

PowerLines

YOUR CENTRAL ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE NEWS CONNECTION

**Central Electric
Cooperative**

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Locally Governed

BY MATT BOSHAW
CEO & General Manager

Central Electric Cooperative is a private, not-for-profit, electric distribution cooperative. There is a lot to unpack in that one-line description. Private, meaning we are not a publicly traded company. Not-for-profit is self-explanatory. Electric distribution describes the infrastructure and service we provide. With all that said, by far the most important complex piece to unpack is cooperative.

A cooperative is a member owned organization that is formed and governed by the members it serves to provide, in our case, electric service to its membership.

While that seems simple, there is a lot more to it. Cooperatives around the world operate according to the same set of seven core principles and values, adopted by the International Cooperative Alliance. These principles are a key reason that America’s electric cooperatives operate differently from other electric utilities, putting the needs of their members first.

I would like to highlight Democratic Member Control. As I mentioned,

CEC is owned and governed by its membership. A group of eight members is elected from the membership, by the membership to represent your interests in the operation of your cooperative. Our membership has some pretty high expectations, and we ask a lot of our Board. The Board members are elected by the membership at large but must live in the county that they represent. This ensures that all our members are represented not just those in the most populated areas. Let me reintroduce your current Board of Directors:

Nancy Lendyak (Armstrong County)

Nancy Lendyak has been a CEC member since 1978 and board member since 2014, Nancy Lendyak earned Director Gold Credentials in 2022. A retired Karns City teacher with a master’s equivalency from Clarion University, she is deeply involved in community service, church leadership, and multiple volunteer organizations. She and her husband, Tom, live in Armstrong County and have three children and eight grandchildren.

Ken Durrett (Butler County)

Ken Durrett has been a CEC member since 1996 and a board member since

2009. With over 30 years of finance and executive experience, he holds a Board Leadership Certificate from NRECA and supports small and mid-size businesses as a financial consultant. He is an active CPA and serves on the board of Bethany Christian Services of Western Pennsylvania.

Robert Smith (Butler County)

Robert Smith has been a CEC member since 2013; Robert Smith holds bachelor’s degrees in chemistry and business and has earned Director Gold Credentials. He retired as Global Director of Quality from MRC Global and relocated from West Virginia to Butler County to be near family, including his daughter and grandchild.

Jody Weaver (Clarion County)

Jody Weaver has been a lifelong resident of Fryburg and a CEC member since 1976. He has served on the Board of Directors since 2008 and currently holds the position of board president. Jody retired from First United National Bank after 43 years of service and holds Director Gold Credentials. He remains actively involved in community events, church leadership, and local festivals. He and his wife, Becki, have two daughters and twin grandsons.

Richard Weaver (Clarion County)

Richard Weaver has been a CEC member since 1978 and a board director since 1988. He represents CEC on the Allegheny Electric Cooperative Board and holds Director Gold Credentials. A longtime business owner of Weaver Excavating and Sewage Systems, he is active in his church and family life with his wife, Ruth Ann, their two daughters, and six grandchildren.

Jared McFarland (Forest County)

A CEC member since 2011, Jared McFarland joined the board in 2025. He holds degrees in biology and pharmacy and serves as a Pharmacy Manager, and has worked at the Walmart Pharmacy for 18 years. He lives

with his wife, Katherine, and their two children.

Althea M. Smith (Venango County)

Althea Smith has been a CEC member since 1979 and a board member since 1995. She currently serves as board Secretary/Treasurer and PREA Director and holds Director Gold Credentials. Retired from Venus Telephone Corporation, she lives near Venus with her husband and enjoys time with her children and grandchildren.

Dana Kellogg (Venango County)

Dana Kellogg became a CEC member in 2004 and joined the board in 2025. A U.S. Air Force veteran and Desert Storm participant, he has 29 years of experience as an electrician and currently works as Operations Manager for the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, overseeing electrical safety, infrastructure, and equipment management.

As you can see our Board has extensive and varied expertise that they each bring to the boardroom. It is this diversity of expertise, geography and opinion that allows the Board to give the appropriate level of thoughtful debate to those decisions that impact our membership the most.

Local control and governance is one of the most important principles we follow. I’d like to thank you for recognizing the importance of your votes and electing a hard-working, dedicated group to represent you in the boardroom. For more information visit our website at www.central.coop/meet-your-directors.



BEAT THE PEAK



You can help keep prices low by using less electricity during **peak hours**.

Sign up for peak alerts AND monitor our peak meter at www.central.coop

This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

SENIOR LEADERSHIP

- Matthew P. Boshaw** | *CEO & General Manager*
- Chester Conti** | *Director of Finance and Accounting/CFO*
- Lisa A. Hoover** | *Director of Member Services*
- Christopher W. Kossman** | *Director of Information Technology*
- Caitlin Kriebel** | *Director of Human Resources*
- Fred E. Terwilliger** | *Assistant General Manager/COO*

2026 Good Neighbor Scholarship Winners

Congratulations to the 2026 recipients of the Good Neighbor Scholarship! CEC awarded 10 scholarships of \$3,000 to members, or their children, who will further their education in 2026. For more information on the program, please visit www.central.coop



Alivya Hartzell
Penn State University



Landon Baker
Cranberry High School



Ryleigh Dittman
Keystone High School



Elisabeth Rettig
Knoch High School



Jiselle Vinroe
Slippery Rock Area High School



Denver Ott
Butler County Community College



Rylan Strauser
Slippery Rock University



Samantha Cornell
University of Miami



Jacob Henry
Keystone High School



Adeline Crawford
Redbank Valley High School

Meet CEC's 2026 Youth Tour Delegates

Each year, Central Electric Cooperative has the privilege of selecting students to represent our cooperative in Washington, D.C. on Youth Tour. We are proud to introduce this year's Youth Tour delegates: (back row) Sarah Lessner, a homeschooled student; Joseph Spence and Airabella Wheeler of Keystone High School; (front row) Violet Scardina of PA Leadership Charter School; and ChishaBetty Watson of Cranberry Junior/Senior High School.

They will join students from across the nation to meet with legislatures, tour museums and monuments, visit the National Zoo and more, while learning about electric cooperatives, U.S. government and history.



Portable Generators: Do's and Don'ts

by Izzy Cellucci, Communication Representative

As nice as spring weather is, it also means storm season is here. Power outages tend to happen more often this time of year, but being prepared can really help make them less stressful. A common way people handle outages is by using generators, especially portable ones. Portable generators are great for providing temporary power when the main grid goes out. They're easy to move, simple to use, and work well for everything from emergencies to job sites or even camping trips.

While generators can be super helpful, they can also be dangerous if they aren't used or maintained properly. CEC does everything to mitigate outages, but when they do occur, and you use a generator, we want you to know the "do's and don'ts" for portable generators.

Here are 10 "do's and don'ts" to keep in mind:

1. DO: Install backup CO alarms.
2. DO: Always keep children and pets away from portable generators.
3. DO: Position generators at least 25 feet outside the home, away from doors, windows and vents that can allow CO to enter the home.
4. DO: Ensure your generator is properly grounded. Use a portable ground fault circuit interrupter (GFCI) to prevent electric shock injuries.
5. DO: Use three-pronged extension cords that are rated to handle the load of the generator. Inspect extension cords for cuts, frays or other damage before use.

6. DON'T: Operate a generator inside your home or an enclosed (or partially-enclosed) space. Generators produce high levels of CO, which can be deadly.
7. DON'T: Open windows or doors while the generator is running.
8. DON'T: Rely on generators as a full-time source of power. They should only be used temporarily or in emergency situations to power essential equipment or appliances.
9. DON'T: Overload generators. They should only be used to power essential equipment. Make sure your generator can handle the load of the items you plan to power.
10. DON'T: Connect generators directly into household wiring unless you have an appropriate transfer switch installed. If a generator is connected to a home's wiring without a transfer switch, power can backfeed along power lines and electrocute utility lineworkers making repairs.

While outages can be inconvenient, following these simple do's and don'ts help protect your home, your family, and the crews working to restore power. Also, make sure to read the owner's manual for important safety information and, as always, if you have any questions contact us at 800-521-0570.

Resources: Crow Wing Power; American Red Cross



Role: General Utility Worker
Employee Since: March 2026

Employee Spotlight: Torrey Emery



What is one thing on your bucket list? Go on a cruise (preferably Alaskan).



What was your first job? My parents' convenience store.



What is one of your hobbies outside of work? Kayaking or riding side by sides with a good group of friends.



Do you have any pets? Four. My wife and I have 2 cats (Archie and Scar) and 2 dogs (Bruno and Nash). All of them were rescued. The dogs are a heavily bonded pair.



What is your least favorite food? Sushi

Join us for the 2026 Annual Business Meeting

CEC’s 89th Annual Meeting of the Members will be held August 5 at Allegheny-Clarion Valley Elementary School in Foxburg, PA. Doors will be open at 5:00 p.m. and the business meeting will begin at 6:00 p.m.

Members who attend the Annual Business Meeting will receive a bill credit. Additionally, attendees will be entered to win Visa gift cards!

If you have any questions you would like addressed at the business meeting, please share your question by mailing in the ticket below or by filling out the webform on our website under the Annual Business Meeting page. More details to come.



Matt Boshaw, CEO/General Manager, speaking at last year’s Annual Meeting.

Submit a Question to be Addressed at the Annual Business Meeting

Name: _____ CEC Account Number: _____
 Email: _____
 Question: _____

Tellers Needed for Board of Directors Election

The cooperative’s Board of Directors is seeking CEC members to serve as tellers for the annual election on August 5. The committee tabulates director election ballots that are received by our Judge of Elections prior to the meeting. Tellers must arrive by 4 p.m. If more members volunteer than are needed, a drawing will be held by our Judge of Elections. If there are no volunteers, the cooperative directors will appoint needed tellers.

2026 Tellers Committee

Name: _____
 Address: _____
 Account No: _____ Phone No: _____ County: _____

Return coupon by 7/13/2026 to: Central Electric Cooperative, 716 Route 368, P.O. Box 329, Parker Pa, 16049



The GenerLink Transfer Switch

by Connie Long, Member Energy Specialist

I don't know about you, but I am more than ready for the warm weather to finally stick around. I've always felt like I wasn't exactly built for the cold, yet here I am living in Pennsylvania! While I plan to enjoy every bit of sunshine we get, we all know that with the heat comes those Pennsylvania thunderstorms. These storms are most common from May through August, and since we know they're coming every year, I want to help you get prepared before the first clouds roll in.

A Simple Solution for Outages:

At CEC, we offer a device for purchase called the GenerLink™ Transfer Switch. If you aren't sure what that is, don't worry, it's simple. It is a meter-mounted socket device installed right behind your electric meter by a qualified CEC employee.

Think of it as a "plug-and-play" for your home. It allows you to connect a portable generator directly to your breaker box without running a maze of extension cords through your windows or doors. It's a fast, safe, and convenient way to keep your home running during an unfortunate power outage.

The Danger of Back-feeding:

The main reason I recommend the GenerLink is because it provides a safe connection for both you and our crews by preventing something called back-feeding.

- **What is it?** Back-feeding occurs when the flow of power is reversed, sending electricity out of your home and back onto the power grid.
- **How does it happen?** This usually occurs when someone hooks a generator up through an unapproved or homemade source.
- **Why is it dangerous?** Back-feeding is extremely hazardous and can cause house fires or even cause a generator to explode.
- **The risk to others:** It sends live electricity back onto the lines where crews are working to restore power, which can lead to serious harm or electrocution.

Let's Get You Ready:

We want to make sure you get the right fit for your home, so we offer a few different models and sizes:

- 30-amp model: Works with portable generators with a running wattage below 8,500 watts.
- 40-amp model: Works with portable generators below 10,000 watts.

Both models come with a 20-foot cord to connect your generator to the GenerLink. They also come with an option of built in surge protection. If you aren't sure which one you need, you can check our website, or I would be happy to assist you in finding what fits your needs.

Once we determine the right model, I'll issue an order for our line service tech to come out and install it properly. If you choose to be home during the installation, our tech will even give you a step-by-step demonstration on how to connect everything safely.

Please be cautious and take the extra steps to do things the safe way. Give us a call or check our website if you have any questions about getting a GenerLink for your home!

REMINDER: PEAK SUMMER HOURS



Avoid energy-intensive activities, like drying clothes or using the oven, during peak energy hours.

Lightning Safety Word Search

Did you know June 21-27 is National Lightning Safety Awareness Week?

Lightning can happen fast and be very dangerous but staying safe is easy when you know what to do! Read the following safety tips, then find and circle the **bolded** words in the puzzle below.



- When thunder roars, go **indoors!** If you can hear thunder, **lightning** is close enough to be dangerous.
- Stay away from all **water** sources. Don't swim, use hoses or play near standing water when a **storm** is present.
- Avoid tall things and open spaces. Stay away from **tall trees**, poles and open fields where lightning tends to **strike**.
- Wait 30 minutes after the last sound of **thunder**. Even if the rain stops, **wait** at least 30 minutes before going back outside.

H	M	E	K	H	I	S	O	D	G	W	R	D	A	Q
I	L	Y	T	U	O	K	Y	K	P	A	E	G	Z	T
A	E	I	I	N	D	O	O	R	S	T	D	B	J	A
T	A	K	G	P	H	O	P	J	F	E	N	K	G	L
W	D	J	I	H	P	Q	J	M	G	R	U	Z	R	P
M	S	E	E	R	T	L	L	A	T	S	H	W	S	R
N	D	O	T	Z	T	N	G	L	L	T	T	J	V	I
Q	D	O	R	Z	H	S	I	P	Y	T	L	J	W	V
E	G	J	R	T	Y	J	D	N	U	P	V	T	T	Q
V	I	A	Y	X	C	U	Y	N	G	W	Z	B	M	X
I	I	A	T	V	D	O	M	W	P	A	L	S	T	V
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E	Y	E	S	J	P	P	P	R	B	O	F	M	Q	H
V	O	K	R	M	C	G	X	O	R	D	A	O	D	V
T	G	B	X	N	B	R	K	M	X	B	I	F	K	U

From the Kitchen of:
Linda Knott

RECIPE: **STRAWBERRY SHORTCAKE**

Send your own recipe to:

Izzy Cellucci; icellucci@central.coop or mail to P.O. Box 329,
Parker, PA 16049

INGREDIENTS:

1 qt. strawberries, sliced	3/4 c. milk
1 1/3 c. sugar	2 eggs, slightly beaten
2 c. flour	
1 Tbs. baking powder	
1/2 tsp. salt	
1/2 c. shortening	



INSTRUCTIONS:

Strawberries:

1. Mix strawberries with 1 c. sugar; let stand for 1 hour.

Shortcake:

1. Sift together flour, 1/3 c. sugar, baking powder, and salt.
2. Cut shortening into flour mixture until resembles fine crumbs.
3. Combine milk and eggs; and stir into flour mixture until all ingredients are moistened.
4. Pour into 9 inch greased pan. Bake at 375 degrees until golden brown.
5. Cut into squares, split; fill and top with strawberries.



Central Electric Cooperative



Your Board of Directors

From left (back row): Kenneth Durrett, Vice President, Butler County; Jared McFarland, Forest County; Jody Weaver, President, Clarion County; Robert Smith, Butler County; **(front)** Richard Weaver, Clarion County; Nancy Lendyak, Armstrong County; Althea Smith, Secretary/Treasurer, Venango County; Dana Kellogg, Venango County.



central.coop/meet-your-directors

MISSION: CEC safely provides reliable and competitively priced electricity to our consumer-members and was established by and is committed to the communities we serve.

716 Route 368, P.O. Box 329, Parker PA 16049
Member Services: 800-521-0570
Outages: 800-282-8610

Newsletter Editor: **Izzy Cellucci**

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IN CONTROL.**

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REPORT

service issues

VIEW AND PAY

your bill

RECEIVE

key notices

MONITOR

usage 24/7

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hand and online.*



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