

# News FOR YOU...

## Connecting with Our Members

A member at the Spooner Cooperative Month event remarked, "It is great to have the opportunity to attend a social event again." Nearly 1,800 members and guests attended the Cooperative Month events last month at Barron Electric's Spooner office and Mosaic Technologies in Cameron. Barron Electric returned almost \$2,000,000 to members and former members, which included cashback credits from Barron Electric and Dairyland Power, as

well as money from the Nuclear Waste Policy Act. All checks were mailed by the end of October. Checks less than \$10 were credited to the member's October bill. Members visited with community organizations including Westcap, Spooner Health, Barron County Health & Human Services, Barron County Energy Assistance, and Barron County Office on Aging, just to name a few. More than \$5,000 was collected for the Washburn

County Food Pantry, as well as 900 pounds of food. Two mid-sized vehicles were filled full of food for the Cameron Food Pantry, as well as cash donations.

### Congratulations Winners

Dennis Johnson and Claudette Harrington were the winners of the Spooner Cooperative Month event Food Pantry Drawing. Winners of the Cooperative Month Kickoff at Mosaic Technologies included: Mike Messner, Theresa Brunsluk, David Lloyd, Susan Olson, and Jimmy Olson. Ruth Timm and Yvonne Larson won baskets from the food pantry drawing.





## Monthly Photo Contest

Win a \$50 Bill Credit

E-mail your winter photo to [memberservices@barronelectric.com](mailto:memberservices@barronelectric.com) by November 10, 2022 for a chance to win a \$50 bill credit.

Criteria for the photos includes:

- Photos must have a horizontal orientation (landscape) and must be high resolution, 300 dpi or higher.
- Member must own rights to the photo. 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.



*Thankful for Our Members*

We will be closed on Thursday, November 24 and Friday, November 25. Have a Happy Thanksgiving!

## Do you Need Help Paying Your Electric Bill?

Wisconsin Home Energy Assistance Program (WHEAP) assists eligible households with their heating and electric bills. This program is funded by the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) and the Public Benefits (PB) program. If you need help paying your electric bill, please contact the following agencies:

Barron, Burnett, Chippewa, Dunn, Washburn, and

Polk Counties: Call Westcap at ..... 715-265-4271

Rusk County ..... 715-485-8400

Sawyer County ..... 715-634-4806



## Save Energy and Money with Energy Efficient Products

Energy Star appliances can help save energy and money. Barron Electric members purchasing the following appliances are eligible for the rebates listed:

Energy Star® Clothes Washer .....	\$25
Energy Star® Electric Clothes Dryer .....	\$25
Heat Pump Clothes Dryer .....	\$50
Energy Star® Dehumidifier .....	\$25
Energy Star® Dishwasher .....	\$25
Energy Star® Freezer (must be a minimum of 10 cubic feet) .....	\$25
Energy Star® Refrigerator (>= to 10 cubic feet) .....	\$25
Inductive Range .....	\$25
Refrigerator or Freezer Recycling .....	\$25
Room Air Conditioner Recycling .....	\$25

Barron Electric's rebate programs can be found online at [barronelectric.com](http://barronelectric.com) in the rebates area. Programs expire December 16, 2022.



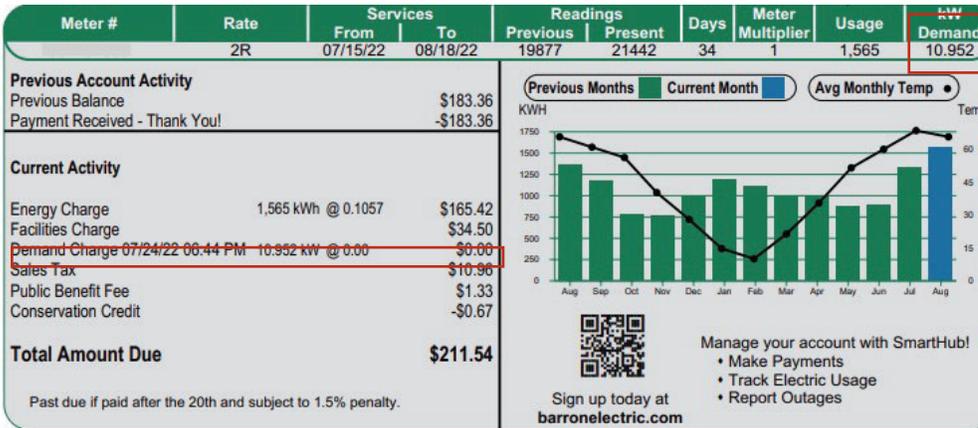
*Veterans Day  
November 11, 2022  
Honoring Those Who  
Served*

# Understanding kW Demand

The billing statement now contains kW Demand. Demand is the maximum requirement of electricity needed at any given time. Imagine putting marbles in a tube. If you only have one tube (or power line), only so many marbles are going to flow through the tube at any given time. The more electrical devices that are operating at one time, the higher the demand. Residential rates do not include a charge for demand. This is for informational purposes only at this time.

## Planning for Future Growth

Barron Electric must plan for future growth and design electric power lines, transformers, substations and other equipment to supply the maximum requirement of electricity by all members.



# Frequently Asked Questions about the PCA

1. What is the Power Cost Adjustment?
 

The PCA is a rate mechanism that helps Dairyland Power Cooperative, Barron Electric's wholesale power supplier, manage fluctuating costs to produce energy. Members may see a PCA credit or charge on electric bills, depending on the current cost of power. Dairyland passes those costs or credits to Barron Electric. Barron Electric's Board of Directors decides, based on the financial condition of the cooperative, whether or not to pass them through to members. In some cases, these costs are absorbed by the cooperative.
2. Why do I receive a PCA credit?
 

Members saw a PCA credit on their June and July bill statements due to lower fuel costs.
3. Explain the PCA on the October bill statement.

Members were charged a PCA on the last bill statement due to the following:

- Electricity production has cost more than expected during peak summer months due to high demand
- Delayed coal deliveries
- Increased fuel costs, primarily natural gas
- Many coal plants are in conservation mode due to inadequate coal supplies caused by rail shipping

*In 2021, the cost for power was approximately 64% of our total annual expenses.*

4. What can members do?
 

The less energy used, the less impact a PCA charge will have on your bottom line. Purchasing Energy Star appliances will save energy and money. Rebate information can be found at [barronelectric.com](http://barronelectric.com). Stagger usage throughout the day to help lower

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## UNDERSTANDING DEMAND

As more appliances in your home run at the same time, your demand for power increases. The members in the following example use the same amount of energy to run their appliances, but each member is putting a different demand on the electric grid.

**Megan** cooks her food for one hour, then runs the dishwasher the next hour.

**Megan:**  
Energy: 3.3 KWh  
Demand 1.8 kW

**Jason** runs the dishwasher during the same hour he cooks his food.

**Jason:**  
Energy: 3.3 KWh  
Demand 3.3 kW

Average Appliance Use (60 min runtime)  
Range: 1500 Watts = 1.5kWh/1.5kW  
Dishwasher: 1800 Watts = 1.8kWh/1.8kW

# PCA (Continued from page 3)

demand. Use Energy Wisely booklets are available to help members understand their usage. Kill-a-watt meters help educate members on how much energy their home is using. Contact our office for more information.

## 5. What is Barron Electric doing to reduce costs?

- Lean workforce, Barron Electric is one of the lowest in the state
- Utilizing technology to save money, including converting dusk to dawn lights to LED
- Maintaining electric system to improve reliability and reduce outages
- ROW Clearing, changed to a 3-year bid
- AMI system used to confirm outages reported by members, saving truck and labor expenses
- Promote Auto Pay to reduce processing charges
- Working with legislators to ensure legislation helps the rural areas

# Join the 7,000 Members Who Enjoy Auto Pay including the Bates Family



**Sam Bates remarked, "I really appreciate the convenience of Auto Pay." Sam won a \$50 credit on his electric bill for signing up for Auto Pay. Sign up on SmartHub at [barronelectric.com](http://barronelectric.com).**

## News FOR YOU...

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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 August 31, 2022



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.



- A report of vouchers for the month was presented as part of the board packet as follows: #100615 thru #100713 of CCF Bank in the amount of \$429,766 and capital credit estate checks in the amount of \$25,724. Activity of total receipts in the office - \$2,943,130; total receipts by wire and ACH - \$1,137,441; disbursements by ACH, EFT, wire - \$3,535,507; transfer of funds was made for payroll - \$200,724 and power bill paid 08/31/2022 in the amount of \$2,423,412.
- A membership list of 106 was presented and accepted.
- Form 219 summarizing construction activity for the month of July in the amount of \$270,093.25 was presented for approval and included new services - \$43,097.14; change jobs - \$21,638.95; Other Work Order Projects - \$205,357.16 and 2 retirements. The Form 219 stood approved as presented.
- Outages year-to-date stand at 61,810.02 consumer hours off, which is 218.64% above 2021 hours of 19,398.25.
- Overtime year-to-date is 1,925.25 hours, which is 6.73% below 2021 hours of 2,064.25.

\* View full board minutes on SmartHub at [barronelectric.com](http://barronelectric.com).