

News FOR YOU...

Barron Electric Cooperative
October 2018
Photo by Joe Clark

Congressman Duffy Addresses Cooperative Concerns

Congressman Duffy recently met with cooperative personnel from Barron Electric, Chippewa Valley Electric, Dairyland Power, Polk Burnett, and the Wisconsin Electric Cooperative Association. Congressman Duffy's district includes 13 electric cooperatives, whose main goal is to safely provide their members with reliable and affordable electricity. Topics discussed included the Cushion of Credit, Spent Nuclear Fuel, Nemadji Trail Energy Center, and the Pension Bill.

Cushion of Credit

Electric cooperatives serve the poorest, most rural parts of the country. To maintain affordable electric rates in these high-cost areas, co-ops have access to low-cost financing through the Rural Utilities Service Electric Loan program. The changes to the Cushion of Credit, which is in the Senate's version of the Farm Bill, could cost cooperative members about \$4.5 million a year, about a third of which would be paid by electric cooperative members in Congressman Duffy's district. Barron Electric Director Mike Baker remarked, "We want to continue working together on a Farm Bill that electric cooperatives can support."

Spent Nuclear Fuel

H.R. 3053, the Nuclear Waste Policy Amendments Act of 2018, is instrumental in revitalizing the federal used nuclear fuel program by moving the Yucca Mountain project forward, as well as providing the U.S. Department



Congressman Sean Duffy responded to a variety of topics affecting electric cooperatives. Also pictured is Barron Electric's General Manager Dallas Sloan.

of Energy with clarifying authority to fund and develop consolidated interim storage facilities. Utilities and customers have paid over \$40 billion into the Nuclear Waste Fund. Passage of this amendment would help place the federal government on a path to fulfill its responsibilities and to unburden taxpayers of the ever-mounting liability by establishing a durable program for managing used nuclear fuel.

Nemadji Trail Energy Center

Dairyland Power's Nathan Franklin remarked, "Dairyland Power and Minnesota Power/ALLETE have proposed building a 525-550 megawatt natural gas combined cycle power plant in

Superior, Wisconsin. The Nemadji Trail Energy Center will support Minnesota Power and Dairyland Power's diversification goals and will reduce reliance on coal facilities and support increased investment in renewables. It will also provide grid stabilization in northwest Wisconsin, which has no major power plants."

Pension Bill

The Retirement Enhancement and Savings Act (S. 2526/H.R. 5282) was also discussed. These acts would help protect electric cooperative employee retirement benefits and stop the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation from grossly overcharging cooperative pension plans.

High-quality Greens Available Year-round



Toby's business allows him to spend time with his daughters.

Toby Friesen and wife, Elaine, both grew up with an agricultural background. Toby remarked, "I really wanted a business that would allow me to stay home with my kids." He opened Slippery Hill Farm in September 2016, and grows a variety of hydroponic lettuce, as well as basil and cilantro. All the plants are started by seed and grown hydroponically in a deep water culture system. Once harvested, the product is shipped to local businesses and restaurants. Three employees help to harvest, package, and transplant. He is looking to produce microgreens, which are harvested after sprouting as shoots. Fine dining restaurants use them as a visual and flavor component.

Slippery Hill Farm's produce can be purchased at the following locations:



New energy-efficient LED lighting is used to help the plants grow in the winter months.

- Austad's Turtle Lake
- Country Lane Market & Pantry Barron
- Island City Food Co-op Cumberland
- Just Local Foods Eau Claire
- Louie's Finer Meats Cumberland
- MarketPlace Foods
(Hayward, Menomonie, Rice Lake, and St. Croix)
- Market Food Coop Menomonie
- Rays Market Ridgeland
- Schmitz Economart Spooner
- Shadicks Price Rite Bloomer



[Access My Account](#)

Sign up for 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.



Celebrate Cooperative Month and Pick up Your Capital Credit Check

Lunch • Co-op and Community Displays • Prizes • Food Drive

Capital Credit Open House

Tuesday, October 2, 2018

11 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Barron Electric's Spooner Office
1550 Paulson Drive
Spooner, WI 54801

Cooperative Month Event

Thursday, October 4, 2018

12 p.m. - 4 p.m.

Barron Electric's Barron Office
1434 State Highway 25 North
Barron, WI 54812

Barron Electric Named 5-Star Cooperative



Barron Electric has been named a "5-Star Co-op" by the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NRECA). The 5-star designation recognizes Barron Electric's high level of participation in Co-ops Vote, a national get-out-to-vote campaign. The non-partisan campaign seeks to engage voters and boost voter turnout in areas served by electric co-ops all across the country. "State and local elections have a huge impact on our day to day lives in our area. We're honored to be recognized by NRECA," said Barron Electric's General Manager Dallas Sloan.

"Electric cooperatives play a unique and special role as a voice in their communities," said NRECA CEO Jim Matheson. "Elections are important, especially in rural areas. I'm pleased to congratulate them on this accomplishment as they make a real difference in the communities they serve." Five-star status marks the highest level of engagement in Co-ops Vote and is achieved when a participating co-op completes at least five activities under the program. The Co-ops Vote program can make a difference in our communities. More information on Co-ops Vote is available at vote.coop.



Blood Drive

*in conjunction with
Cooperative Month*

October 4, 2018

11 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Barron Electric's Barron Office
1434 State Highway 25 North
Barron, WI 54812

Walk-ins Welcome

To schedule an appointment, visit redcrossblood.org or call 800-733-2767.

Cook's Corner

Dad's Dish

Paul Margan

"I made up this recipe about 40 years ago, and our family asks for it quite often."

- 1 lb. hamburger
- 1 small onion chopped
- 1 can of pork and beans
- 1 can of mixed vegetables
- 1 can of tomato soup
- Salt & pepper to taste
- Pinch each of poultry seasoning, cumin & sage
- 1 cup of rice
- 2 cups of water (boil water, add rice)

Brown hamburger. Add onion and rest of ingredients. Make rice according to directions. Mix everything together and serve.

Win a cookbook if your recipe is published. E-mail recipes to memberservices@barronelectric.com or mail to:

Barron Electric Cooperative
PO Box 40
Barron WI 54812
Attn: Member Services

Director Notes



Lynn Peterson is Vice President of the Board of Directors representing District 6 which includes the townships of Clinton, Barron, Maple Grove, and Prairie Lake.

Condensed Board Minutes July 25, 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: #93863 thru #94291 of CCF Bank was in the amount of \$275,688 and capital credit estate checks of \$7,324. Director Helm reported on activity of total receipts in the office - \$1,754,951; total receipts by wire and ACH - \$242,975; disbursements by ACH, EFT, wire - 1,965,403; transfer of funds was made for payroll - \$193,157 and power bill paid 07/25/18 in the amount of \$2,414,748.
- A membership list of 79 was presented and approved without objection by the board.
- Form 219 summarizing construction activity for the past month in the amount of \$205,722.04 was presented for approval, and included new services - \$32,071.61; change jobs - \$3,295.31; miscellaneous - \$170,355.12 and 2 retirements. The Form 219 stood approved as presented.

News FOR YOU...

Barron Electric Cooperative
Dallas Sloan—General Manager
Carrie Baribeau—Editor
cbaribeau@barronelectric.com

Office Hours
7:45 a.m. - 4:30 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.



Monthly Photo Contest Winter Landscapes



Members are invited to participate in the 2018 photo contest. We are currently looking for winter landscape photos. Winning photos will be used on the cover of the *News for You*. If your photo is chosen, you will win a \$50 credit on your 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 October 10, 2018. Include your Barron Electric account number, address and phone number.

Sign up for Outage Texting

Barron Electric members have the opportunity to text in their outage and receive a message when the outage is restored. If your mobile number is included on your account information, you can sign up for outage texting by visiting our website at barronelectric.com and click on outage texting on the home page. If your mobile number is not listed on your account, please complete the form below or contact our billing department at 800-322-1008 to update your account information. Once your phone number is added, you can sign up for outage texting by visiting our website at barronelectric.com.



Name: _____

Barron Electric Account #: _____

Mobile #: _____

E-mail: _____