible.
- Visit [www.gasbuddy.com](http://www.gasbuddy.com) to find the lowest prices in your area.



Of course the vehicle you drive has a lot to do with your fuel costs. If you're thinking of downsizing from your gas guzzler to a new fuel efficient vehicle, purchasing a quality used vehicle or refinancing your existing vehicle loan to save money, remember U\$X FCU offers some of the lowest vehicle loan rates available anywhere.

Call us first and let us show you how we can save you money! Call or stop by our Saxonburg/Sarver branch office, call one of our member service representatives for assistance at 724-352-9170, or visit [www.usxfcu.org](http://www.usxfcu.org) to use our convenient online application.

# Ken's ilowatt corner



By Ken Maleski  
CEC Consumer  
Marketing Representative

[www.central.coop](http://www.central.coop)  
Check it out!



### Insulation

People tell me they have "the maximum insulation values" in their home because they heat with electricity. I tell them, during times of high heating costs, beefing up insulation is suggested for all types of heating systems. My first choice is cellulose insulation. It is basically shredded wood that helps create insulating air spaces. Air carries heat and humidity. Cellulose is a great source of insulation because it blocks the movement of air. Cellulose will keep you warmer in the winter and cooler in the summer. Most homeowners can easily handle this task (I can attest to that).

Wet-blown applications are recommended for insulating wall sections. This must be completed by professional insulation installers.

Seasonal October weather makes it a perfect time to work in your attic. Insulation is a one-time investment that will increase comfort and savings for years to come. Let's get started!



## What's cooking?

### Pumpkin Cake

#### INGREDIENTS:

- \* 2 cups white sugar
- \* 1-1/4 cups of vegetable oil
- \* 1 teaspoon of vanilla extract
- \* 2 cups of canned pumpkin
- \* 4 eggs
- \* 2 cups all-purpose flour
- \* 3 teaspoons baking powder
- \* 2 teaspoons baking soda
- \* 1/4 teaspoon salt
- \* 2 teaspoons ground cinnamon
- \* 1 cup chopped walnuts (optional)



#### DIRECTIONS:

1. Preheat oven to 350 degrees F (175 degrees C). Grease and flour a 12X18 inch pan or bunt pan. Sift together the flour, baking powder, baking soda, salt and cinnamon. Set aside.
2. In a large bowl combine sugar and oil. Blend in vanilla and pumpkin, then beat in eggs one at a time. Gradually beat in flour mixture. Stir in nuts. Spread batter into prepared pan.
3. Bake in the preheated oven for 30 minutes, or until a toothpick inserted into the center of the cake comes out clean. Let cool before serving.

If you liked this recipe visit [www.allrecipes.com](http://www.allrecipes.com) for more great seasonal treats!

**Send Recipes:** to Chris O'Donnell

**Email to:** [codonnell@central.coop](mailto:codonnell@central.coop) or

**Mail to:** Central Electric Cooperative  
P.O. Box 329, Parker, PA 16049

## CEC Staff

**Larry S. Adams**  
CEO & General Manager

**Dennis W. Beggs**  
Director of Finance

**Stephanie Deal**  
Director of Human Resources & Administration

**Lisa A. Hoover**  
Director of Consumer Services

**Christina J. O'Donnell**  
Director of Communication & Marketing

**Fred E. Terwilliger**  
Director of Engineering & Operations

## Halloween Safety: the Do's and Dont's

1. **Do** trick-or-treat in groups.
2. **Do** use sidewalks when walking from house to house.
3. **Do not** go into a stranger's house.
4. **Do not** eat candy if the wrapper has been tampered with.



August contest winner:

**Imogene Beichner of Marble**  
**Read Power Lines and**



Read your issue of Central Electric Cooperative's Power Lines and win! It's simple — you can win a \$50 credit on your monthly electric bill by reading Power Lines and then completing the quiz that appears below. Answer the questions (answers are contained in each issue of Power Lines), then complete the quiz and personal information and return it with your bill payment.

### Important contest rules:

1. The contest is open to all Central Electric Cooperative members with active accounts as of the drawing date.
2. Only one entry per member is permitted.
3. Employees and directors of Central Electric, along with members of their immediate families, are not eligible.
4. The winning entry will appear as a credit on the member's bill and may not be redeemed for cash.

*Complete, clip and enclose the quiz and personal information below and return it with your monthly payment!*



1. True or False: Central Electric held their Annual Meeting on Aug. 22, 2008.

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

2. True or False: When dealing with insulation wet-blown applications are recommended for insulating wall sections.

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

3. True or False: The Pennsic War is held by the Society for Creative Anachronism (SCA), a national organization.

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

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

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

Telephone no: \_\_\_\_\_ Account no: \_\_\_\_\_