



# News FOR YOU...

November 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 

## Governor Walker Attends the Barron County Cooperative Month Event

Wisconsin Governor Scott Walker joined cooperative members and guests for the third consecutive year at a Cooperative Month Event. He noted the important role that cooperatives play in Wisconsin's economy. He also highlighted a property tax cut that will save Wisconsin residents money. Governor Walker said, "I really enjoy visiting with folks from northwest Wisconsin." The Barron High School Debate Team had a chance to ask questions of Governor Walker regarding Wisconsin's job creation rating and what Wisconsin is doing to address the skills gap.

Nearly 1,200 members and guests attended the Barron County Cooperative Month event. Barron Electric retired more than \$650,000 to over 10,200 current and former members. Checks were mailed during the month of October to those who were unable to attend this event.

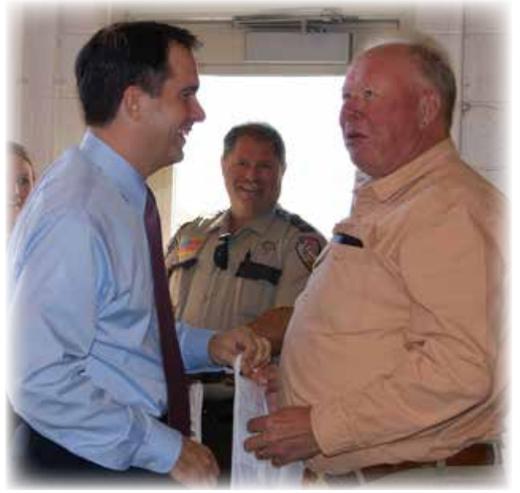
*Barron Electric's General Manager said, "This event exemplifies Cooperative Principles: Member Economic Participation, Cooperation among Cooperatives, and Concern for the Community."*

The American Red Cross held a blood drive in conjunction with the Cooperative Month event and collected 24 units of blood, helping as many as 72 people. Cindi Schell of the Cumberland Food Pantry, said, "We

collected over 650 food items; we greatly appreciate this opportunity." Barron Maple Grove Fire Department presented a Jaws of Life demonstration, where firemen reenacted an accident scene. 5R Processors collected approximately 12,000 pounds of electronics to recycle, and Badger State Recovery shredded over 1,400 pounds of confidential documents. Sandra Carlson was the grand prize winner of the 42" HDTV. Irvin Taplin and Ralph Pitzrick won smoke detectors donated by the Barron Maple Grove Fire Department. Dakota Antczak was the winner of a bike.



*Governor Scott Walker visits with Melissa Klump, Barron Electric's Member Technology Coordinator, about the Nest Thermostat. This thermostat learns your schedule, programs itself and can be controlled from your smart phone or computer. This can lower heating and cooling bills up to 20%.*



*Jeff Streeter of the Cumberland Food Pantry accepts a food donation from Governor Scott Walker.*

# Nearly 700 Members and Guests Celebrated Cooperative Month in Spooner



**S**ue Adams, Director of the Washburn County Food Pantry said, "Our food pantry collected over 500 food items. We appreciate the generosity of the members and guests, as well as the opportunity to participate in this event." Badger State Recovery collected nearly 500 pounds of paper for shredding. Spooner Health systems provided free blood pressure checks, while the Washburn County Extension Office brought homegrown grapes to sample. Regional Hospice, Spooner Fire District, and Time-Out Family Abuse Shelter provided information about their programs.

*Pictured: Customer Service Representative Deidra Meyer gives a capital credit check to Marcia Hestad.*

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## Dairyland Power Interviews Barron FFA Students



*Pictured: Dairyland Power Cooperative Representatives Sue Long and Kathy Josephson interviewed Barron FFA President Megan Hamernik and Barron FFA Vice-President David Pintens. They are producing a video about the role cooperatives play in the lives of youth.*

This planting season, the Barron FFA planted beans on the land donated to them by Barron Electric. They used starter fertilizer on 1/2 of the land and the other half was planted without fertilizer, so they could compare the difference. Barron FFA Vice-President David Pintens said, "These projects have been a big help to the Barron FFA. The funds raised from these projects have helped send students to conferences."

## Happy Thanksgiving!

Our office will be closed on Thursday, November 28 and Friday, November 29. Have a happy Thanksgiving from all of us at Barron Electric Cooperative.



# Donna Ness Wins the Megawatt Community Service Award

Congratulations to Donna Ness. Donna was the chairperson for the Tri-County Dairy Breakfast for 13 years. She also helped with the Sawyer County Dairy Breakfast for 6 years. She was in charge of ordering food and organizing the volunteers. She has been on several church boards for the United Methodist Church. She said, "I work for the community dinner, and I'm an active member of the Sara Circle, which sends cards to members of the church. I'm known as the Sunshine Girl."

Donna is the volunteer coordinator for the IMC Hospital Auxiliary, where she calls people to help at community events. She is also a member of the Volunteers in Mission Team, where she has traveled to Texas to help repair homes in need. "This is a fun and rewarding time and I love helping the people," commented Donna.

She said, "My husband, Norman, and I enjoy making people happy. I have been known to make meals, desserts, and salads and drop them off just to see the smile on their faces."

Donna has been employed at Indianhead Medical Center for 42 years in Physical Therapy, as an aid. "The part I enjoy the most are the patients," remarked Donna.



*Jody Schlapper, Customer Service Representative at Barron Electric, presents the Megawatt Community Service Award to Donna Ness.*



## Energy Efficiency Rebates Help Members Save Money

New Scandinavia Lutheran Church recently received an \$800 rebate for installing energy-efficient central air units. Barron Electric members are eligible for rebates when installing ground source heat pumps, air source heat pumps, central air units, and ductless minisplit systems. Visit our website at [barronelectric.com](http://barronelectric.com) for more information or call our office at 800-322-1008.



*Barron Electric's System Coordinator Sue Dau presents an \$800 rebate check to New Scandinavia Lutheran Church, represented by Darrvol Hedtke, President of the Church Council.*

## Nominate a Member for the Megawatt Community Service Award

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](http://barronelectric.com) in the community area or by contacting the Member Services Department at 800-322-1008.



*Scan to visit our website.*

# Director Notes



Mike Baker serves as Vice President on Barron Electric's Board of Directors, representing District 3, which includes the following townships: Crystal, Stone Lake, Sand Lake, Beaverbrook, Madge, Birchwood, Sarona, and Cedar Lake.

## Condensed Board Minutes

August 28, 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: #85061 thru #85226 on First National Bank of Barron was in the amount of \$342,219; no capital credit estate checks and NWPA Refund checks of \$1,301. Director Helm reported on activity of total receipts in the office - \$2,576,777; total receipts by wire, ACH, credit cards - \$1,030,396; disbursements by ACH, EFT, wire - \$2,937,848; transfer of funds was made for payroll - 165,830; power bill due 08/28/13 - \$2,248,808. A membership list was presented for review and approved.
- Director Peterson reported on the Dairyland Board meeting held on August 16, 2013. Director Warwick reported on the WECA Board meeting he attended on August 1, 2013.
- Form 219 summarizing construction activity for the past month in the amount of \$311,309.88 was presented for approval, and included new services - \$25,979.87; change jobs - \$25,439.84; miscellaneous - \$259,890.17 and 4 retirements. The Form 219 stood approved as presented.

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# Board Members Earn Credentialed Cooperative Director Certificate



Board President Selmer Nelson presents Credentialed Cooperative Certificates to Board Members Beverly Buckner, Larry Kuhl, and Lynn Peterson. They earned the certificate by attending five classes covering director duties, understanding the electric business, board roles, strategic planning, and financial decision making.

## Cook's Corner

### Squash or Sweet Potato Casserole Shirley Kamrath



4 cups mashed squash or sweet potatoes  
1/2 cup granulated sugar  
2 beaten eggs  
1/4 cup butter, melted  
1 tsp. vanilla  
1/2 tsp. salt  
1/2 tsp. cinnamon  
1/4 tsp. nutmeg

Combine mashed squash or sweet potatoes, granulated sugar, beaten eggs, butter, vanilla, salt, cinnamon and nutmeg. Put mixture into a greased 2-quart square or oblong baking dish.

#### Topping

1 cup packed brown sugar  
1/3 cup all-purpose flour  
pinch of baking powder  
1/4 cup melted butter  
1 cup pecan pieces  
1 cup shredded coconut

Combine brown sugar, flour, and baking powder. Add butter. Stir in pecan pieces and coconut. Sprinkle mixture on top of casserole. Bake in 350 degree oven, uncovered, for about 35-40 minutes or until set.