

News FOR YOU...

Members Elect New Director and Meet New General Manager at Barron Electric's 85th Annual Meeting

More than 400 Barron Electric members and guests attended the 85th annual meeting held on August 19. General Manager Aaron Torud presented an overview of the electric industry. Aaron started at Barron Electric in July, replacing Dallas Sloan who retired after 36 years of service. Aaron discussed renewable generation including wind and solar, as well as natural gas resources and nuclear energy. He remarked, "General Motors will manufacture 30 new electric

vehicles by 2025 and plans to sell only zero-emission vehicles by 2035, while Ford has over 100,000 pre-orders for the F-150 Lightning coming in 2022." He also talked about the new Level 3, DC fast charger and Level 2 charger installed at the Prime Bar and Family Dining in Trego. This fills a 155-mile gap between fast chargers on Highway 53 from Eau Claire to Duluth.

Barron Electric Cooperative President Randy Cook told members that Barron Electric's rates

were the third lowest among Wisconsin utilities and electric cooperatives in the Dairyland Power Cooperative system. He remarked, "Members have power over 99% of the time." He also discussed cashback credits or capital credits. Over \$1,000,000 was returned in 2020, and eligible members received a credit on their August electric bill. He also recognized Kathy Robertson, who retired in June after nearly 18 years

(continued on page 2)



Members elected David Olson (left) of Spooner to District 1.

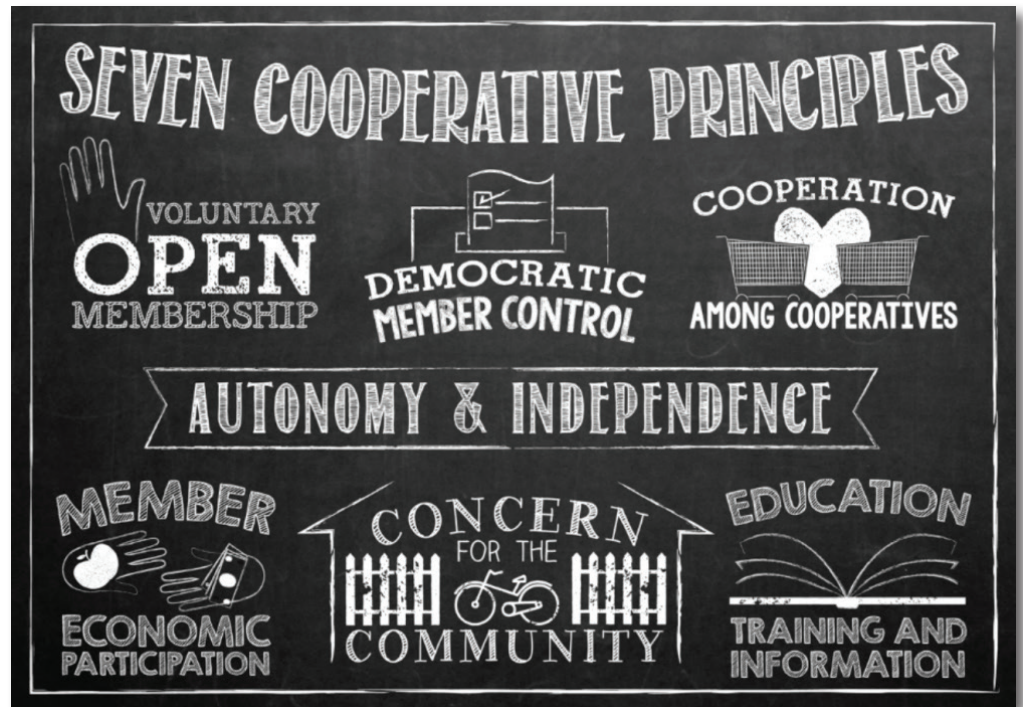


Teresa Olson of Clayton was the winner of a free year of energy. She is pictured with Board President Randy Cook and General Manager Aaron Torud.

October is National Cooperative Month

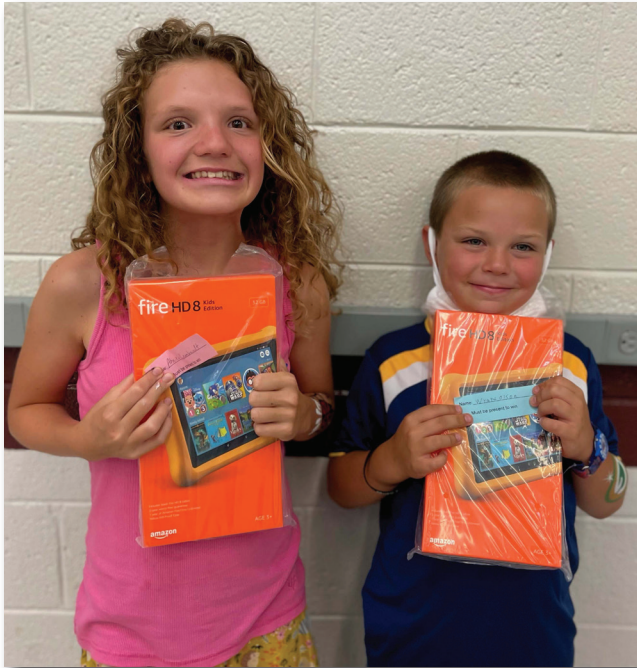
Cooperative Month has been celebrated annually in October for more than half a century. As cooperatives, our biggest impact comes from embracing the values and principles that make us truly unique as shown below:

- Barron Electric members elected three members to the board of directors at the 85th Annual Meeting.
- More than \$600,000 was returned as cashback credits to more than 12,000 current and former members.
- The cooperative has awarded \$340,000 in scholarships to high school seniors since 1985.
- The cooperative has joined forces with 30 electric cooperatives to create a regional electric vehicle (EV) charging network called CHARGE™. Visit charge.coop for more information.



Source: Consolidated Electric Cooperative

85th Annual Meeting *(continued from cover)*



Ahnika Leonhardt and Wyatt Olson were the winners of the Kids' Tablets.

at the cooperative. She was responsible for the load management system.

Director Arlyn Helm was recognized for his 33 years of service on the board of directors serving District 1, he decided not to seek reelection. Member David Olson of Spooner was elected to District 1. David has been a Barron Electric member for 24 years. He is the Street Superintendent for the City of Spooner. He remarked, "One of the biggest challenges facing Barron Electric is keeping costs down and still providing the level of service the members have experienced for many years." Incumbents Larry Kuhl and Randy Cook were both reelected, representing District 5 and District 7 respectively.

Congressman Tom Tiffany, Senator Janet Bewley and Representative Dave Armstrong all addressed the members. Senator Bewley remarked, "I am most impressed with how Barron Electric solves problems. The cooperative business model is wonderful." Congressman Tiffany said that he is working to ensure that power is affordable. Representative Armstrong spoke of his strong relationship with the cooperative on economic development projects throughout Barron County.

Making a Difference in Our Communities



Barron Electric Cooperative Director Mike Baker presents a \$2,000 check to Hunt Hill representatives Larry Piskie, Nikki Janisin, Mark Sauer, and Sage Dunham. The money will be used to purchase an electric golf cart. Barron Electric's \$1,000 donation was matched by their lender CoBank.



The Red Barn Theatre in Rice Lake received a facelift! Barron Electric Linemen Logan Sanborn and Aaron Holten put up the new faces on the front of the barn, which were created by Boyd Stearns. Visit www.redbarntheatre-ricelake.com for more information.

Employee Spotlight

Lineman Logan Sanborn started at Barron Electric in 2017. He is responsible for maintaining the electric system. He has a degree in Electrical Power Distribution from Chippewa Valley Technical College and is a graduate of Cameron High School.



He remarked, "I enjoy working with the line crews to provide reliable service to our members." Logan enjoys outdoor sports and spending time with family and friends.



Lineman Logan Sanborn helps upgrade the Shell Lake Substation.

Photo Contest

Winner receives a \$50 Credit



E-mail your Thanksgiving 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 October 9, 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.

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.



Energy Assistance Available

Energy Assistance for the heating season 2021-2022 has started. In response to the COVID-19 crisis, the Department of Administration has adjusted the eligibility requirements for residents who are seeking heating and electric assistance through the Wisconsin Home Energy Assistance Program (WHEAP). Eligibility will now be based on the household's previous month of income, rather than the former requirement of the previous three months of income. This will allow those who are recently affected by COVID-19 to receive assistance quickly.

Contact your local agency:

Barron/West Cap	715-265-4271, ext. 0
Burnett/West Cap.....	715-265-4271, ext. 0
Chippewa/West Cap	715-265-4271, ext. 0
Covid Assistance for Farmers	www.farmers.gov/cfap
Dunn/West Cap.....	715-265-4271 ext. 0
Foundation for Rural Housing.....	1-888-400-5974
Polk.....	715-485-8400
Rusk.....	715-532-2299
Sawyer	715-634-4806
Washburn.....	715-468-4747

*Condensed Board Minutes

July 27, 2021

* View full board minutes on SmartHub.

Mike Baker represents District 3, which includes the following townships: Crystal, Stone Lake, Sand Lake, Beaverbrook, Madge, Birchwood, Sarona, and Cedar Lake. Mike also serves as a director on Dairyland Power Cooperatives's Board.



- President Cook welcomed new General Manager Aaron Torud.
- 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: #99143 thru #99227 of CCF Bank was in the amount of \$207,292 and capital credit estate checks in the amount of \$8,999. Director Kessler reported on activity of total receipts in the office - \$2,508,254; total receipts by wire and ACH - \$1,069,531; disbursements by ACH, EFT, wire - \$2,871,884; transfer of funds was made for payroll - \$198,214 and power bill paid 07/28/2021 in the amount of \$2,241,742.
- Form 219 summarizing construction activity for the month of June in the amount of \$200,562.83 was presented for approval, and included new services - \$30,458.63; change jobs - \$15,621.71; miscellaneous - \$154,482.49 and 0 retirements. The Form 219 stood approved as presented.
- Outages year-to-date stand at 12,351 consumer hours off, which is 63.16% below 2020 hours of 33,527. Overtime year-to-date is 1,443 hours, which is 10.17% above 2020 hours of 1,309.75.