

News FOR YOU...

Barron Electric Cooperative
December 2024
*Captured by the lens of
Deb Tempesta*

Barron Electric Lineworkers Awarded Cooperative Hero Award

Barron Electric Cooperative lineworkers, Aaron Holten and Tyler Romsos, are the recipients of the inaugural Wisconsin Electric Cooperative Association's Cooperative Hero Award. This award recognizes individuals who demonstrate exemplary character in a life-saving effort, either on or off the job.

This past spring, Aaron and Tyler were working to replace a meter socket at the home of John Offord, when Aaron heard a loud noise from a nearby shed. Inside,

they found John lying on the floor with a cut on his head. The lineworkers called 911 and used their first aid and safety training to tend to John as they waited for first responders. They also contacted his wife, who was not home at the time. John was transported to the hospital where he was treated for severe dehydration. He was released and made a full recovery.

In recalling the situation, John wrote that he remembers feeling weak and light-headed from the hot sun, adding, "I walked into

my shed and passed out. When I came to a little later, Mr. Holten was by me on the floor telling me to just lean against him and that they had called the ambulance. They stayed until the ambulance arrived. I would like to personally thank both of these men for their care and concern." Barron Electric Cooperative Director of Operations Nate Steines said, "Aaron and Tyler's swift response to this situation played a major role in the member's full recovery."



Rob Richard, Wisconsin Electric Cooperative Association's President and CEO, awarded Barron Electric Lineworkers Aaron Holten and Tyler Romsos the Cooperative Hero Award.



Barron Electric Lineworkers Tyler Rosmos(left) and Aaron Holten (right) won the Cooperative Hero Award for assisting Member John Offord (center).

Volunteering is a Way of Life for Ed Gunderson



Member Ed Gunderson showed first grade students at Woodland Elementary all of the states he has visited. Ed is Barron Electric's Megawatt Community Service Award winner, and he is retired from the U.S. Air Force. Thank you for your service and for sharing your time with students.

Member Ed Gunderson is Barron Electric's latest Megawatt Community Service Award winner. Ed volunteers at Woodland Elementary School helping Beth Comstock's 1st grade class every morning. He sets up the classroom, makes copies for her, and helps students with math and reading. This is his 18th year working with the students.

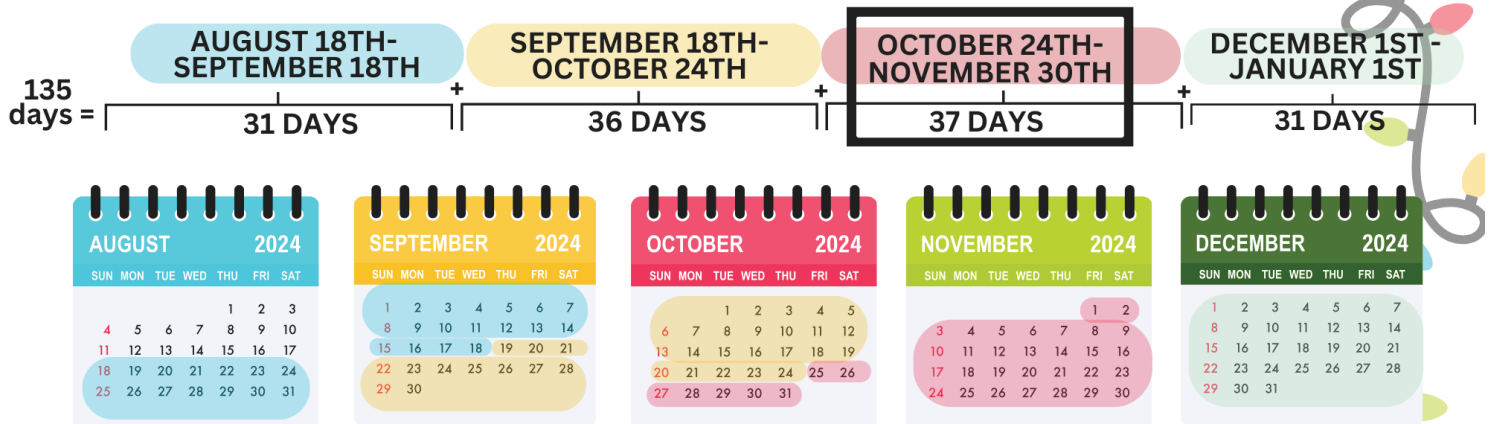
Ed is a retired Colonel from the U.S. Air Force. He worked at the Pentagon creating budgets. He was also executive assistant to the Comptroller of the Air Force. He later served as the Comptroller for the Air Force Space Command. Ed served on his town board and has also been active with his church.

\$50 Electric Bill Credit

Congratulations to Ed Gunderson; he will receive a \$50 credit on his electric bill. Do you know a member that would make a good Megawatt Community Service Award winner? Visit barronelectric.com/megawatt-community-service-award to complete the online form.



DUE TO BILL CYCLE SHIFT, THIS MONTH'S STATEMENT INCLUDES 37 DAYS
THE MONTHLY BILLING CYCLE WILL SHIFT FROM THE 18TH-18TH TO THE 1ST-1ST.



THE TOTAL DAYS YOU ARE BILLED WILL REMAIN THE SAME, BUT THE NUMBER OF DAYS PER STATEMENT WILL DIFFER DURING THIS GRADUAL TRANSITION.

Barron Electric has adjusted its billing cycle to the 1st-1st to better align with our wholesale power bill from Dairyland Power Cooperative as indicated in the graphic above. Bills are expected to reach members by the 14th of each month through the mail; however, if you would like to receive your bill earlier, members who have an account on SmartHub can view their bill by the 8th of the month. Payments are due on the 28th of each month. For members enrolled in Auto Pay, billing deductions will take place between the 25th and 28th of the month.

If you have any questions, or need additional time paying your bill during this transition, please contact the billing department at billing@barronelectric.com or 800-322-1008.

Season of Giving

Concern for Community is at the foundation of Cooperatives. Barron Electric is proud to support local organizations that have a positive impact on our rural communities.



Barron Electric employees helped purchase and deliver over 3,500 pounds of potatoes to 12 food pantries. Pictured are Roger Mink, Birchwood Food Pantry, and Barron Electric employees Melissa Gillett and Shay Frankenberg.



Barron Electric donated over \$1,200 to the ADRC of Washburn County to help ensure the safety of seniors. Pictured are Barron Electric Board Treasurer Tim Kessler and Valerie VanderBent, Nutrition Director of the ADRC of Washburn County.



Barron Electric Cooperative donated \$1,000 to the Rice Lake Area Free Clinic. Pictured are Clare Janty, Free Clinic Board President and Retired Physician Assistant; Melissa Price, Clinic Director and RN for the Free Clinic; and John Blaskowski, Barron Electric Director.

Apply Now for Scholarships

Barron Electric is excited to offer three different scholarship opportunities to member students. The application deadline is **Friday, January 10, 2025**. Winners will be randomly selected in March, notified, and announced at Barron Electric's 2025 Annual Meeting. Scan the QR code to get started.



GPS Project Continues

Global Mapping Solutions(GMS), contracted by Barron Electric Cooperative, continues gathering data on our system, which may include working weekends and any daylight hours. They may be on your property by foot, ATV, or UTV, taking photos of Barron Electric equipment, posting signs, or locating cable.

GMS employees will have a badge, letter of contract, and their equipment will include a contracted by Barron Electric Cooperative sign.

Once complete, this project will improve the outage dispatch process and provide a safer electric system for line crews, contractors, members, and the public. During outages, this will allow better communication from the cooperative to our membership.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the Operations Department at 800-322-1008 or operations@barronelectric.com.

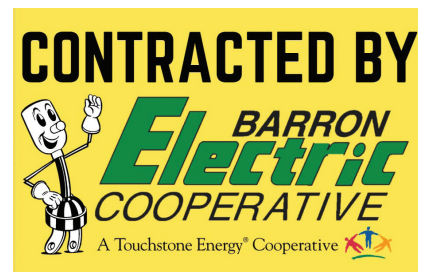


GMS employees have been posting signs on Barron Electric equipment.

Rebates Ending Soon



Barron Electric's rebates will end December 16, 2024. Visit barronelectric.com/2024-energy-rebates for more information.



*Condensed Board Minutes

September 25, 2024

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



- A report of vouchers for the month was presented as part of the board packet as follows: #103423 through #103581 from CCF Bank in the amount of \$208,093 with no capital credit estate checks. Total receipts in the office \$2,316,485; total receipts by wire and ACH \$253,275; disbursements by ACH, EFT, wire \$2,236,947; transfer of funds was made for payroll \$232,075 and the power bill was paid on 09/25/2024 in the amount of \$2,513,055.
- Director of Operations Steines presented information to the board regarding pre-approval to the 2025 Budget to purchase primary and secondary wire. Director Olson moved, Director Mandel seconded, to pre-approve the purchase of primary and secondary wire to the 2025 Budget. Motion carried.
- A membership list of 77 was presented and approved without objection.
- Form 219 summarizing construction activity for the month of August in the amount of \$274,137.20 was presented for approval and included new services \$57,373.73; change jobs \$23,288.52; Other Work Order Projects \$193,474.95 and 16 retirements. The Form 219 stood approved as presented.

News FOR YOU...

Barron Electric Cooperative
Aaron Torud - General Manager
Carrie Baribeau—Editor
cbaribeau@barronelectric.com

Office Hours
7:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.
Monday - Friday

1434 State Highway 25 North
PO Box 40 • Barron, WI 54812
(715) 537-3171
Toll Free: 1-800-322-1008

For Outages Only:
866-258-8722

www.barronelectric.com



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

*Barron Electric is an equal
opportunity provider.*



** View full board minutes on
SmartHub at barronelectric.com.*

December 2024 News for You