

News **FOR YOU...**

Charging Our Future

More than 300 members and guests enjoyed a delicious breakfast served by the Barron VFW at Barron Electric's 86th Annual Meeting, where the theme was "Charging Our Future."

Brent Ridge, President and CEO of Dairyland Power Cooperative, spoke about renewables and reliability, indicating that carbon

reduction is a big challenge. Dairyland Power is Barron Electric's wholesale power supplier. Brent commented, "One of our goals is to methodically lower our carbon output without sacrificing safety and reliability." He told members that Dairyland Power had very good sales in the market and their plants ran efficiently in 2021;

therefore, margins were returned to the cooperatives.

Brent also discussed how energy resources will change in the future to meet our energy needs. Brent highlighted NuScale, their mission is to provide scalable advanced nuclear technology by creating an energy source that is smarter, cleaner, safer, and cost-competitive. Earlier this year, NuScale and Dairyland

Continued on page 3



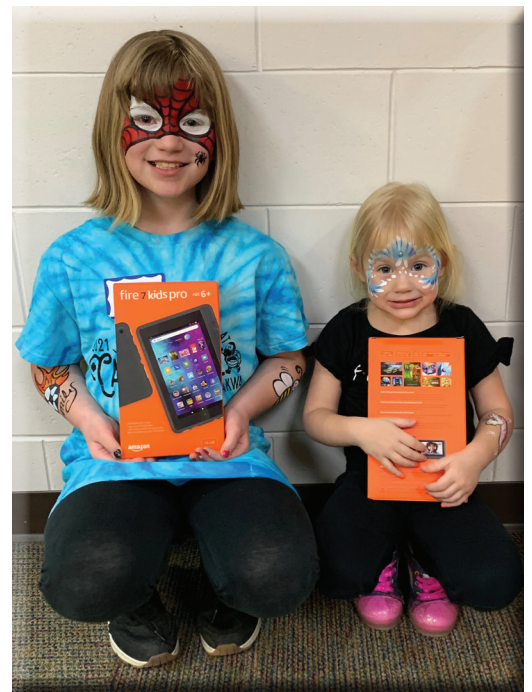
**COMING
SOON**

**NEW
HOURS**

**STARTING
MONDAY MAY 9TH**

7:00 AM - 3:30 PM

Employees felt the new hours would be beneficial for members, because members will have the opportunity to stop at the office or contact the office prior to the start of their work day. Appointments can be scheduled earlier in the day. The change will also allow more daylight hours for employees working outside.



Emily O'Connell and Raelynn Cox were the winners of the Fire Tablets drawn at the Kids' Program at Barron Electric's annual meeting.

Chris Kroeze at Music in the Park - Wednesday, June 8

Fundraiser for Honor Flight



Barron Electric Cooperative is proud to sponsor Chris Kroeze at Barron's Music in the Park on Wednesday, June 8. The concert will start at 6:00 p.m. at Anderson Park, North Mill Street in Barron. Food and beverages will be available for sale starting at 5:00 p.m. Proceeds will be given to the Honor Flight.

Honor Flight

Barron Electric will be hosting a fundraiser for the Honor Flight. The Never Forgotten Honor Flight is a not-for-profit organization of dedicated volunteers providing Veterans with respect, gratitude and honor, by flying them free of charge to Washington D.C. to visit their memorials. There are Barron Electric members on the Honor Flight waiting list, and Barron Electric is proud to help sponsor them.



Veterans from the Merchant Marine, WWII, Korea, or Vietnam can complete an online application at neverforgottenhonorflight.com/application to sign up for the Honor Flight. If you have any questions, please contact 715-573-8519.

Pole Testing Improves Reliability

American Energy Services is testing poles in Spooner Township in Washburn County and Crystal Lake and Cumberland Townships in Barron County. Their trucks will have a magnetic sign that displays Barron Electric Cooperative's name, while a 4-wheeler may be used to move efficiently throughout the system.

If you have any questions, please contact our office at 800-322-1008 or e-mail operations@barronelectric.com.

A poster for the 3rd Graders' Electrical Safety Poster Contest. The poster is yellow and features a cartoon character holding a sign that says "MUST BE BARRON ELECTRIC MEMBER". The text on the poster reads: "FOR 3RD GRADERS! ELECTRICAL SAFETY POSTER CONTEST. SUBMIT TO BARRON ELECTRIC BY MAY 31, 2022. PO BOX 40 BARRON WI, 54812. SEE RULES & REGISTRATION FORM AT WWW.WECA.COOP. WIN GREAT PRIZES! \$25 GIFT CARD AWARDED TO 1ST PLACE WINNER. Winner advances to WECA for a chance at a Chromebook, \$100 or \$75 Gift Card." The poster is surrounded by various school supplies like pencils, pens, and erasers.

FOR 3RD GRADERS!
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BARRON Electric COOPERATIVE
WECA

Annual Meeting *(continued from cover)*

Power announced the signing of a memorandum of understanding to evaluate the potential deployment of NuScale's advanced nuclear technology.

Barron Electric's General Manager Aaron Torud talked about the Level 2 and Level 3 electric vehicle chargers that were installed in Trego last summer filling a 155-mile gap between fast chargers on Highway 53. The cooperative is purchasing a F-150 Lightning to add to their fleet and will evaluate how effective it is versus the gas vehicles. He discussed a variety of energy efficiency tools and encouraged members to visit barronelectric.com to try the Home Energy Adventure with tips to save energy and money, view videos on how to save energy, and check out the Use Energy Wisely brochure.

Randy Cook, Barron Electric's Board President, remarked, "Barron Electric has the lowest rates in the Dairyland Cooperative system." He shared with members that Right-of-Way clearing and maintenance projects help to improve reliability. He also stressed the importance of safety and ensuring that all employees go home safe every day.

Incumbents Michael Baker, Patricia Mandel, and Richard Bol were reelected to Barron Electric Cooperative's Board of Directors representing Districts 3, 6, and 9 respectively.

Twelve members were winners of the \$100 bill credits including: Vivian Bergman, Herb Cook, Kelly Cupp, Neil Elskamp, Lois Haynie, Kenneth Noesen, Edward Olson, Anthony Richter, Lois Ristow,

Larry Snowbank, David Wighers and Lawrence Wilhelmy. Raelynn Cox and Emily O'Connell were the winners of the Fire Tablets drawn at the Kids' Program.

Members had the opportunity to ask questions. One member asked, "How will we meet demand with EVs?" Barron Electric would upgrade electric service, transformers, and substations. Brent commented, "We would shift how we operate at a transmission level, but I believe this is many years away." Another member asked if Dairyland Power and Barron Electric would install more charging stations. Charge™

is a group of cooperatives who are working together to help promote EVs and help build the infrastructure of electric charging stations. They also told members that it was cheaper to charge vehicles at night at home.

Thank you to the businesses and organizations who donated items to the event. Maple Creek Sugarbush, Lost in the Woods Acres, Helms, A&M Pure, and Hustads donated maple syrup. Barron Kwik Trip donated bottled water, and the Barron County Dairy Promoters and the Cumberland Airport provided griddles.



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Our office will be closed
on Monday, May 30
in observance of
Memorial Day.

Remember & Honor

Cook's Corner

BBQ Meatballs

- 1 - 3 lb bag of frozen Italian style meatballs-thaw in fridge overnight
- 1 - 28 oz. bottle of KC Masterpiece original bbq sauce
- 6 -oz of grape jelly

Place the bbq sauce and jelly in crock pot. Add meatballs. Cook on high, stirring occasionally. Cook meatballs with jelly and bbq sauce. Approximately 2 ½ hours.



News FOR YOU...

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7:00 a.m. - 3:30 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.

*Condensed Board Minutes February 23, 2022

Patricia Mandel represents District 6 on Barron Electric's Board of Directors which includes the townships of Clinton, Barron, Maple Grove, and Prairie Lake.



- 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: #99879 thru #99984 of CCF Bank in the amount of \$196,045 and capital credit estate checks in the amount of \$9,353. Director Kessler reported on activity of total receipts in the office - \$2,314,361; total receipts by wire and ACH - \$982,078; disbursements by ACH, EFT, wire - \$3,065,110; transfer of funds was made for payroll - \$186,812 and power bill paid 02/23/2022 in the amount of \$2,446,010.
- A membership list of 38 was presented and approved without objection by the board.
- Form 219 summarizing construction activity for the month of January in the amount of \$106,072.27 was presented for approval and included new services - \$0; change jobs - \$0; Other Work Order Projects - \$106,072.27 and 2 retirements. The Form 219 stood approved as presented.

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

Monthly Photo Contest

Winners receive a \$50 Credit

E-mail your summer 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.
- Member must own rights to the photo.
- E-mail your digital image to memberservices@barronelectric.com by May 10, 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.



Auto Pay Winner

Congratulations to Mike Murphy. He won a \$50 bill credit in the Auto Pay drawing. Sign up for Auto Pay to have your name entered into a drawing for a \$50 bill credit. Visit barronelectric.com, and click on SmartHub to get started.