

# News FOR YOU...

Barron Electric Cooperative  
April 2021  
Photo by Debbie Margotto

## Leading through Challenging Times

### *Dallas Sloan Retires from Barron Electric Cooperative*

General Manager Dallas Sloan is retiring on April 2<sup>nd</sup> after nearly 37 years of service at Barron Electric Cooperative. Dallas started his electric cooperative career at Barron Electric in 1984 as a Staff Assistant, responsible for staking line and mapping. He later served as Director of Member Services, then Director of Operations, before he was promoted to the General Manager position in 2008. Dallas led the cooperative through some challenging times including the Barron County tornado of 2017, the Derecho of 2019, which was the biggest storm in cooperative history, and the COVID-19 pandemic.

Dallas remarked, "I am very thankful to have worked for the members and with outstanding employees who always put the members first. The cooperative way is a great business model. I look forward to enjoying retirement with my family."

Barron Electric's Board President Randy Cook remarked, "Dallas will long be remembered for advancing the cooperative's technology, his strong legislative involvement, and his commitment to the community."

Dallas served on the WECA Board of Directors and has served on several committees for

Dairyland Power Cooperative. He was instrumental in the passage of Assembly Bill 583, which eliminates double taxation on cooperatives receiving mutual assistance. Dallas is active in his community as a member of the Barron Kiwanis Club, Barron County Economic Development and has coached youth sports teams throughout the years. He and his wife, Diane, have three children, two grandchildren with another one on the way.

Barron Electric Cooperative's Board of Directors have hired Peter Olson as Interim Manager.

Peter was Supervisor of Accounting at Barron Electric Cooperative prior to retiring in 2017. A nationwide executive search is underway, and a new General Manager will be hired this summer.



*Best wishes to Dallas Sloan on his retirement.*

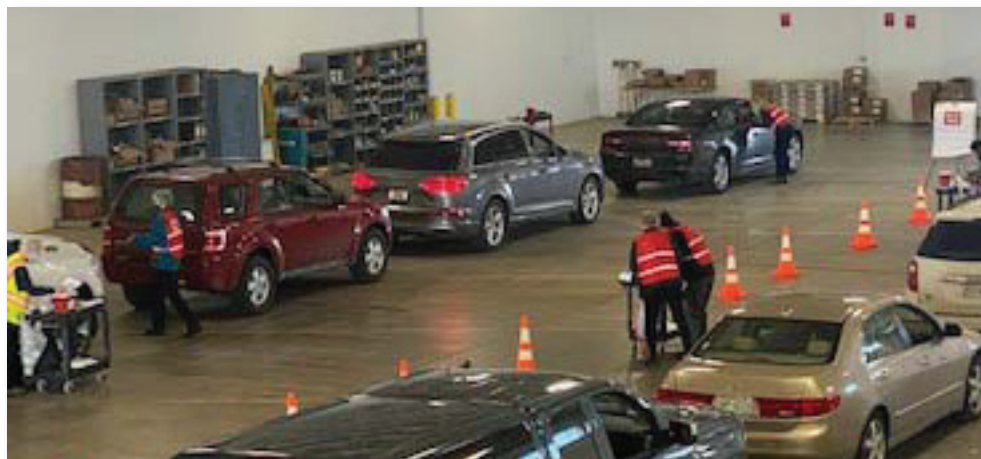


*General Manager Dallas Sloan led a forum with Senator Janet Bewley and employees and directors of Barron Electric.*

# Barron Electric hosts Drive-through Vaccine Clinics



**Call  
Before  
You Dig**



*Barron Electric Cooperative has been the host of several drive-through clinics, where health professionals are administering the COVID-19 Vaccine.*

## WECA's Safety Poster Contest Attention 3rd Grade Students

Third grade students will have the opportunity to enter Wisconsin Electric Cooperative Association's (WECA) Safety Poster Contest by creating a poster which is themed around electrical safety. The top prize is a new Chromebook; second place will be a \$100 gift card, and third place will win a \$75 gift card.

Entries must be submitted to Barron Electric by May 17, 2021 to:  
Safety Poster Contest  
Barron Electric Cooperative  
PO Box 40  
Barron WI 54812

Barron Electric will select a winner who will receive a \$25 gift card. The winner's poster will then be judged amongst WECA members. The poster must not be any larger than 11x14 inches and can not be a computer-generated image. Please e-mail [memberservices@barronelectric.com](mailto:memberservices@barronelectric.com) for a registration and rules form.



Before you dig, notify your local 811 two to three days before your digging project to request that the approximate location of buried utilities be marked with paint or flags so that you don't unintentionally dig into an underground utility line.

811 protects you and your community. Hitting a buried line while digging can disrupt utility services, cost money to repair, or cause serious injury or death.



**Know what's below.  
Call before you dig.**

# Bicycles, Botanicals, and More

*Sometimes the best places are found off the beaten path*

Meet Tony and Lisa Kofakis, Owners of Silver Creek Springs, located at 594-4 1/2 Street, Clayton on Barron Electric Cooperative lines. We're excited to share their story.

## Creeky Wheel

When Tony and Lisa met in 1995, Tony was a bicycle mechanic, and Lisa was a tattoo artist. Tony also became a tattoo artist, but always loved bicycles and raced professionally. His dream of owning his own bike shop came true when he opened The Creeky Wheel at Silver Creek Springs, a full-service bicycle repair shop. Tony is a highly experienced bicycle builder, specializing in custom wheel, bike builds, and bicycle repair.

## Botanicals

Lisa remarked, "I stepped back from full-time tattooing in 2018, as I continue to own and manage my dream studio that I opened in 2003, Crimson Heart Designs in Turtle Lake." Lisa has turned her attention to her other passion, herbalism and botanical skin care. She added, "I'm happily immersed in creating medicinal balms, oils, and tinctures from plants grown on our farm." Lisa has become a Community Herbalist, holding her Western Herbalist certification, while continuing her herbal education, and studying for her Master Herbalist certification. Check out her products at [silversprings.com](http://silversprings.com)

They also offer camping through [Hipcamp.com](http://Hipcamp.com). You can visit them on the web at [silvercreeksprings.com](http://silvercreeksprings.com) or find them on Facebook.

If you are interested in having your business featured in our News for You, please contact [memberservices@barronelectric.com](mailto:memberservices@barronelectric.com) or call 800-322-1008.



*Lisa and Tony Kofakis welcome you to Silver Creek Springs, specializing in bicycles and botanical skin care.*



*Pictured left: Prickly Ash Oil can help sore joints, muscles, and tendons by stimulating circulation bringing relief to those areas. Pictured right: Check out nearby trails for mountain biking and hiking. Visit [silvercreeksprings.com](http://silvercreeksprings.com) or find them on Facebook.*

## Happy Easter

Our office will be closed April 2 in observance of Good Friday.

Have a safe holiday weekend!



## Photo Contest

Winner receives a \$50 Credit

E-mail your spring photos for our photo contest. The winning photo will be used on the cover of the *News for You*, and the winner will receive a \$50 credit on their electric bill.

Criteria for the photos include:

- Photos must have a horizontal orientation (landscape).
- Photos must be high resolution, at least 300 dpi.
- Member must own rights to the photo.
- E-mail your digital image to [memberservices@barronelectric.com](mailto:memberservices@barronelectric.com) by April 8, 2021. Include your Barron Electric account number, address, and phone number.
- By submitting your photo, you are granting Barron Electric permission to use your photo in a variety of publications and on our website.

## Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month

Some manufacturers set water heater thermostats at 140 degrees, but most households usually only require them to be set at 120 degrees. Consider lowering your water heater's temperature to save energy and slow mineral build-up in the heater and pipes.

Source: [www.energy.gov](http://www.energy.gov)



## \*Condensed Board Minutes

January 27, 2021

Tim Kessler, District 2, serves as treasurer, on Barron Electric's Board of Directors, which includes the following townships: Evergreen, Spooner, Dewey, Bashaw, and Barronett.



- Director Kessler gave the treasurer's report, with comments by Manager Sloan. A report of vouchers for the month was presented as part of the board packet as follows: #98480 thru #98604 of CCF Bank was in the amount of \$602,435 and capital credit estate checks in the amount of \$23,711. Director Kessler reported on activity of total receipts in the office - \$3,080,581; total receipts by wire and ACH - \$1,807,989; disbursements by ACH, EFT, wire - \$3,212,417; transfer of funds was made for payroll - \$284,640 and power bill paid 01/27/2021 in the amount of \$2,083,499.
- A membership list of 75 was presented and approved without objection by the board.
- Form 219 summarizing construction activity for the month of December in the amount of \$532,771.10 was presented for approval, and included new services - \$23,707.95; change jobs - \$60,407.80; miscellaneous - \$448,655.35 and 11 retirements. The Form 219 stood approved as presented.
- Outages year-to-date stand at 90,335 consumer hours off, which is 79.12% below 2019 hours of 432,670. Overtime year-to-date is 3,521.50 hours, which is 41.81% below 2019 hours of 6,061.75.

\* View full board minutes on SmartHub.

## News FOR YOU...

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