

News FOR YOU...

Save Our Date Barron Electric's Annual Meeting: 8-19-2021

Join us at Barron Electric Cooperative's 85th Annual Meeting, which will be held on Thursday, August 19 at the Barron High School. Registration will start at 3:30 p.m. with the business meeting beginning at 5 p.m. Members attending the annual meeting should bring their August electric bill statement to the meeting. The statement contains a barcode that will register you for the meeting. **Please note: registration cards were not mailed.**

Director elections will be held for Districts 1, 5, and 7. Director nominations are due July 12 or can be made from the floor at the annual meeting. Members will also have the opportunity to win a free year of energy, excluding the facility charges. A kids' program for ages 3-12 will include face painting, games, and a grand prize. Each member will receive a Wisconsin cutting board, and all members and guests will receive a pound of cheese.

Designated Voters

Please contact the Member Services Department at 800-322-1008 or memberservices@barronelectric.com to request a form to designate a representative from your organization to vote at the annual meeting.

Need a Ride

A shuttle service will be available to the annual meeting for those members who live in the northern part of Barron Electric's service territory. The shuttle will leave at 3:15 p.m. from Barron Electric's Spooner office located at 1550 Paulson Drive. If you are interested in this service, please contact Member Services at 800-322-1008 by **Monday, August 9.**



Lois Haynie was the winner of a free year of energy at the 2020 Annual Meeting.



The Kids' Program will include face painting by Paula McDaniels.

Barron Electric will be following the CDC guidelines for masking and social distancing.

Precision and Attention to Detail Create High Quality Shades



Driving through the rural countryside of Sarona, farms fill the landscape, and you may even see a horse and buggy. At the end of Church Road and through the woods, is the Ingram farm, which has been converted into a profitable business called Weather Queen® Exterior Screen Porch Shades. For over 45 years, Carla has served the area with her small custom window treatment fabrication shop.



In 1998, a homeowner on Spider Lake, near Hayward, asked her to protect his elevated screen porch; and Carla's first exterior roman shade made of canvas was born. "The main focus has always been to protect the porch from rain, snow, wind, pollen and dirt," remarked Carla. This allowed her homeowners to decorate with confidence and extend the season. Now with a utility patent in both the U.S. and Canada, Weather Queen Shades are protecting beautiful screen porches mainly in northern Wisconsin and Minnesota, but also as far away as Maine, Stone Harbor New Jersey and Hilton Head Island. Locked against the exterior frame in its own track system, Weather Queen Shades keep the interior clean and dry, and their customers no longer have to spend all their time cleaning the porch. Lifting from inside the porch makes the functionality of the shade convenient. Carla has always known that satisfied customers grow the business.



This is now both a family and a community business, with certified local sales representatives and installers, powder coating from Henry's of Rice Lake and all parts are manufactured in the U.S. The barn is where Carla's husband, Larry, does the careful work of getting the hardware cut and ready for each installation. The 26' x 28' shop off the back of their home has been turned into a fabrication shop with machines and tables needed for large orders. Her children all help when needed, and each bring their own skill sets, from helping with fabrication, to bookkeeping, cad drawings and motorization systems. "Down the road on the next farm we found our first full-time employee, Marshia. Northern Wisconsin has always produced good workers," commented Carla. Learn more at: weatherqueenshades.com, www.facebook.com/weatherqueenshades, or call 715-354-7012 for more information.

Pictured from top to bottom: Carla Ingram, owner of Weather Queen Shades, helps create a product that provides homeowners with a protected outdoor living room. Marshia packs up shades to be installed in Bloomington, Illinois. Center photo: Installers are meticulous; everything has to be perfect. Bottom photo: The finished product is durable, easy to lift, and helps keep the porch clean and dry.

Employee Spotlight



Mike Kroeze is a graduate of Barron High School and Chippewa Valley Technical College, where he earned a degree in Electrical Power Distribution. He started as a lineman at Barron Electric in 2008 and is responsible for maintaining the electric system and providing reliable power. Mike commented, "I enjoy working with the line crews to provide reliable power for our members." Mike and his wife, Christa, reside in Barron and have three children.



Our office will be closed on Monday, July 5. Have a safe holiday weekend! Here are some firework safety tips:

- Wear eye protection when lighting fireworks.
- Light only one firework at a time, and never attempt to relight "a dud."
- Keep a supply of water close by as a precaution.

Lilliann Horvath Takes Third Place in Poster Contest



Congratulations to Lilliann Horvath who took third place in the Wisconsin Electric Cooperative Association's Electrical Safety Poster Contest. The contest was open to all third grade students of electric cooperative household members. Lilliann won a \$75 gift card for placing third in the contest as well as a \$25 gift card for placing 1st at Barron Electric.

Photo Contest

Winner receives a \$50 Credit



E-mail your summer photos to memberservices@barronelectric.com for a chance to win a \$50 credit on your electric bill. Criteria for the photos include:

- Photos must have a horizontal orientation (landscape) and must be high resolution, 300 dpi or higher.
- Must own rights to the photo.
- E-mail your digital image to memberservices@barronelectric.com by July 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.

The Value of Energy Management Programs

More than 9,000 members participate in Barron Electric's load management programs. These programs help members shift electricity outside of times when it is most expensive or in critical demand. Dairyland Power Cooperative, Barron Electric's wholesale power supplier, estimates that during a full load control event, the demand for electricity can be reduced by approximately 80 megawatts in the summer and 140 megawatts in the winter. This is equivalent to a small, emission-free power plant. By efficiently managing our peak electricity needs, we can help reduce the need for additional power plants and shift electricity use to take advantage of periods when renewable energy generation is highest.



*Condensed Board Minutes April 28, 2021



Richard Bol represents District 9 on Barron Electric's Board of Directors which includes the following townships: Chetek, Dallas, Sioux Creek, Dovre, Sampson, and Sand Creek.

- Auditor Jim Halvorsen from CliftonLarsonAllen LLP presented the 2020 audit report to the Board of Directors virtually via Teams. Director Kuhl moved to accept the 2020 audit report as presented. Motion carried.
- The minutes of the regular board meeting on March 31, 2021 were approved as written.
- Director Kessler gave the treasurer's report, with comments by Interim General Manager Olson. A report of vouchers for the month was presented as part of the board packet as follows: #98839 thru #98893 of CCF Bank was in the amount of \$323,926 and capital credit estate checks in the amount of \$9,137. Director Kessler reported on activity of total receipts in the office - \$2,100,138; total receipts by wire and ACH - \$1,101,116; disbursements by ACH, EFT, wire - \$2,743,408; transfer of funds was made for payroll - \$215,613 and power bill paid 04/28/2021 in the amount of \$2,073,048.
- A membership list of 63 was presented and approved without objection by the board.
- Form 219 summarizing construction activity for the month of February in the amount of \$107,911.52 was presented for approval, and included new services - \$5,658.53; change jobs - \$9,407.73; miscellaneous - \$92,845.26 and 9 retirements. The Form 219 stood approved as presented.

* View full board minutes on SmartHub.

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Published for the members of Barron Electric.
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Barron Electric is an equal
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July 2021 News for You