

News FOR YOU...

Living by Cooperative Principles for over 85 Years

First energized in 1936, Barron Electric Cooperative has been providing reliable electricity to our members. As a cooperative, we live by the seven cooperative principles including:

1. Voluntary and Open Membership:

Membership in a cooperative is open to all persons regardless of race, religion, gender or economic circumstances.

2. Democratic Member Control: Cooperatives are democratic organizations controlled by their members. Barron Electric's Board of Directors consists of nine members who are elected to represent the best interests of the membership.

3. Members Economic Participation: Members contribute equitably to, and democratically control, the capital of their cooperative. Barron Electric returns margins to members based on their usage, also called cashback credits or capital credits.

4. Autonomy and Independence: Cooperative are autonomous, self-help organizations controlled by their members.

5. Education, Training, and Information for members, directors and employees.

6. Cooperation among cooperatives: one example is ROPE, which is Restoration of Power in an Emergency, where cooperatives work together to restore power during large-scale outages.

7. Concern for community: Barron Electric has been a strong supporter of the communities they serve, from providing funding to non-profit groups, sponsoring events, and allowing employees to use community service hours to help various groups.



Top photo: Barron Electric employees show their support for Pink Ribbon Advocacy (Principle #7). Bottom photo: Stephanie Kunesh, Barron Electric's receptionist, helps distribute cashback credits to members. (Principle #3)

Tom Margotto Wins the Megawatt Community Service Award



Tom Margotto and his dog, Abby, take a cruise on Lake Vermillion, where he serves as the Association President, helping to ensure that the citizens enjoy clean water.

Employee Spotlight



Melissa Gillett is Barron Electric's Member Technology Coordinator. She is responsible for marketing the cooperative's programs, products and services, as well as enhancing economic development. She started at the cooperative in 2005. She commented, "I enjoy providing members with more information regarding solar energy and electric vehicle technology." She is the Co-President of the Barron Chamber of Commerce. Melissa is a Cameron High School graduate and has a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Business Administration from Lakeland University.



Melissa Gillett, right, visits with members who are also family, Phyllis Gillett and Vernon Gillett, at an annual meeting.

Tom Margotto has served as President of the Lake Vermillion Association since 2012. He has spent countless hours on Lake Vermillion, monitoring for invasive species and the water quality, as well as checking on the beaver dams. He assists in writing grants in partnership with the Department of Natural Resources and Lake Education and Planning Services. He helps ensure that citizens of Vermillion Lake enjoy clean water. He also applied for a dredging permit near the boat landing on Lower Vermillion. While his children were growing up, he was a baseball coach, basketball coach, and a Cub Scout leader. Member Darlene Bratager, who nominated Tom, remarked, "Our association is very fortunate to have Tom Margotto, who gives so much of his time and talent toward the benefit of our lake and its inhabitants, including fish, fowl, plants, animals, and humans."

Nominate a Member for the Megawatt Community Service Award

Barron Electric is led by members like you who understand and listen to the community. Nominate a member for the Megawatt Community Service Award. Each winner will receive a \$50 electric bill credit. Application forms can be found at barronelectric.com in the community area or by contacting the Member Services Department at 800-322-1008.



Director Nominations Open for Districts 3, 6, and 9 and Information on Resolutions

Barron Electric's Annual Meeting Set for Saturday, March 26

What makes Barron Electric part of the community? We are led by member-consumers like you, who listen to and understand the communities

you serve. Director Districts open for nomination of candidates and election are listed as follows:

DISTRICT 3 (Three-year term)
Towns of Beaverbrook, Birchwood, Crystal, Madge, Sarona and Stone Lake in Washburn County; Town of Cedar Lake in Barron County; Town of Sand Lake in Sawyer County.

DISTRICT 6 (Three-year term)

Towns of Barron, Clinton, Maple Grove & Prairie Lake in Barron County.

DISTRICT 9 (Three-year term)

Towns of Chetek, Dallas, Dovre & Sioux Creek in Barron County; Town of Sampson in Chippewa County; Town of Sand Creek in Dunn County.

		Brooklyn	Gull Lake	Stinnett	Hayward	
Scott	Casey	Trego	Spring Brook	Bass Lake	Bass Lake	
Rusk	Evergreen	Spooner	Crystal	Stone Lake	Sand Lake	
Dewey	Bashaw	Beaver Brook	Madge	Birchwood		
Roosevelt	Barronett	Sarona	Long Lake	Birchwood		
Maple Plain	Lakeland	Bear Lake	Oak Grove	Cedar Lake		
Crystal Lake	Cumberland	Stanford	Rice Lake	Doyle		
Almena	Clinton	Barron	Stanley	Sumner	Strickland	Stubbs
Clayton	Turtle Lake	Arland	Maple Grove	Prairie Lake	Chetek	Rusk
Clear Lake	Vance Creek	Prairie Farm	Dallas	Sioux Creek	Dovre	Sampson
	New Haven	Sheridan		Sand Creek		

How Can You Run for a Director Position?

- Director nominees should obtain a petition from Barron Electric's office.
 - Requires signatures from ten(10) members, living within the director district that the nominee would represent
 - Nominees must meet director qualifications as printed in the Cooperative Bylaws.
- A photograph and candidate information submitted with the signed petition will be published in the candidate profile.
- Petitions must be received by 12:00 p.m. (noon) on **Monday, February 14, 2021** in order to have nominee's name appear on the printed ballot.

continued on page 4

Working Together to Make the Rural Area a Better Place to Live



Pictured left: Randy Cook, President of Barron Electric Cooperative's Board, presents a \$2,000 check to Nature's Edge Therapy Center, represented by Catherine Raj, occupational therapist, and Karissa Halverson, certified occupational therapy assistant. The funds for this donation were derived from CoBank and FYE, a trust consisting of unclaimed capital credits. Pictured right: Carrie Baribeau-Communication Specialist at Barron Electric Cooperative, presents a \$500 check to Marshfield Medical Center-Rice Lake Hospice representatives Brooke, RN; Christine, SW; Dee, PTA; and Missy, RN. Funds for this donation were derived from FYE, a trust consisting of unclaimed capital credits.

Monthly Photo Contest

Winner receives a \$50 Credit

E-mail your winter photo 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 January 9, 2022. 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.

*Condensed Board Minutes October 27, 2021

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

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.



- Director Kessler gave the treasurer's report, with comments by General Manager Torud. A report of vouchers for the month was presented as part of the board packet as follows: #99431 thru #99571 of CCF Bank was in the amount of \$290,329 and capital credit estate checks in the amount of \$15,271. Director Kessler reported on activity of total receipts in the office - \$2,533,696; total receipts by wire and ACH - \$1,420,539; disbursements by ACH, EFT, wire - \$3,453,830; transfer of funds was made for payroll - \$195,808 and power bill paid 10/27/2021 in the amount of \$1,661,265.
- A membership list of 93 was presented and approved without objection by the board.
- Form 219 summarizing construction activity for the month of September in the amount of \$376,249.54 was presented for approval, and included new services - \$42,313.11; change jobs - \$23,672.46; miscellaneous - \$310,263.97 and 3 retirements. The Form 219 stood approved as presented.
- Outages year-to-date stand at 19,647 consumer hours off, which is 22.63% below 2020 hours of 25,395. Overtime year-to-date is 2,842.25 hours, which is 6.19% below 2020 hours of 3,029.75.

Director Nominations and Resolutions

(continued from page 3)

4. Mail petitions to: Barron Electric Cooperative, Attn: Jennifer Horstman, PO Box 40, Barron, WI 54812
5. Nominations of candidates to the post of Director may be made from the floor during the Annual Meeting on Saturday, March 26. All formal resolutions which are to be presented to the annual meeting will be reviewed by a Resolutions Committee prior to the Notice of the Annual Meeting being sent. This will not restrict the right of any member-consumer to make simple motions at the Annual Meeting. Copies of resolutions to be presented and considered at the Annual Meeting will be mailed in advance to the membership so that each member-consumer will have time to consider the same.

All resolutions must be in writing, properly signed, dated, and with member-consumer's address and phone number. Hand-written resolutions will be considered only if legible as determined by the Resolutions Committee. Resolutions to be considered must be received no later than 12:00 p.m. (noon) on **Monday, February 14, 2021** and should be addressed as follows:

**Barron Electric Cooperative Board President
c/o Resolutions Committee
PO Box 40
Barron, WI 54812**

News FOR YOU...

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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.