

# News FOR YOU...

## Technology, Solar, and New Board Member Highlight 83rd Annual Meeting

Members of Barron Electric Cooperative elected one new director and re-elected two incumbents at their 83rd annual meeting on March 30; over 600 members and guests were in attendance. Director Lynn Peterson retired after 35 years on Barron Electric's Board, representing District 6. Patricia Mandel was elected by a majority vote representing District 6. Incumbents Michael Baker, District 3; and Richard Bol, District 9; were both

re-elected to the board.

Jeff Springer, Manager of Energy Efficiency and Technical Services at Dairyland Power Cooperative, discussed the various ways members could participate in solar. He highlighted Barron Electric's Community Rays project. Solar can also be installed on a rooftop or ground mounting rack. The panels are usually low-maintenance but an annual inspection is suggested for the electrical system and inverter. Roof repairs may require panels to be removed and re-installed. He also

highlighted electric vehicle technology. The Tesla Model Y is available for pre-order and has a 300-mile range. The Ground Round in Tomah, Wisconsin has Level 2 and Level 3 electric vehicle chargers. Dallas Sloan, Barron Electric's General Manager, addressed the decommissioning of the Alma coal plants. He informed members, "In 2019, Dairyland Power, our power supplier, purchased a contract for 150 MW of solar.



*Patricia Mandel was elected to Barron Electric's Board of Directors, representing District 6.*



*The board room at Barron Electric was dedicated to Selmer Nelson in recognition of his 35 years as President of the Board of Directors. Pictured are General Manager Dallas Sloan, Board Director Selmer Nelson, and Board President Randy Cook.*

They also purchased contracts for 216 MW of wind power." Dairyland is working with Minnesota Power to build a combined-cycle natural gas plant that will deliver 525-625 megawatts of energy to the electric grid. The Nemadji Trail is currently in the regulatory permitting stage and both Wisconsin and Minnesota legislators are in favor of this project. Dallas explained the effects of the January 30 Polar Vortex. Line crews worked in extreme cold temperatures to restore power in the Cumberland area.

# Annual Meeting

*(continued from cover)*

Dallas encouraged members to test drive the all-electric Chevy Bolt and to use our charging stations at our offices to charge electric vehicles.

Barron Electric's Board President Randy Cook highlighted rates, telling members that Barron Electric has the fourth lowest rates in the state. He said, "Upgrading our equipment, Right-of-Way Clearing, and pole testing have continued to help improve reliability. Members have power 99.97% of the time." Barron Electric is committed to the communities they serve and gave \$38,000 to non-profit organizations and scholarship winners. Funds for Barron Electric donations are derived from the Federated Youth Foundation, an administrative trust overseeing unclaimed capital credits of former members.

The board room at Barron Electric was dedicated to Director Selmer Nelson in recognition of his 35 years as President of the Board of Directors. His leadership, integrity, and parliamentary expertise brought fairness, order, and respect amongst the membership and at all meetings. At an organizational meeting following the annual meeting, the following officers were elected: Randy Cook-President; Michael Baker-Vice President; Scott Warwick-Secretary; Arlyn Helm-Treasurer; and Michael Baker-Dairyland Power Cooperative Director.

## Member Survey

Watch your e-mail this month for Barron Electric's member survey. Please take a few moments to answer questions to help Barron Electric improve their service. We appreciate your feedback.

# Dairyland Power Announces Major Solar Facility



Dairyland Power Cooperative has finalized a power purchase agreement with Ranger Power for the proposed 149 megawatt Badger State Solar Project. Dairyland will purchase the entire output of the planned solar energy facility, which is proposed on the land of participating private landowners in the Towns of Jefferson and Oakland in Jefferson County, Wisconsin. The Badger State Solar Project will generate enough renewable energy to power over 20,000 homes. Pollinator habitat is also planned for the site. If approved, construction of Badger State Solar is anticipated to begin in 2020 with commercial operation commencing in 2022.

## Leadership Opportunities for High School Students

Improve your leadership and communication skills, organize a cooperative, and meet people from across the state at the WECA Youth Leadership Congress. This will be held July 24-26 at UW-River Falls and is open to all high school students. Social media coverage can be viewed by searching #wiscylc2016. For application forms, please contact our office at 800-322-1008 or [memberservices@barronelectric.com](mailto:memberservices@barronelectric.com).

### Win a Trip to the 2020 Washington D.C. Youth Tour

More than 1,500 students from across the U.S. take part in the Youth Tour experience each year. Students, who are Barron Electric members, attending the WECA Youth Leadership Congress will have the opportunity to write an essay and win a trip to the 2020 D.C. Youth Tour. Students meet with their U.S. Representatives and Senators and explore the museums, memorials and monuments.



*Students attending the D.C. Youth Tour visit Arlington National Cemetery.*

# Church Barn Offers Attention to Detail



Owner Billie Church's enthusiasm for the Church Barn is contagious, and her attention to detail leaves the customer feeling confident that their event will be perfect. After five years of research, the Church Barn became a reality in 2017 and has been the home to over 40 weddings, graduation parties, and family gatherings. Located just northwest of Barron, the barn and its setting make great photo opportunities. Billie remarked, "While researching other venues, we looked at what was missing and wanted to build a barn that was different." From lighting to decor and indoor restrooms, Billie has thought of everything to go the extra mile for her customers. And, she continues to brainstorm more ideas to enhance the environment, both in and outside of the barn. Billie commented, "I enjoy helping my customers make their special day one to cherish."

For more information, visit the Church Barn on Facebook, e-mail [bjchurch68@gmail.com](mailto:bjchurch68@gmail.com) or call 715-418-1550.



## Employee Spotlight *Working for our Members*

Danae Becker worked at UW-River Falls as a University Services Program Associate for Academic Affairs and Graduate Studies prior to starting at Barron Electric as a Member Account Representative in the Finance Department. She assists members with billing questions. She attended UW-Stout for Hotel, Restaurant, and Tourism Management. She has an Associates Degree from WITC-Rice Lake for an Administrative Professional. Danae said, "I enjoy the multitude of job duties, not one day is the same. I also enjoy the positive relationships built between my coworkers, as well as helping members with their questions."



## Take a Vacation with Auto Pay and Win a \$50 Credit

Auto Pay is a convenient way to pay your electric bill, saving you time and money. Members who sign up for Auto Pay will have their name entered into a drawing for a \$50 electric bill credit. Sign up for Auto Pay through SmartHub at [barronelectric.com](http://barronelectric.com) or by contacting the billing department at 800-322-1008.

# Director Notes



Scott Warwick serves as Secretary on Barron Electric's Board of Directors representing District 4, which includes the following

townships: Roosevelt, Maple Plain, Lakeland, and Cumberland.

## Condensed Board Minutes February 27, 2019

- Director Helm 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: #95710 thru #95795 of CCF Bank was in the amount of \$128,107 and capital credit estate checks of \$27,374. Director Helm reported on activity of total receipts in the office - \$2,132,702; total receipts by wire and ACH - \$969,795; disbursements by ACH, EFT, wire - 3,178,034; transfer of funds was made for payroll - \$190,231 and power bill paid 02/27/19 in the amount of \$2,534,092.
- Form 219 summarizing construction activity for the past month in the amount of \$95,772.45 was presented for approval, and included new services - (\$18.64); change jobs - \$4,102.50; miscellaneous - \$91,688.59 and 8 retirements. The Form 219 stood approved as presented.



## Monthly Photo Contest *Summer Landscapes*

E-mail your summer landscape photos for our photo contest. Winning photos will be used on the cover of the *News for You*, and winners 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 May 10, 2019. Include your Barron Electric account number, address, and phone number.

## *News* FOR YOU...

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Barron Electric is an equal  
opportunity provider.



## *Cook's Corner* Cinnamon Roll Cake Natasha Rodriguez

3 cups flour  
½ tsp. salt  
1 cup sugar  
4 tsp. baking powder  
1½ cups milk  
2 eggs  
2 tsp. vanilla

Mix together. Then add ½ cup softened butter. Mix well. Spread in greased 9 x 13 glass pan.

In another bowl, combine:

1 cup butter, softened not melted  
2 T. flour  
1 T. cinnamon  
1 cup brown sugar

Sprinkle over cake batter and swirl. Bake 45 minutes at 350 degrees or until toothpick comes out clean. Cool 15 minutes and glaze with powdered sugar icing.