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Win Free Electricity for a Year!

Vote for the Winning Photos in Our Photo Contest

“Watts” Inside

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Photo by Carol Kruth of Saxonburg

Electric Vehicles

by Matthew Boshaw, CEO & General Manager

Electric vehicles are a hot topic. There are pros and cons, and some political controversy has come up in the discussion. As a distribution electric cooperative, Central Electric Cooperative (CEC) gets questions about what we think of the technology and if it is the right thing to do. Rather than give opinions, I would rather share facts and allow you to draw your own conclusions about what is right for you.

I find it interesting that electric cars actually predate combustion engine vehicles. An electric powered vehicle was first developed around 1832 and Carl Benz did not apply for a patent for an internal combustion engine until 1886. For many reasons, the subsequent history created a mature marketplace for internal combustion engine vehicles and electric vehicles were largely relegated to minimal, niche usage.

Technology advancements and the current political environment has created a push for a transition to electric vehicles. Car manufacturers have also created a marketplace with a variety of options.

One concern is generation capacity as we add new load to the system to charge electric vehicles. This is a potentially valid concern compounded by the closing of schedulable, baseload generation resources. From a big picture point of view, mandates that require the closure of baseload generators at the same time as mandating more electric vehicles are in direct conflict with one another — but that is a topic for another article. With that said, if electric vehicles are incorporated with consideration for that concern, they can actually make the utilization of the electric grid more efficient. What I mean is if electric vehicle users charge their

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Power Lines

Electric ... /From Page 1

vehicle during off peak hours, the load on the system will be more consistent. This would represent load growth for your cooperative without concern for stressing the system. The data we have indicates that approximately 85% of vehicle charging will be done in this way. Conversely, public charging stations charging vehicles in shorter time frames and more likely during peak usage hours, could have a negative impact on the grid.

I mentioned the mature marketplace for internal combustion engine vehicles and the lack of that marketplace maturity in the electric vehicle market brings some unknowns. The advancement of battery technology, their creation, usage, and disposal are all part of that equation, as is the used vehicle market. Conscientious consideration for concerns as the marketplace evolves is of paramount importance to its success. The specific example above, regarding concerns about grid capacity and ways to mitigate them, directly illustrates this. We understand the benefits and concerns better than most. We recognize electric vehicles as a growth potential that if implemented poorly, can create larger system capacity concerns.

In order to provide our members with as much factual information as possible, CEC has added an informational electric vehicle tab to our website. It will provide a wide array of information — including a cost comparison for your gas vehicle to a potential electric vehicle,

a comparison of electric vehicle models, charging station options, and more. Additionally, CEC will be purchasing an electric vehicle to use throughout our operations in varying ways so we can gather detailed data about charging time, how long the charge will last in different weather and usage conditions, and maintenance costs. We will use this data to answer questions from our members based upon actual data rather than information provided by various retailers, so members can be confident the information is valid. We will also implement a voluntary, demand side load management rate to encourage off peak charging among our members.

Ultimately, our goal is to provide members with factual information so they can make an informed decision for what is best for them individually. Secondly, we are working to ensure our system is prepared to address any needs that arise during this transition.

“We understand the benefits and concerns better than most. We recognize electric vehicles as a growth potential that if implemented poorly, can create larger system capacity concerns.”

Matt Boshaw, CEO & General Manager



National Voter Registration Day
Tuesday, September 20

The poster features three circular images: a man holding a ballot, a box of 'Go-ops VOTE' ballots, and a woman holding a 'Register to Vote' sign. Below the images are two red ballot boxes. The text at the bottom reads: 'Visit www.vote.coop to ensure you're #voteready.'

Win **FREE ELECTRICITY FOR A YEAR** or a **Visa Gift Card!**

CEC is dedicated to providing quality service. To effectively do that, we need member feedback. That's why we're asking you to take part in an important survey measuring member satisfaction.

The survey will help us gain your thoughts and opinions to allow us to better serve you in the future. It will determine current satisfaction for a variety of topics and from across our seven-county service territory. The survey's results will be used for future goal planning.

To take the survey, visit www.central.coop/survey. If you do not have access to the internet, contact us to make alternative arrangements.



**\$1,500 is based on the average, annual electricity costs of an average, CEC residential-member. Prize must be redeemed for energy use by Dec. 31, 2023.*

Members who complete the survey by Nov. 18 will be entered for a chance to win free electricity for a year or a Visa gift card! We will give away five \$100 Visa gift cards, one \$500 Visa gift card, and a grand prize of one year's worth of electricity — valued at up to \$1,500*.

Only CEC members can complete the survey and qualify for the prize drawing. CEC employees and directors, along with members of their immediate families, are ineligible to win any of the above-listed prizes. Additionally, only one entry per CEC membership is eligible.

Thank you for giving us the opportunity to learn how to serve you better.



The Safety Linke



Don't be a stranger, to electrical danger.

Common Sense

Interestingly, most incidents that occur in the workplace and at home are a result of a lack of common sense. The following list of recommendations are intended to be used as a quick reference to some "common sense best practices."

- Treat safety as an important part of your life.
- Always keep your full attention on what you are currently doing.
- Understand and follow all recommended safety rules – both at home and on the job.
- Utilize proper personal protective equipment.
- Remind friends, family and co-workers about safety procedures and equipment.
- Pay attention during all safety trainings and meetings. Try to understand how and why the

information is important to you and your job.

- Never be afraid to ask questions.
- Always know what to do in the event of an emergency. If you are unsure – ASK!
- Don't allow anger, frustrations, or personal problems interfere with your decisions.
- Never ignore an unsafe act or condition.
- Don't become overconfident or complacent when performing routine tasks or jobs.
- Use tools and equipment properly.
- Avoid peer pressure whenever possible, especially if it is regarding a safety matter.
- Never take shortcuts when completing a task.
- Remember – safety is everyone's responsibility. Don't assume it is someone else's job.



Manager of Safety & Loss Control

Dylan Linke

Newsletter Survey

CEC wants to learn more about what you are interested in seeing each month in this newsletter. **Members who answer the questions below and submit this survey by Oct. 28 will be entered into a drawing to win one of six \$25 bill credits!**

* **Name** _____

* **Acct. #** _____

* **1. What is your age?**

18-24 25-34 35-44 45-54

55-64 65-74 75 or older

* **2. What is your gender?**

Male Female

* **3. How do you typically read this newsletter?**

Hard Copy Digitally

* **4. How do you feel about the length of the newsletter?**

Too Short Good Length Too Long

* **5. How important do you think articles/ written content are in this newsletter?**

1 meaning “not at all important” and 5 meaning “very important”. Please circle one.

1 2 3 4 5

* **6. How important do you think visuals/ graphics are in this newsletter?**

1 meaning “not at all important” and 5 meaning “very important”. Please circle one.

1 2 3 4 5

* **7. What is/are your favorite part(s) of the newsletter?**

Meter Readings

with Laura Prosser

Supervisor of
Member Services



Though some commonly shared “energy hacks” could save you money, there are misconceptions out there that could be costing you.

Myth: The higher the thermostat setting, the faster the house will warm up or cool off.

Fact: Walking into a chilly room and raising the thermostat to 85 degrees will not heat the room more quickly. Your thermostat directs the home’s HVAC system to heat or cool to a certain temperature and drastically adjusting the thermostat setting will not make a difference in how quickly

Energy Use Myths

you feel warmer. The same is true for cooling.

Myth: Leaving lights on saves energy.

Fact: The small amount of power needed to turn on a light bulb is much less than leaving it on. If you are not in a room, turn off the light.

Myth: Closing vents reduces HVAC costs.

Fact: HVAC systems are designed to distribute air evenly throughout your home — closing a vent will throw off the system. Disrupting air flow can reduce efficiency and diminish the life of your equipment.

Myth: Ceiling fans cool your home.

Fact: Ceiling fans make your skin feel cooler, but they do not cool the air. Leaving them on when you are not home or not in the room just wastes energy.

Power Lines

Photo Contest Voting

After 32 members submitted photos for our 2022 Photo Contest, over 1,500 online votes has narrowed it down to five photos. 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. 21.** We will announce the winners in late October and in December's Power Lines newsletter. Thank you to all who entered photos!



Photo #1



Photo #2



Photo #3



Photo #4



Photo #5



Photo Contest Voting Form

Name: _____

Address: _____

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. 21, 2022.

Recipe of the Month

Zucchini Oven Fries

Ingredients:

- 2 zucchinis
- 1/2 cup bread crumbs
- 1/4 cup shredded parmesan cheese
- 1/8 teaspoon ground cumin
- 1/2 teaspoon garlic powder
- 1 teaspoon dried oregano
- 1/4 teaspoon paprika
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 2 teaspoons olive oil
- 2 egg whites

Directions:

Cut zucchini into 3-inch sticks. In a bowl mix together bread crumbs, parmesan cheese, ground cumin, garlic powder, dried oregano, paprika and salt. Add olive oil and mix until combined. In a separate bowl, beat egg whites until frothy. Toss zucchini sticks in the egg whites. Transfer sticks to the bread crumb mixture, pressing crumbs onto zucchini. Place on a baking sheet and bake at 450 degrees until golden and tender, about 12 minutes.

Thank you to Joanne McVay 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:

Gary Davis of Venus

Last Issue's E-Winner:

Raymond Zuck of Tionesta

Many ways to win!

CEC currently has several opportunities for members to win a bill credit and other prizes. The Newsletter Survey on page 4 is replacing the regular quiz this month.

One

Complete the Newsletter Survey on page 4 or on our website by Oct. 28 for a chance to win one of six \$25 bill credits.

Two

Complete the Member Survey by Nov. 18 for a chance to win FREE electricity for a year or a Visa gift card! Visit central.coop for more information.

Three

Current electric vehicle owners can complete a survey on our website to earn a \$50 bill credit.



Central Electric Cooperative

A Touchstone Energy Cooperative

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