

News FOR YOU...

Projects Help Improve Reliability

Barron Electric Cooperative line crews completed an upgrade at the Spooner Substation, which will help improve reliability to over 2,800 members. The existing 7.5MVA transformer was upgraded to a 10MVA transformer. The existing transformer will be installed at the Springbrook Substation in 2024,

which will help with load growth. Barron Electric crews teamed up with Barnhart Crane, Qualus Power Services, Dairyland Power Cooperative, Spooner Municipal, and Hanacek Logging to complete the job. Power was backed to another substation to allow crews to upgrade the transformer without outages.

Nate Steines, Director of Operations, remarked, "With lead times pushing over two years for substation transformers, a spare unit

will also help the cooperative sustain reliability."

Testing Poles on Our System

American Energy Services is testing poles in Clear Lake and Clayton Townships in Polk County, as well as Almena and Clinton Townships in Barron County. A magnetic sign that displays Barron Electric Cooperative's name will be displayed on their vehicles, while a 4-wheeler may be used to move efficiently throughout the system. If you have questions, please contact our office at 800-322-1008 or operations@barronelectric.com.



Pictured left: David Denk, from American Energy Services, Inc., tested poles on our system.

Pictured right: Crews upgraded the Spooner Substation to increase reliability to over 2,800 members.

Giving Back to Their Community

Mark and Jolene Carpentier Win the Megawatt Community Service Award

“When the tornado struck Chetek in 2017, the community really supported us. We knew we wanted to help out and give back,” remarked Mark Carpentier. Mark and his wife, Jolene, both joined the Chetek Lion’s Club, where their fifty members have a mission to serve. Mark served two terms as

president; he is now the Zone Chair, where he supports the development of clubs in his zone. Mark also helps with vision screening for schools in Barron, Cameron, Chetek, and Dallas. Mark said, “Through the screenings, we find children who are in need of glasses. The club helps supply glasses for those who can’t afford it.”

Jolene is currently the Vice President of the Chetek Lion’s Club. She chaired their First Annual Golf Tournament at Sioux Creek Golf Course in June.



Jolene and Mark deliver Meals on Wheels each week, will fill in if needed, and help package meals. They both serve on the Chetek Community Center’s Board of Directors where they help plan the budget, find ways to raise money, and award scholarships.

Congratulations to Mark and Jolene Carpentier, our latest Megawatt Community Service Award winners. They will receive a \$50 credit on their 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.



Nellie Robertson, Barron Electric Representative, presented the Megawatt Community Service Award to Mark and Jolene Carpentier who are active in their community.

Investing in Youth



Laura Martins, Major Gifts Manager for the Girl Scouts of the Northwestern Great Lakes, accepted a \$500 check from Patti Mandel, Barron Electric Board Director.

Barron Electric Cooperative has supported both Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts for many years and recently donated \$500 each to Chippewa Valley Council, Northern Star Council, and Girl Scouts of the Northwestern Great Lakes. Barron Electric’s donations will help youth succeed in life. Barron Electric’s General Manager Aaron Torud remarked, “Barron Electric is excited to support these organizations that help make the future a better place and prepare youth for a lifetime of leadership.” Barron Electric donations are derived from the Federated Youth Foundation, an administrative trust overseeing unclaimed capital credits of former members.

Barron Electric Receives Funding from the Wisconsin Disaster Fund

Barron Electric Cooperative is receiving over \$400,000 from the Wisconsin Disaster Fund to help pay for a portion of the expenses from the December 15, 2022 storm that left more than 9,000 members without power. Nearly 100 line workers from cooperatives and utilities, as well as contractors, worked together to restore power. General Manager Aaron Torud said, "We appreciate Barron County Emergency Management's assistance in helping to secure funding through the Wisconsin Disaster Fund. We are grateful to Wisconsin Emergency Management who approved our claim."



Barron Electric received funding from the Wisconsin Disaster Fund for the December 15, 2022 storm. Chris Fitzgerald, Barron County Sheriff, presented a check to Aaron Torud, General Manager of Barron Electric Cooperative.

Meet Trystin Adams

Trystin Adams is a lineman with the Spooner Crew. He worked at Cumberland Municipal prior to starting at Barron Electric. He graduated from Chippewa Valley Technical College in Eau Claire with a degree in Electrical Power Distribution. He said, "I enjoy the ability to stay active during the workday and the variety of different tasks." He enjoys talking with students about his profession as a lineman. He also helps with Cumberland's wrestling program.



ALL IN for Cooperative Members

“ALL IN for Cooperative Members” was the theme of Dairyland Power Cooperative’s Annual Meeting, Barron Electric’s wholesale power supplier. “Dairyland is 100 percent all in on the clean energy transition as we

look to bring significantly more wind and solar to our generation portfolio, in addition to exploring zero-carbon nuclear and pumped energy storage systems,” said Dairyland Power’s President and CEO Brent Ridge.

Miss America 2023, Grace Stanke, provided the keynote address. Crowned Miss Wisconsin on her way to achieving the Miss America title, Stanke told more than 350 members and guests how her Wisconsin roots helped shape her passions and determination to better the world. She emphasized Wisconsin’s role in the clean energy transitions. She asked, “What is Wisconsin doing to move its energy portfolio forward, and how can we as Wisconsinites help?”
Source: Dairyland Power Cooperative



Miss America, Grace Stanke, was the keynote speaker at Dairyland Power’s 2023 Annual Meeting.



Brent Ridge, Dairyland Power President and CEO, congratulated Barron Electric Director Scott Warwck for his service on the Dairyland Power Board of Directors.



Board President Randy Cook had the opportunity to talk with Miss America.

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If you have any comments regarding the newsletter, please e-mail
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Barron Electric is an equal opportunity provider.

*Condensed Board Minutes April 24, 2023

- Jim Halvorsen and Mickey Gosh from CliftonLarsonAllen presented the 2022 audit to the directors. Mr. Halvorsen and Ms. Gosh reviewed the audit procedure, findings and explained the process. The 2022 audit was approved as presented.
- A report of vouchers for the month was presented as part of the board packet as follows: #101608 through #101714 from CCF Bank in the amount of \$187,096 and capital credit estate checks in the amount of \$11,550. Total receipts in the office - \$2,075,137; total receipts by wire and ACH - \$406,901; disbursements by ACH, EFT, wire - \$2,183,173; transfer of funds was made for payroll - \$208,606 and power bill paid on April 26, 2023, in the amount of \$2,004,864.
- Outages year-to-date stand at 8,645.06 consumer hours off, which is 4.89% below 2022 hours of 9,089.58. Overtime year-to-date is 366.75 hours, which is 25.41% below 2022 hours of 495.00.



Tim Kessler
Treasurer of Barron Electric's Board of Directors

Tim Kessler represents District 2 which includes the following townships: Evergreen, Spooner, Dewey, Bashaw, and Barronett.

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