



News FOR YOU...

December 2013

"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 Cooperative

Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

Hanson Hardwoods Providing Quality Wood Products

Mervin Hanson's love for logging and the outdoors led him to a successful business venture 35 years ago, and it's still going strong today. Hanson Hardwoods harvests wood which is manufactured into boards and used in the construction industry. The majority of the lumber used comes from Barron County and consists of a large variety of trees including maple, oak, basswood, aspen, ash, butternut, hickory, cherry, birch, walnut, and white pine. Over 3 million board feet are processed annually.

Mervin said, "The biggest importers of wood products are Canada, China, and Vietnam." Slabwood is chipped for Indeck Energy of Ladysmith, who produces premium wood pellets. They will custom plane for customers, as well as mark timber for logging. Mervin remarked, "No lumber sale is too small."

Over 80% of the sawdust is used to heat a wood-drying kiln. Hanson Hardwoods worked with the University of Wisconsin-Madison to provide a clean and efficient way to burn the sawdust, making a waste product very valuable.

Hanson Hardwoods, located on Barron Electric lines in the Cameron area, employs eight people and also has a trucking business. Family plays an important role in the business as Mervin's wife, Pat, manages the office; and daughter Kathy Brion and her husband, Mike, take care of the dry lumber. Hanson's Hardwoods offers tours to students, and Wisconsin Indianhead Technical College has used their facility for a log grading course.



Kathy and Mike Brion take care of the dry lumber at Hanson Hardwoods.



Dave Miller brings in a load of logs to be graded and scaled.

Owner Mervin Hanson works with the incoming logs.



Cindy Lammers Commitment to Community Leads to Megawatt Community Service Award



Carrie Baribeau, Marketing Specialist at Barron Electric, presents the Megawatt Community Service Award to Cindy Lammers.

Barron Electric Cooperative's December Megawatt Community Service Award recipient is Cindy Lammers. Cindy has chaired the Operation Santa Claus Program at the Moose Club for 18 years. The program helps approximately 150 families each year. Cindy commented, "We greatly appreciate the support of the community in helping make this program a success." She added, "We have seen people that have been helped before return at a later point to help others in need." Cindy is an active member at Trinity Lutheran Church, where she served as treasurer and is a member of the church council.

She said, "Cancer research is close to my heart; I have been cancer free for 15 years. I like to help with projects that support cancer research." Cindy is a Job Service Specialist at the Barron County Job Center. She helps displaced workers find jobs, assists with training, or prepares them for different jobs.



Megawatt Community Service Award Process

Barron Electric is rewarding members and their families for community service by awarding a \$50 electric bill credit to the chosen winners on a monthly basis. Nominate a member by completing the application form, available at barronelectric.com in the community area or by contacting the Member Services Department at 800-322-1008.



Scan to visit our website.

Barron Electric Wins the Gold Award for Wellness Program

Be Well Barron County recognized Barron Electric for their outstanding Wellness Program. Rebecca Volk, Grant Administrator for Be Well Barron County, said, "Barron Electric's application was outstanding." The Wellness Program promotes nutrition and exercise. As a result, employees have become healthier and more active.



Barron Electric's Wellness Committee is pictured with Rebecca Volk, center, who is the Grant Administrator for Be Well Barron County. Barron Electric's Wellness Committee includes Mandy Straw, Jennifer Horstman, Bobbie Mayfield, and Kathy Robertson.

Canadian Sand and Superior Silica Receive Energy Efficiency Rebates

Barron Electric Cooperative and Dairyland Power Cooperative rebated nearly \$29,000 to Superior Silica Sands and Canadian Sand & Proppants for installing energy-efficient equipment including variable frequency drives, energy-efficient lighting, and central air conditioning units. Barron Electric's Energy Sense Program is tailored to meet the specific needs of eligible commercial, industrial, and agricultural members. Conserving energy benefits all Barron Electric members and the entire system, while improving the quality of our environment. Jennifer Beaudette, Director of Member Services, said, "Energy efficiency helps to hold down costs by deferring the need for new generating capacity."



Ted Peterson, Plant Manager at Canadian Sand & Proppants, accepts a rebate check for \$11,700 from Jennifer Beaudette, Barron Electric's Director of Member Services.



Melissa Klump, Barron Electric's Technology Coordinator, gives a check for \$11,700 to Superior Silica Sands represented by Sharon Masek, Manager of Mine Planning & Industrial Relations, and Greg Clements, Plant Manager.

Earn Money with the Co-op Connections Card

Earn cash back from online purchases with your Barron Electric Co-op Connections Card. Visit connections.coop and click on the Cash Back Mall link. By clicking the "download now" button and following the instructions, a free shopping assistant tool bar will appear at the top of your internet browser. This tool bar will keep track of the cash back earned. As you make online purchases at Best Buy, Target, the Apple Store and other big name retailers, watch the money in your account pile up. When setting up the account, you choose how you would like to receive your cash back.



Like us on Facebook!



Scan to visit our Facebook page!



Director Notes



Selmer Nelson is President of Barron Electric's Board of Directors representing District 8, which includes the townships of Crystal Lake, Almena, Clayton,

Turtle Lake, Arland, Clear Lake, Vance Creek, Prairie Farm, New Haven, and Sheridan.

Condensed Board Minutes

September 25, 2013

- Director Helm gave the treasurer's report, with comments by Manager Sloan. A report of vouchers for the month was printed as part of the board packet as follows: #85227 thru #85346 on First National Bank of Barron was in the amount of \$255,836; capital credit estate checks of \$14,100 and NWP Refund checks of \$546. Director Helm reported on activity of total receipts in the office - \$1,900,035; total receipts by wire, ACH, credit cards - \$76,556; disbursements by ACH, EFT, wire - \$1,775,341; transfer of funds was made for payroll - 169,144; power bill due 09/25/13 - \$2,155,411. A membership list was presented for review and approved.
- Form 219 summarizing construction activity for the past month in the amount of \$153,270.86 was presented for approval, and included new services - \$37,041.59; change jobs - \$22,031.04; miscellaneous - \$94,198.23 and 4 retirements. The Form 219 stood approved as presented.
- Outages year-to-date stand at 83,371 consumer hours off, which is 170.6% above 2012 hours of 30,807. Overtime year-to-date is 2,522.25 hours, which is 16.6% above 2012 hours of 2,163.

News FOR YOU...

Barron Electric Cooperative
Dallas Sloan—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



SmartHub Provides Peace of Mind

With SmartHub, the power of data is in your hands through convenient account management and detailed usage information. Member Byron Radle said, "SmartHub provides peace of mind. I can check my usage to ensure there is power at the cabin." Members can access SmartHub at barronelectric.com and can do the following:

- Pay your bill
- Check meter usage and compare to temperatures
- Contact the office



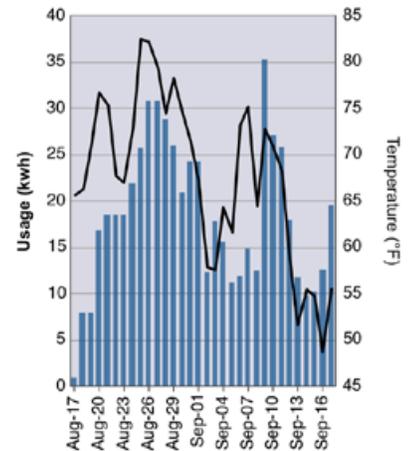
Access My Account



Scan to access SmartHub.



Billing Period Sep 2013



Smartphone users can download the SmartHub app to view usage, payment history or make a payment.

Cook's Corner

Fox and Hounds Restaurant's Peanut Butter Pie

Diane Knudsen

- 1 baked pie shell
- Chocolate filling:**
- 1/2 cup butter
- 1/2 cup sugar
- 1 egg
- 3/4 cup chocolate chips, melted
- 3/4 teaspoon vanilla
- 1/2 cup peanuts, chopped

Peanut butter filling:

- 1/2 cup creamy peanut butter
- 8 ounces cream cheese softened
- 1 cup powdered sugar
- 1 egg
- 1 1/2 cups cool whip
- 1/4 cup peanuts, chopped



Directions: In a small bowl, mix butter and sugar until fluffy. Add egg and beat 2-3 minutes. Blend in chocolate chips and vanilla. Spread one cup of chocolate filling over cooked crust. Reserve remaining chocolate filling. Sprinkle chocolate filling in pie crust with one-half cup peanuts.

In large bowl, combine cream cheese and peanut butter until well blended. Add sugar and egg and beat until smooth. Fold in cool whip. Spread this mixture over chocolate filling and then spread remaining chocolate filling over the top of the pie. Leave edge open and sprinkle peanuts around edges. Refrigerate and serve cold.

Each recipe winner will receive a Farm Technology Days cookbook. Please e-mail your recipe to barronec@barronelectric.com or send your recipes to:

Barron Electric Cooperative, PO Box 40, Barron WI 54812
Attn: Carrie