

News FOR YOU...

June 2008

"Barron Electric Cooperative is a member-owned business that provides energy, products, and services to improve the quality of life in the area we serve."

Barron Electric Shows Commitment to Conservation, Efficiency, and Environment

Board President Selmer Nelson presented State Representative Mary Hubler with a Compact Fluorescent Light Bulb (CFL) to show Barron Electric Cooperative's commitment to energy conservation, efficiency, and environmental protection.

"Representative Hubler has long been a supporter of the cooperative and co-sponsored electric heat legislation which recently passed," said Nelson. President Nelson and General Manager, Ken Petersen, thanked Mary for her continued support and discussed the impact of Barron Electric's "Do the Bright Thing" campaign where the cooperative gave 30,000 CFL bulbs to 10,000 members last month. Dairyland Power Cooperative provided 300,000

CFL bulbs to the cooperative members, including Barron Electric, around Earth Day. Since lighting accounts for 20% of the average home's electric bills, cooperatives are encouraging members to consider looking for ENERGY STAR labels when purchasing lighting equipment and all electric appliances.

Benefits of the CFLs

The average member replacing one 75-watt incandescent bulb with a 19-watt CFL bulb will save \$30

or more in energy costs over the lifetime of the bulb. CFLs use up to 75% less energy to produce the same amount of light, produce 70% less heat, and last up to 10 times longer.

The 30,000 bulbs distributed in Barron Electric's service territory (if burned three hours a day) will reduce carbon dioxide by more than 25,788,000 pounds

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Board President Selmer Nelson presents a Compact Fluorescent Light Bulb to State Representative Mary Hubler.

Petersen to Retire This Year

On behalf of Barron Electric's Board of Directors, President Selmer Nelson announces Ken Petersen's decision to retire from his position as General Manager at the end of 2008, after 38 years in the electric industry.

The Board has engaged the law firm of Gill & Gill in Appleton, WI, to assist in the process of establishing the criteria for the search and selection of qualified candidates.

Barron Electric's Board will be looking for candidates to carry on the strong tradition of the cooperative's mission and principles, while continuing to maintain its financial integrity, and also have the vision to meet the future challenges facing the electric industry.

According to President Nelson, "The Board truly appreciates Ken's outstanding leadership for the past 25

years as General Manager, and anticipates a smooth transition process."



Board President Selmer Nelson congratulates Ken Petersen, Barron Electric's General Manager, on his retirement announcement.

Summer Energy Tips to Help Save Energy

- ▶ To keep the central air conditioner at peak efficiency, it is important to keep it maintained by scheduling yearly maintenance and regularly checking the refrigerant charge, as well as indoor and outdoor air coils.
- ▶ Close draperies or shades on south- and west-facing windows to reduce solar heat gain.
- ▶ Landscaping is a natural and beautiful way to keep your home cool in the summer. Carefully positioned trees can save up to 25% of a typical household's energy use for cooling. In addition to adding aesthetic value and environmental quality to the home, a well-placed tree, shrub or vine can deliver effective shade, act as a windbreak and reduce overall energy bills.
- ▶ Reduce the amount of hot water used for dishwashing by running dishwasher only when it has a full load.

New Number for Outages

A new phone number is now available for members experiencing outages. Members should call 866-258-8722 to report an outage. Dallas Sloan, Director of



Operations, said, "There will be less busy signals when using the outage number because it is capable of handling a higher volume of calls."

For general business questions, members should contact 715-537-3171 or 800-322-1008.

Websites to Save Money

Members can also obtain free copies of "Use Energy Wisely" and "Twelve Easy Ways to Save Energy," by contacting our office at 800-322-1008 or tjossart@barronelectric.com

Websites for more energy tips include:

- www.energystar.gov
- www.energyguide.com
- www.eia.doe.gov
- www.nfec.org
- www.homeenergysaver.lbl.gov/hes

CFLs *Continued from cover*

over the lifetime of the bulb. This is equivalent to removing 2,258 cars from the road for one year.

Mercury in CFLs

CFLs contain a small amount of mercury (about 4 mg), which is roughly equivalent to an amount that would cover the tip of a ball point pen. Power produced from coal to supply an average 100-watt incandescent bulb three hours a day for five years will release 10 mg of mercury into the environment, compared to 2 mg of mercury to power a 19-watt CFL for the same period.

Recycling CFLs

EPA recommends the following

clean-up and disposal guidelines:

Before Clean-up:

Vent the Room

- ▲ Open a window and leave the room for 15 minutes or more.
- ▲ Turn off the central forced-air heating/air conditioning system, if you have one.

Clean-Up Steps for Hard Surfaces

- ▲ Carefully scoop up glass fragments and powder using stiff paper or cardboard and place in a sealed plastic bag.
- ▲ Use sticky tape, such as duct tape, to pick up any small glass fragments and powder.
- ▲ Wipe the area clean with damp paper towels or dispos-

able wet wipes and place them in the plastic bag.

- ▲ **DO NOT USE A VACUUM** or broom to clean up the broken bulb on hard surfaces.

Clean-up Steps for Carpeting or Rug

- ▲ Carefully pick up glass fragments and place them in a sealed plastic bag.
- ▲ Use sticky tape, such as duct tape, to pick up any small glass fragments and powder.
- ▲ If vacuuming is needed after all visible materials are removed, vacuum the area where the bulb was broken.
- ▲ Remove the vacuum bag (or empty and wipe the canister), and put the bag or vacuum debris in a sealed plastic bag.

Barron Electric has a RECY-CLEPAK pail available at the Barron office. If your bulb was mailed to you and it was broken, contact the cooperative for a replacement.



Do you know why we're smiling so big?

We save \$30 each year on the Central Air Program and help the environment. Barron Electric members with a central air conditioner on the load management program can receive a \$10 credit on the July, August, and September energy bills by calling Barron Electric. This reduces the demand for electricity on the hottest days, thus conserving energy and benefiting the environment.

Call Barron Electric's Member Services Department at 800-322-1008 for more details.

Take the Pledge

The Energy Star Change a Light Pledge campaign is a national challenge to encourage every American to help change the world, one energy-saving step, at a time. Members can show their commitment by pledging to replace at least one light in the home with an Energy Star compact fluorescent light bulb.

Visit www.energystar.gov (products area) to take the pledge.



Director's Notes



Barbara Holman serves as secretary on Barron Electric's Board of Directors representing District 2.

CONDENSED BOARD MINUTES MARCH 26, 2008

- Director Smith gave the treasurer's report, with comments by Manager Petersen. A report of vouchers for the month was printed as part of the board packet as follows: #74493 thru 74618 on First National Bank of Barron were in the amount of \$365,282. Director Smith reported on activity of total receipts in the office - \$1,773,479; total receipts by wire, ACH, credit cards - \$225,362; disbursements by ACH, EFT, wire - \$1,381,067; transfer of funds was made for payroll - \$123,187; power bill due 3/26/08 - \$1,370,503, and capital credits - \$627. A membership list was approved as presented.
- Outages year-to-date stand at 398 consumer hours off, which is 29% below 2007 hours of 567. Overtime year-to-date is 136 hours, which is 58% below 2007 hours of 326.

Barron Electric Cooperative

Country Comfort, LLC Partner

Kenneth A. Petersen
General Manager

Carrie Baribeau—Editor
cbaribeau@barronelectric.com

Office Hours
7:45 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
Monday - Friday

1434 State Highway 25 North
PO Box 40 • Barron, WI 54812
(715) 537-3171

Toll Free: 1-800-322-1008

For Outages Only:
866-258-8722

www.barronelectric.com

Published for the members of Barron Electric. If you have any comments regarding the newsletter, please e-mail cbaribeau@barronelectric.com



Save Money with Energy Star Appliances

Members purchasing Energy Star rated appliances are eligible for the following incentives:

Energy Star Refrigerator	\$25
Energy Star Clothes Washer.....	\$50
Energy Star Room Air Conditioner	\$25

A listing of Energy Star rated products is available online at www.energystar.gov. Please contact the Member Services Department for more information on this program or visit www.barronelectric.com.



Check out the Energy Star incentives!

For Sale

- **PRIME HUNTING LAND.** 30 acres for \$45,000 in Tony, WI. Beautiful wooded lot, buildable, and never been logged. Call Andi at 763-537-0600.
- **Markie P. Construction** for all your remodeling needs. Senior discounts. Free estimates. Call 715-924-3488 or cell 715-642-0078.
- **New paddle boats, top-of-the-line, carpeted deck, padded seats (four), sun-top, aluminum floats, 6' x 11' with walk-around deck. New smaller pontoon boats, 6 1/2' x 17' full furniture group, sun-top, perfect for smaller lakes, easy to trailer. Kennedy Pontoons, Inc. Centuria, Wisconsin. 715-640-6000 or visit us at www.kennedypontoons.com**
- **Country Mobile Home Park, large wood lots, single or double-wide, Prairie Lake Estates. 715-925-2034.**
- **Maple syrup by quart. \$9. 715-458-2045.**
- **Buy a Heatmaster stainless steel outdoor woodstove from Pineview Woodstoves. Excellent design and reasonable prices. Call Randy Koehn at 357-3298.**
- **SPOONER FARMERS MARKET - Front at Oak Streets. Next to the Train Museum. Saturdays 8 - 1. Opens June 21. Now in our 4th year. Produce, plants, flowers, herbs, meats, baked goods, and so much more! More info: 715-635-9696.**
- **Like to travel? Want to save \$\$ when you do? Book your travel/vacations on-line at www.ytbtravel.com/mjacky.**
- **Steffes and Stiebel Eltron heat storage repair and install. Water heater repair. Call Handyman Plus at 715-458-2967.**
- **Markie P. Construction - for all your kitchen and bathroom remodeling. Save \$\$\$! Free estimates and senior discounts. Call Mark at 715-924-3488 or 715-642-0078.**



Summer Fill Special June 1 - August 31

Call Country Comfort for your propane needs at 877-407-2132 or visit www.countrycomfort.org

*Call to order propane today...
a full tank secures your price and supply.*

July 12: 2008 Northwest Wisconsin Sustainable Energy Fair

9 a.m. - 6 p.m.

**Rusk County Fairgrounds
Ladysmith, Wis.**

Speakers, workshops, and information booths.