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Nancy Lendyak
President

Kenneth Etzel
Vice President

Althea Smith
Secretary/Treasurer

John Campbell
Kenneth Durrett
Robert Smith
Jody Weaver
Richard Weaver

PowerLines



Photo by Kathryn Stover of Valencia

Milestone

by Matthew Boshaw, CEO & General Manager

July 12 marks the 85th year since the formation of Central Electric Cooperative (CEC). 85 years ago, rural community leaders all over the country worked with the federal government to create locally controlled, private, not-for-profit cooperatives with the goal of bringing electricity to rural America. The organizations were formed with seven cooperative principles at their core. Chief among them were the ideas of local governance, open membership, concern for community, members economic participation, and cooperation among cooperatives. These were particularly important because the only way this venture could succeed was with the participation of the entire community. Investor-owned utilities were not serving rural areas because the population density was too low to provide profit. Only by the community

coming together and removing the profit motive, could the advantage of electricity for all be realized.

While researching for this article, I reviewed board meeting minutes from the founding years of CEC. The founders of our cooperative recognized the importance to our communities, the country and even the world for all Americans to have access to electricity. It was not just about convenience, although it was convenient. They saw that American farms and businesses were the drivers behind the American economy and ultimately the “breadbasket” for much of the world. Not long after beginning in 1937, cooperative leaders were able to keep the dream alive through the challenges of World War II, were critical in ending the Great Depression, and positioned the United States as a leader to the world. In retrospect,

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this was a remarkable accomplishment and a testament to those leaders and the community.

In the early years, our members were simply happy to have lights and some of the conveniences of modern life that gave them the opportunity to be more efficient and put their efforts into things beyond the basics. In reading about those times and discussing the experience with members that were there, I have heard remarkable stories about people cheering and crying tears of joy when the lights first came on.

I am the seventh CEO/General Manager of CEC. The role each of us served in has evolved dramatically from establishing the cooperative, defining the service territory, creating a system where none existed, and providing a new luxury service to incorporate modern technologies, maintain the system, and provide a service that has become essential to everyday life. My predecessors shepherded the cooperative — building the solid foundation we enjoy today. We could not do what we do without their efforts, and I take seriously the legacy I am charged with continuing.

The most recent years have had their own challenges with a global pandemic, social unrest, unprecedented supply chain issues and recent inflationary concerns. Your cooperative has been able to maintain a healthy, available workforce, take steps to mitigate supply chain concerns and maintain our rates with no rate increase since February 2020. You

have probably heard stories about increasing electric rates, but CEC will not raise rates in 2022 and we are taking appropriate steps to delay any increase for as long as possible. I am pleased to report that your cooperative is in a healthy, strong position to adapt to the changing circumstances we face.

Today's challenges are not more difficult or important than those of the past, they are simply different. The constant that allowed CEC to survive and thrive for 85 years is the cooperative business model and the continued dedication of our members and employees to ensure the essential service we provide continues to meet the needs of our members and communities.

85 years is a big deal, and we are celebrating with our members in several ways throughout the summer. We are soliciting stories and photos from our members to share, we have organized a system wide scavenger hunt to locations of significance in our history, and we are throwing a drive-thru anniversary party. Please take a moment to visit our website for more details and join us in celebration. We are proud to be a part of the past 85 years of challenges and successes here at CEC and look forward to the opportunities of the next 85 years. Thank you for the opportunity to serve and for your cooperation and assistance as we continue the work of your cooperative.

“We are proud to be a part of the past 85 years of challenges and successes here at CEC and look forward to the opportunities of the next 85 years.”

Matt Boshaw, CEO &
General Manager

2022 Annual Meeting

As another reminder, CEC has canceled its traditional member appreciation event at Whitehall. However, an expanded ballot and a nonpublic, annual business meeting will still take place.

CEC's annual meeting will still take place at CEC headquarters in Parker with member participation being by proxy of an expanded ballot, instead of a public gathering. The expanded ballot can be accessed and submitted through CEC's website until Aug. 18 at 3 p.m. **Plus! If you submit a ballot, you will be entered into a drawing for a chance to win an \$85 bill credit or \$850 Visa gift card! CEC will give away twenty \$85 bill credits and one \$850 Visa gift card.** The winners will be posted to CEC's website after being announced at the 2022 annual meeting.

Results from the ballot will be announced at the nonpublic, annual business meeting on Aug. 19 at 6:30 p.m. at CEC's headquarters in Parker.

Additionally, if you have any questions you'd like addressed at the annual business meeting,

please share them either by completing the form below or visiting CEC's website.

After the meeting, all results will be posted to CEC's website. A recording of the meeting will also be available for members to view.

For additional information, please visit the annual meeting page of CEC's website.

Submit a Question for the Nonpublic, Business Meeting

Name: _____

CEC Account Number: _____

Email: _____

Question: _____

If you need more space, please submit through www.central.coop or include additional sheets.



The Safety Linke



Don't be a stranger, to electrical danger.

Restoring Power Safely and Efficiently

For most CEC members, outages are rare and only last a few hours. But, when major storms impact our area, extended outages are unavoidable.

Power restoration starts with a safe, efficient plan. Multiple crews will be dispatched to start repairing power lines and equipment that will restore power to the greatest number of members in the shortest time possible.

This process typically begins with repairs to the larger, main distribution lines that serve a greater number of homes and businesses. Then crews work on smaller lines called taps, which deliver power to



Manager of Safety & Loss Control

Dylan Linke

transformers. Finally, individual service lines that run between transformers and homes are repaired.

CEC keeps a supply of extra utility poles, transformers and other equipment on hand so we can quickly get to work in the event of an outage.

A proactive approach to maintenance also helps minimize the chance of prolonged outages. This is why you see contracted crews periodically trimming trees and clearing vegetation in our rights-of-way.

Mother Nature can be unpredictable, but you can rest assured knowing we're standing by, ready to restore power as quickly and safely as possible.

Meter Readings

with Laura Prosser

Member Energy Specialist



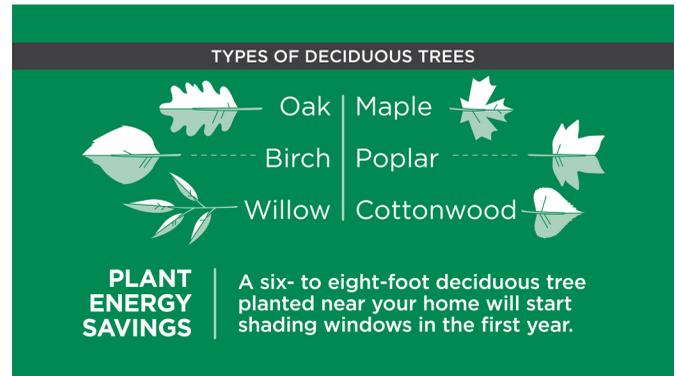
I would guess most of us spend time landscaping our homes for curb appeal. It's less likely you are thinking about reducing energy bills when you landscape, but well-designed landscaping can help cut back heating and cooling bills.

The biggest considerations are creating shade and windbreaks. Planting the right trees and shrubs in the right places can help with long-term energy efficiency. When you are thinking about adding trees and shrubs, ask yourself which rooms in your house overheat in the summer and which rooms are the draftiest in the winter.

Deciduous trees can greatly reduce heat gain from the sun in the summer months because of their high, spreading tops. They also allow sun through in the winter months because they shed their leaves in the fall and grow new leaves in the spring. Shade on your home in the hot summer months can cut the cost of air conditioning by blocking the sun from heating up the exterior of your home.

When deciduous trees have no foliage in the winter, they allow sunlight to heat up your home's exterior and reduce heat loss, assisting your heating system and keeping you warm.

Energy Efficient Landscaping



If your home is drafty, it is always best practice to access insulation and seal air leaks around windows and doors with caulking and weather stripping. Another measure to take is adding a natural barrier of trees or shrubs at least 50 feet from the area to be protected. For a windbreak, you will need a line of dense, low growth trees or shrubs. Common trees for the job include spruce and pines trees. For best placement, determine the direction of prevailing winds to your home and future size of trees. The taller the barrier will grow to be, the further away it can be planted.

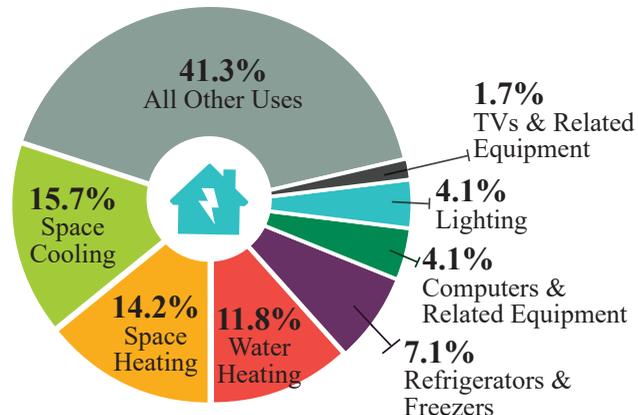
Talk with a local nursery or do some online research to learn which trees or shrubs will best suit your property and conditions.

Always remember to avoid planting trees near power lines for everyone's safety and service reliability.

How Americans Use Electricity

The latest data from the U.S. Energy Information Administration shows the combined use of clothes washers and dryers, dishwashers, small appliances and other electrical equipment (noted as "all other uses") accounts for the largest percentage of electricity consumption in American homes.

Source: Energy Information Administration 2021



2022 Director Candidates



Armstrong County: Nancy Terwilliger Lendyak, Incumbent Nominee, East Brady

Mrs. Lendyak has been a CEC member since 1978. She was elected to the board in 2014 and has served as board president for the last two years. She has received the Credentialed Cooperative Director and Board Leadership Certificate — and is working on her Director Gold Certificate — from the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association.

Mrs. Lendyak and her husband, volunteer at the National Audubon Camp in Maine and for the National Park Service in Washington, D.C. at events at the White House. She is a member of the Sugarcreek Township Volunteer Fire Department Ladies Auxiliary and has served on the election board for 10 years.

Mrs. Lendyak is a retired teacher from Karns City High School. She has three children and nine grandchildren.



Butler County: Robert Smith, Incumbent Nominee, Saxonburg

Mr. Smith has been a CEC member since 2013. He was appointed to the board in 2019 and has his Credentialed Cooperative Director Certificate from the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association.

Mr. Smith has bachelor's degrees in Chemistry and Business from California University of Pennsylvania. He is retired from MRC Global (an industrial equipment supplier) where he was the Global Director for the quality department.

Mr. Smith moved to the area from Charleston, West Virginia in 2013 to be near his daughter, Heather, and her husband, Bob Hensel, and their one grandchild, Peyton.



Don't Forget!

Submit a ballot by Aug. 18 for a chance to win an \$850 Visa gift card or \$85 bill credit!

www.central.coop/2022Ballot



Don't Forget!

There are a variety of opportunities for you to celebrate our 85th anniversary!

www.central.coop/85thAnniversary

Recipe of the Month

Sweet & Sour Ribs

Ingredients:

- 3 to 4 pounds boneless, country style ribs
- 20-ounce can pineapple pieces, undrained
- 16-ounces tomato sauce
- 1/2 cup onion, thinly sliced
- 1/2 cup green pepper, thinly sliced
- 1/2 cup packed brown sugar
- 1/4 cup apple cider vinegar
- 1/4 cup tomato paste
- 2 tablespoons Worcestershire sauce
- 1 garlic clove, minced
- Salt and pepper to taste

Directions:

Place the ribs in an ungreased slow cooker. In a bowl, combine the remaining ingredients and pour over the ribs. Cover and cook on low for 8 to 10 hours or until meat is tender.

*Thank you to Betsy Schmude
for submitting this recipe!*

CEC Management Team

Matthew P. Boshaw
CEO & General Manager

Chester Conti
Director of Finance and
Accounting/CFO

Christopher W. Kossman
Director of Information Technology

Stephanie Deal
Director of Human Resources

Fred E. Terwilliger
Assistant General Manager/COO

Lisa A. Hoover
Director of Member Services

Read Power Lines and Win!

Last Issue's Winner:

Jon Haverstick of Butler

Last Issue's E-Winner:

Kathleen Barklow of Tionesta

Read Power Lines for a chance to win a \$25 credit on your monthly electric bill by completing and returning the quiz below. You can also have a chance at another \$25 bill credit by submitting a quiz online at www.central.coop.

If you don't have access to the internet, indicate that on the quiz and we'll also enter you in the online drawing. Just complete and enclose the quiz and personal information below and return it with your monthly payment.

1. True or False: CEC will not raise rates in 2022.

Answer: _____

2. True or False: Power restoration starts with a safe, efficient plan.

Answer: _____

3. True or False: Planting the right trees and shrubs in the right places can help with long-term energy efficiency.

Answer: _____

How are we doing? (no wrong answer)

Name: _____

Phone: _____

Acct. #: _____



Central Electric Cooperative

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative

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