



News FOR YOU...

April 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 

Line Crews Upgrade Clayton Substation

Barron Electric linemen worked with Dairyland Power, Utilities Plus, and crane operators to set a new transformer at the Clayton Substation. The transformer is three times larger than the previous one. Line crews have been working on this upgrade throughout the winter months, which will help to serve the increased load in that area. This will also improve reliability. Lines east of the substation were also upgraded.



Barron Electric line crews prepare the Clayton Substation for a new transformer.



Linemen Steve Root works on this line while energized.

Official Notice of Barron Electric's 77th Annual Meeting

Pursuant to the provision of the bylaws, notice is hereby given that the annual meeting of members of Barron Electric Cooperative will be held Saturday, April 6 at the Barron High School, with registration beginning at 9:00 a.m. The business meeting will follow at 10:00 a.m. to take action upon the following matters:

- To receive reports of officers, directors, and committees
- To elect three directors to serve a three-year term in Districts 3, 6, and 9 and vote on a proposed bylaw change regarding payments of estates
- To address all other business that may come before the meeting or any adjournment or adjournments, thereof.

*Dated this 27th day of February 2013
Barbara Holman, Secretary*



Visit us on the web.

Members Get to Know Their Cooperative at Local Events

More than 70 Barron Electric members attended the “Get to Know Your Cooperative” events held in Spooner and Cameron. Members discussed renewable energy, load management programs, appliance rebates, and the Connections® Card program. Nearly 90% thought these events should be held again. Member Pete Krzyzaniak commented, “This was a great and informative meeting with knowledgeable and friendly Barron Electric representatives.” Member Diane Fjelstad said, “I learned a lot at this event. I wish I could attend again.”



Director of Operations Al Gravesen talks with members about a variety of topics at the “Get to Know Your Cooperative” event held in Cameron.

Renewable Energy

Dairyland Power Cooperative, Barron Electric’s wholesale power supplier, was the first utility in the state to produce over 10% of its energy from renewable resources. State law requires utilities to have 10% renewable energy by 2015, but Dairyland has reached that mandate three years ahead of schedule.

Currently, Barron Electric members pay approximately \$12 on each bill statement for the cost of renewable energy.

Load Management Programs

Barron Electric’s Load Management Programs for central air conditioners, electric water heaters, and off-peak heat help reduce demand during peak times. These programs save money on wholesale power costs.

Appliance Rebates

Barron Electric offers a variety of rebates on Energy Star appliances and lighting, as well as recycling rebates for refrigerators, freezers, and window air conditioners. Visit us at barronelectric.com, scan the QR code on page 1, or call our office at 800-322-1008 for more details on these rebates.

Connections® Card

The Connections® Card was mailed in October to members and provides savings on prescriptions, car rentals, hotels, as well as online savings at many retailers. Members using the card for prescriptions have saved over \$4,500.



Line Crews Provide Safety Training to Emergency Personnel



Barron Electric Lineman Mike Kroeze shows the potential dangers of electricity. Nearly 100 emergency responders attended safety training demonstrations, which were held at Barron Electric’s offices in Barron and Spooner.

Notice of Proposed Change to Bylaw Regarding Payment to Estates

Barron Electric Cooperative members attending the 77th Annual Meeting on Saturday, April 6 will vote on the following proposed bylaw change:

Change to Bylaw Article VII, Section 2. (e) Payment to Estates:

Notwithstanding any other provision of these bylaws, the board at its discretion, shall have the power at any time upon the death of any patron, who was a natural person, if the legal representatives of his estate shall request in writing that the capital credited to any such patron be retired prior to the time such capital would otherwise be retired under the provisions of these bylaws; to retire capital credited to any such patron immediately upon such terms and conditions as the board, acting under policies of general application, and the legal representatives of such patron's estate shall agree upon; provided, however that the financial condition of the Cooperative will not be impaired thereby; provided further however, that the aggregate amounts so retired in any one year ~~shall not exceed \$75,000.00~~ **be left to the board's discretion**; provided further, however, that if acting under policies of general application the amount mentioned above is not sufficient to retire the capital credited to any such patron or patrons such patron or patrons shall have the capital credited to them retired in the next succeeding year before any other retirements are made in such succeeding year; and provided further that the total jointly owned patronage credits of any married patron dying after January 1, 1986, may be paid to the surviving spouse upon proper application.

Carolee Lundsten Awarded Megawatt Community Service Award



Carolee Lundsten is Barron Electric's Megawatt Community Service Award winner. She will receive a \$50 electric bill credit. She has helped with Special Olympics for over 20 years and now serves as Spooner head coach. Special Olympics Wisconsin (SOWI) is a statewide organization providing persons with cognitive disabilities the opportunity to participate in year-round sports training and competition. SOWI serves nearly 10,000 athletes in nearly 189 communities statewide. "I really enjoy working with the athletes. This is a great program and very rewarding to all

involved," commented Carolee. Over 30 participants in the Spooner area were involved in the track and field program. Carolee and her husband, Gary, own Hayward Auto Salvage and Best Choice Recycling.

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.



Bring the Family to the 77th Annual Meeting

Barron Electric's 77th Annual Meeting will be held on Saturday, April 6 at the Barron High School. Registration begins at 9 a.m. followed by the business meeting at 10:00 a.m. Don't miss:

- Business Meeting including director elections for Districts 3, 6, and 9
- Environmental Update
- Entertainment by Lenore Berg and Chuck Kirkwood
- 100 Prizes
- Kids Carnival with face painting, jump roping, hula hoops, skip-its, bowling, golfing, plus a grand prize drawing for a 16GB iPod Touch
- Lunch and a pound of cheese



Members who find a winner sticker in their annual report will have the opportunity to win one of 100 appliances, including the choice of a grand prize Energy Star appliance including a refrigerator, clothes washer or dishwasher. The 99 appliances include a slow cooker, blender, or coffee maker. The kids' grand prize is a 16 GB iPod Touch. Members must be registered by 10:00 a.m. to be eligible for prizes.

Meter Access

The cooperative may need access to your meter from time to time. By working together, we can provide our meter readers with safe access to your meter. Even though meters can be read electronically, it's still essential that they are kept free from obstructions so that Barron Electric can access them when needed. Here are some ways to help:

- Trim shrubs or trees for a clear view and path to your meter.
- If you keep your gate locked, please contact the cooperative for a solution for access.
- Make sure your meter is built on the outside of your house. Meters enclosed in garages or other buildings restrict access and violate service requirements.



Make sure your meter is accessible for our meter readers.

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
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Director Notes

Scott Warwick represents District 4 on Barron Electric's Board of Directors, which includes the following townships: Roosevelt, Maple Plain, Lakeland, and Cumberland.

Condensed Board Minutes January 30, 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: #84032 thru #84183 on First National Bank of Barron was in the amount of \$244,323; capital credit estate checks \$18,117 and capital credit retirement checks \$10,998. Director Helm reported on activity of total receipts in the office - \$3,294,471; total receipts by wire, ACH, credit cards - \$1,034,590; disbursements by ACH, EFT, wire - \$3,821,175; transfer of funds was made for payroll - \$237,640; power bill due 01/30/13 - \$2,133,867. A membership list was presented for review and approved.
- Form 219 summarizing construction activity for the past month in the amount of \$201,823.94 was presented for approval, and included new services - \$40,576.25; change jobs - \$863.66; miscellaneous - \$160,384.03 and 2 retirements. The Form 219 stood approved as presented.
- Outages year-to-date stand at 37,306 consumer hours off, which is 60.15% below 2011 hours of 93,616. Overtime year-to-date is 3508 hours, which is 4.42% below 2011 hours of 3,670.50.

Cook's Corner

Slow Cooker California Chicken Irene Faber



- 1 3# chicken quartered
- 1 cup orange juice
- 1/2 cup chili sauce
- 2 Tbls soy sauce
- 1 Tbls molasses
- 1 tsp dry mustard
- 1 tsp garlic salt

In bottom of slow cooker, layer chicken. Combine other ingredients. Pour over chicken. Cover and set at #3 for 4 1/2-5 hours.

Optional: add 2 tablespoons chopped green pepper and 1 can (13 1/2 oz) mandarin oranges, drained, 30 minutes before serving. Makes 4 servings.

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:

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Attn: Carrie