



News FOR YOU...

February 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 

Save Money This Year With Energy Sense Programs

Barron Electric Cooperative, in conjunction with Dairyland Power Cooperative, paid over \$213,000 in incentives and rebates to residential and commercial members in 2012. We encourage members to consider energy efficiency when purchasing new equipment and appliances. Here is a summary of the 2013 programs:

Appliance and Lighting Rebates

A \$25 rebate is available on several Energy Star appliances including: refrigerators, clothes washers, dishwashers, dehumidifiers, and room air conditioners. Rebates

are available for members recycling refrigerators, freezers, and window air conditioners. Lighting rebates are available on Energy Star® CFL bulbs, LED lighting, T5 and T8 fixtures.

Save on Electric Water Heaters

Members replacing an existing water heater can purchase the Marathon Lifetime Warranty electric water heater

from Barron Electric Cooperative for \$300. This water heater is guaranteed not to leak or rust. Members building a new home are eligible for a free Marathon water heater. Members have a choice of 85-gallon or 105-gallon. A radio receiver is installed on the electric water heater free of charge. Water heaters on special rates do not qualify for incentives.

Save up to 28% with Off-peak Heat

Dual Fuel and Electric Thermal Storage Heating Programs offer a low off-peak rate, as well as 100% efficient electric heating systems. Members should contact the Member Services Department prior to starting their project.

Heat Pump Rebates

There is a \$150 per ton rebate on air source heat pumps, SEER 14 or greater, as well as commercial air source heat pumps with an EER of 11 or greater. A \$300 per ton rebate is available for geothermal heat pumps, with a SEER 14 or greater.

Save \$30 Annually with Central Air Program

Members can save \$30 annually on their electric bill when participating in the load management program for central air conditioners. Rebates are also available on new central air conditioning units with a SEER rating of 14 or higher.

"Great Northern Sand built the plant with a goal of utilizing the best available technology for the efficient use of energy. Barron Electric did a great job installing the necessary infrastructure to be able to supply power to our plant and mine sites. We are grateful for the rebate recognizing our efficient use of energy," commented Dennis Luke of Great Northern Sand.



Barron Electric Cooperative and Dairyland Power Cooperative rebated over \$54,000 to Chieftain Sand and Proppant, Great Northern Sand, LLC, and Midwest Frac Sand for installing energy-efficient equipment. Great Northern Sand, LLC received a \$13,700 check from Barron Electric Cooperative. Pictured are Eric Janz, Laura Escoto, Denny Luke, Robbie Sage, Ann Jenneman, Aaron Kent, and Matt Thompson.

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Nancy Kaner Nominated for the Megawatt Community Service Award



Congratulations to Barron Electric Member Nancy Kaner on winning the Megawatt Community Service Award. She will win a \$50 electric bill credit!

Member Nancy Kaner was recently nominated for the Megawatt Community Service Award. She was instrumental in setting up the office for the Rice Lake Area Free Clinic (RLAFC). She recalls a conversation with Dr. Adler, some 30 years ago, about the Chippewa Valley Free Clinic and was excited about being part of that opportunity here. Nancy was a Licensed Practical Nurse, LPN, for St. Joseph Hospital for ten years and worked at the Rice Lake Convalescent Center for 30 years. Nancy took her experience and incorporated that into her role at the Rice Lake Area Free Clinic. She commented, "I saw the need for an office manager; so I took on that role." Nancy spends about 300 hours per year volunteering her time at the clinic.

The RLAFC is open three days per month and serves Barron, Washburn, and Rusk Counties. They have approximately 150 volunteers with over 700 visits annually. Some of the more common medical issues that they see are obesity, diabetes, lung disease, high cholesterol, hypertension, and depression.

Nancy also volunteers at St. Joseph School in Rice Lake. She also works at the election office for Rice Lake Township. In her spare time, she enjoys fishing, hunting, and spending time with her family.

Anyone interested in donating to the RLAFC can send donations to:

Rice Lake Area Free Clinic
1035 North Main Street, Suite G02
Rice Lake, WI 54868

Nominate a Member for the Megawatt Community Service Award

Barron Electric Cooperative wants to reward members and their families for community service by awarding a \$50 electric bill credit to the chosen winners on a monthly basis. Barron Electric's General Manager Dallas Sloan said, "This directly reflects Barron Electric's mission statement to improve the quality of life in the area we serve and exemplifies the 7th cooperative principle of concern for the community."

Nominate a member by completing the application form, available online at barronelectric.com in the news area or by contacting the office at 800-322-1008 to have the application form mailed.



Members Save Nearly \$2,000 with Co-op Connections® Card

The Co-op Connections membership card offers cooperative members more than 24,000 local and national deals on products and services. There are over 37 million cards and key fobs in use in communities across the country. The cards include discounts on prescription drugs at over 60,000 locations as well. Consumers have already saved over \$54 million on prescriptions alone! Barron Electric members have saved nearly \$2,000 since October. Visit Co-op Connections® today at connections.coop or scan the QR Code below to download a free mobile app!



Discover the savings!



Take Time to Participate in the Loyalty Survey



Jennifer Beaudette
Director of
Member Services

NRECA Market Research Services will be contacting 500 randomly selected members by phone or e-mail seeking members' opinions about cooperative performance, energy and communication topics, as well as new technology. This survey, which will take place in February, only takes approximately 10 minutes to complete. "We use the results of the survey to help us better serve our members. We appreciate the time members spend answering the questions," said Jennifer Beaudette, Barron Electric's Director of Member Services. If you have any questions regarding the survey, please contact the Member Services Department at 800-322-1008.

Barron Electric to Award \$14,000 in Scholarships to High School Seniors

Barron Electric will award \$14,000 in scholarships to fourteen high school seniors this spring. Since the program began in 1985, 255 seniors have received \$208,000 in scholarships.

Eligibility

Graduating seniors are eligible if they attend any of the high schools listed, and whose parents or guardians are current members of Barron Electric. The fourteen high schools include: Barron, Birchwood, Cameron, Chetek-Weyerhaeuser, Clayton, Clear Lake, Cumberland, Hayward, New Auburn, Prairie Farm, Rice Lake, Shell Lake, Spooner, and Turtle Lake. Scholarship winners will rank in the top 6-25% of their class. Applicants must plan to attend an institution of post-secondary education.

Selection Process

Selection of recipients will be determined by the high schools' scholarship committee based upon Barron Electric's eligibility criteria. Students should check with their high school guidance office for the scholarship deadline. These deadlines can vary by school.

Funds for Scholarships

Funds for scholarships are derived from the Federated Youth Foundation, an administrative trust consisting of unclaimed capital credits from former members, and they do not have any impact on electric rates. Please contact the high school guidance office for a scholarship application.

Brandon Loree, Hayward High School graduate said, "Thank you so much for choosing me as one of the recipients for the Barron Electric scholarship. This will help greatly with school."



Energy Sense Programs

Continued from cover

Commercial and Agricultural Rebates

Rebates are available for the following equipment: exhaust fans, high velocity low speed fans, dairy plate cooler, dairy refrigeration heat recovery, livestock waterers which are rated at less than 500 watts, compressors, energy efficient lighting, and variable frequency drives.

Home Performance Assessments

Members will receive a 50% discount, up to \$150, on the cost of a Home Performance Assessment, valued at \$300.

A certified assessor will perform a full energy evaluation with performance testing and will recommend energy-saving home improvements.



Save energy with a Home Performance Assessment.

Electrical Use Audits

Free energy use audits over the phone and on-site can help members evaluate their electric bills.

Wind or Solar Site Assessment

Members interested in small-scale solar or wind renewable energy projects can receive a 50% rebate, up to \$200, towards the assessment.

**Programs expire 12/13/13. Terms and conditions apply.*

For more information on Energy Sense Programs, please visit our website at barronelectric.com or scan the QR Code below. Members can also contact the Member Services Department at 800-322-1008.





Cook's Corner

Congratulations to Member Lois Owens!

Mac and Cheese

Serves 4-6

- 1 7oz. elbow macaroni
- 1 can cheddar cheese soup
- 1 can milk
- 1 cup sour cream
- 1 tsp. salt
- dash black pepper
- 1/2 tsp. prepared mustard
- 2 Tbsp. diced onion
- 2 cups shredded cheddar cheese
- 4 Tbsp. butter

Cook, drain, and rinse macaroni. Combine and blend soup, milk, sour cream, onion, butter, and seasonings in large bowl. Stir in shredded cheddar cheese and cooked macaroni.

Spoon into greased casserole. Bake at 350 degrees for 30 minutes, covered, and 15 minutes, uncovered.

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

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

Director Notes

Larry Kuhl
 represents District 5
 on Barron Electric's
 Board of Directors,
 which includes the
 townships of Long
 Lake, Bear Lake, Oak
 Grove, Stanfold, Rice
 Lake, and Doyle.



Condensed Board Minutes November 28, 2012

- 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: #83731 thru #83904 on First National Bank of Barron was in the amount of \$316,917; and capital credit retirement checks \$290,488. Director Helm reported on activity of total receipts in the office - \$2,127,822; total receipts by wire, ACH, credit cards - \$539,393; disbursements by ACH, EFT, wire - \$2,054,760; transfer of funds was made for payroll - \$180,759; power bill due 11/28/12 - \$1,700,770. A membership list was presented for review and approved.
- Form 219 summarizing construction activity for the past month in the amount of \$192,011.54 was presented for approval, and included new services - \$19,997.50; change jobs - \$11,741.06; miscellaneous - \$160,272.98; and 3 retirements. The Form 219 stood approved as presented.
- Outages year-to-date stand at 35,100 consumer hours off, which is 62.1% below 2011 hours of 92,537. Overtime year-to-date is 3,493.25 hours, which is 16.42% above 2011 hours of 3,000.50.

News FOR YOU...

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



Win a \$50 Electric Bill Credit

Are you looking for a no-hassle solution for paying your monthly electric bill? Try our Electronic Funds Transfer Program. This program is free, saves time and postage, and eliminates the chance for late fees. Sign up during January, February, or March, and your name will be entered into a drawing for a \$50 electric bill credit.

Please see enclosed bill insert for more details about the Electronic Funds Transfer Program. Scan the QR Code below or visit barronelectric.com for more details.



**Try our Electronic
 Funds Transfer
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