

News FOR YOU...

Annual Meeting 2019 - Beyond Electricity

We invite you to join us on Saturday, March 30 at the Barron High School for Barron Electric's 83rd Annual Meeting. This is your opportunity to become involved in the operation of your Cooperative by electing leaders like you to represent your district.

Registration starts at 8:30 a.m. with music by the Stringsmiths. The business meeting will follow at 10 a.m. Jeff Springer of Dairyland Power will be our guest speaker and will discuss solar, electric vehicle technology, and smart homes. In

addition to the business meeting, which will include elections for Districts 3, 6, and 9, there will be lots of prizes and a grand prize of a free year of energy, up to \$100 per month excluding flat monthly charges. A pound of cheese will be given to all attendees. Children, ages 3-12 years of age, will have fun at the Kids' Program, which includes face-painting, games, and crafts.

Food Pantry Donation

Bring a donation for the Prairie Farm Food Pantry. Your name will

be entered into a drawing for a prize.

The strength of our Cooperative comes from you. We look forward to seeing you at the 83rd Annual Meeting on Saturday, March 30.

Official Notice of the 83rd Annual Meeting

Pursuant to the provision of the bylaws, notice is hereby given that the annual meeting of the members of Barron Electric Cooperative will be held Saturday, March 30 at the Barron High School, with registration beginning at 8:30 a.m. The business meeting will follow at 10:00 a.m. to take action upon the following matters:

- To hear reports of officers and directors
- To elect three directors to serve a three-year term in Districts 3, 6, and 9
- To address all other business that may come before the meeting or any adjournment or adjournments, thereof.

*Dated this 27th day of
February 2019
Scott Warwick, Secretary*



Enjoy traditional bluegrass music by the Stringsmiths at Barron Electric's 83rd Annual Meeting.

Scholarship Opportunity

The Federated Youth Foundation is pleased to offer the Charles Van Sickle Endowment Scholarship. This \$2,000 scholarship will be awarded to a pre-law or law student who has an interest in cooperative law. The scholarship is made possible by an endowment established in 2013 to honor Wisconsin's renowned electric cooperative lobbyist and attorney, the late Charles Van Sickle. Scholarship information is available at barronelectric.com. Click on the community tab and scholarships. Applications should be submitted by April 5, 2019 to Federated Youth Foundation, P.O. Box 148, Baraboo, WI 53913.



Monthly Photo Contest

Spring Landscapes

E-mail your spring 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 by March 10, 2019. Include your Barron Electric account number, address, and phone number.

Employee Spotlight

Working for our Members



Shay Frankenberg

Shay Frankenberg is a Member Account Representative for the Finance Department and assists members with billing questions. She previously worked for First National Bank in Chetek and has an Associates Degree in Business and Finance. Shay is involved in Girl Scouts, assists with BASA Youth Soccer, and volunteers for youth wrestling in Cameron. She said, "I enjoy helping our members and like the camaraderie amongst co-workers."

Giving Back to the Community

A \$500 donation will help the Family House on Heart Island provide emergency shelter to individuals and families residing in Barron County. In 2018, they provided safe shelter for 88 individuals. Duana Bremer, Board Chair, said, "We are looking forward to partnering with Barron Electric to provide exceptional services to those in need."

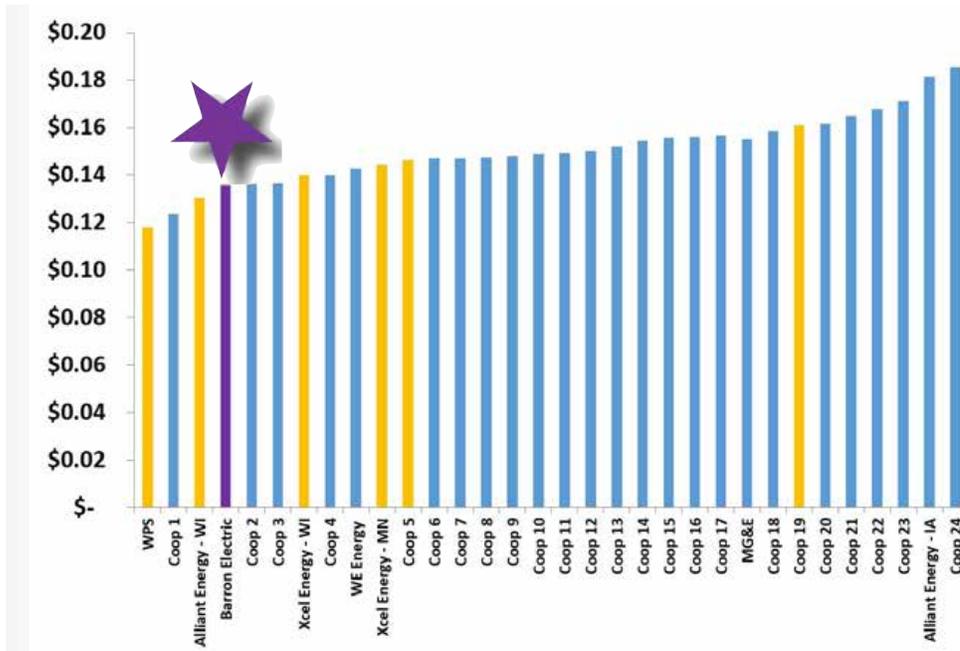
Funds for Barron Electric donations are derived from the Federated Youth Foundation, an administrative trust overseeing unclaimed capital credits of former members.



Mary Hrdlicka, Family House Director, accepts a \$500 check from Barron Electric Director Larry Kuhl.

Keeping Rates Reasonable

Retail Rates @ 1,150 kWh



Barron Electric Cooperative has one of the lowest electric rates when compared to investor-owned utilities and electric cooperatives.

Ride the Bus to the Annual Meeting

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 8:30 a.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 or e-mail memberservices@barronelectric.com by Thursday, March 14.

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 or by contacting the billing department at 800-322-1008.

Designated Voter Forms for Annual Meeting Available Upon Request

The bylaws of Barron Electric Cooperative in Article III, Section 5 state: "Any member which is a cooperative, corporation, governmental body, church or voluntary association, may, acting through its governing body, designate, **in writing**, its representative to act for it at membership meetings. Such written designation shall be filed with the (cooperative) secretary before such representative votes at any such meeting, except that the chairman of any such corporation, association, board or body politic may cast its vote at such meeting if no such written designation for any other representative is so filed. Such representative may also vote as an individual if he/she is a member. A guardian or other legal representative may vote for a member."

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 Barron Electric Cooperative Annual Meeting on Saturday, March 30 at the Barron High School Gymnasium.

Director Notes



Larry Kuhl represents District 5 on Barron Electric's Board of Directors, which includes the townships of Long Lake, Bear Lake, Oak Grove, Stanfold, Rice Lake, and Doyle.

Condensed Board Minutes December 21, 2018

- 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: #95355 thru #95519 of CCF Bank was in the amount of \$252,949 and capital credit estate checks of \$26,893. Director Helm reported on activity of total receipts in the office - \$1,370,530; total receipts by wire and ACH - \$237,349; disbursements by ACH, EFT, wire - 1,807,951; transfer of funds was made for payroll - \$92,471 and power bill paid 12/26/18 in the amount of \$2,203,344.
- Outages year-to-date stand at 42,174 consumer hours off, which is 79.8% below 2017 hours of 208,962. Overtime year-to-date is 3,372.75 hours, which is 26.9% below 2017 hours of 4,613.

New Meters Coming Soon

Barron Electric Cooperative will begin replacing our current meter reading system this year. Director of Operations Nate Steines said, "The new metering system will use radio frequency to transmit the readings to our office." The entire process will take three years to complete. Here are some frequently asked questions:

- 1. Why is Barron Electric changing their metering system?** Technology is changing very fast, and our current system is outdated and no longer supported by the manufacturer.
- 2. Will a new meter be installed at my home or business?** Yes, meters will be installed over a three-year process.
- 3. How will this new meter benefit me?** This will result in a more reliable power distribution system. Members will have access to more usage information if desired.
- 4. Is my data secure?** Yes, the metering data will be transmitted via an encrypted, secure system. No personal information about members is stored inside the meter, and it cannot identify or control individual appliance usage. The meter records whole-house energy usage just like your existing meter.
- 5. Will the communications system interfere with any equipment in my home?** No, this should not interfere with any equipment inside the home or business.
- 6. Are there any health risks to the new meter?** No, the new meter poses no health concerns.

News FOR YOU...

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7:45 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
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Published for the members of Barron Electric.
If you have any comments regarding the
newsletter, please e-mail
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Barron Electric is an equal
opportunity provider.



Cook's Corner

Corn & Broccoli Casserole Char & Glenn Hedlund

- 1-10 oz. package frozen cut broccoli, thawed & drained
- 1-10 oz. package frozen corn, thawed & drained
- ½ cup coarsely crushed rich round crackers
- ½ cup shredded cheddar cheese
- ½ cup milk
- 1 egg, beaten
- 2 T. butter, melted
- Salt & pepper to taste
- Topping: ½ cup coarsely crushed rich round crackers
- 2 T. butter, melted

Place broccoli & corn in large bowl. Add ½ cup crushed crackers, cheese, milk, egg, butter, & seasoning. Stir to combine. Spoon mixture into a 1 ½ quart round casserole dish. Sprinkle the other ½ cup crushed crackers evenly over casserole. Drizzle the melted butter over the top. Bake, uncovered at 350 degrees, for 25 minutes or until edges are bubbly.