

Barron Electric Cooperative is a member-owned business that safely provides energy, products, and services to improve the quality of life in the area we serve.

News FOR YOU...

April 2018

Barron Electric Cooperative

Photo by Sandy Christianson

Members Interested in Technology and Renewable Energy

From electric vehicles to renewable energy, members attending the Get to Know Your Cooperative event were interested in these topics. Approximately 50% of the members attending indicated they would be interested in purchasing an electric car.

Electric Vehicles

Barron Electric Cooperative will be leasing a Chevy Bolt this year, and members will have the opportunity to test drive it. Electric vehicle charging stations will also be installed at both offices. Furthermore, members purchasing an electric vehicle are eligible for a rebate on the charging station.

Electric vehicles have a bright future. Prices are dropping, and the range is expanding. If you've never driven an electric vehicle, you are in for a treat. While an internal combustion engine must rev up to speed, an electric vehicle has full

power at its disposal instantly. They are quiet and allow you to bypass the lines at the gas station.

Renewable Energy

Dairyland Power, Barron Electric's power supplier, is diversifying their energy resource mix and expanding the use of renewable energy. In 2017, 15 solar projects with a total generation capacity of 20 megawatts came online throughout the Dairyland

system. In 2018, Dairyland will grow to 25 megawatts of solar power.



Kathy Robertson talks with Sally Didier at the Get to Know Your Cooperative event.



Brent and Annette Heino were the grand prize winners of an electric grill.

When Your Lights Go Out, So Do We

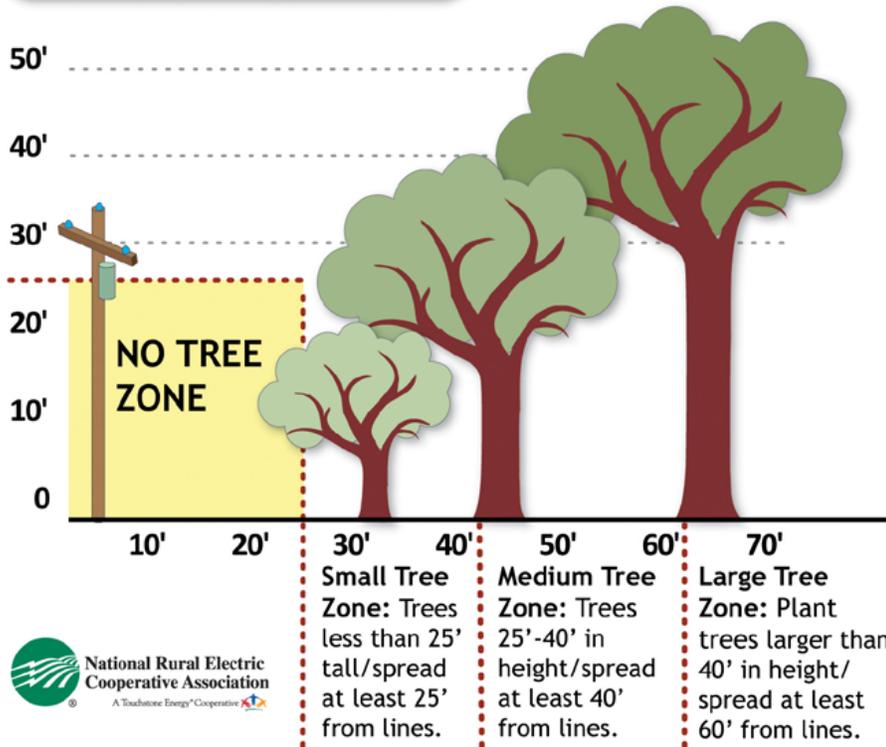


Linecrews were busy in March after storms caused downed trees and power lines.

Plant Trees with Safety in Mind

Trees and vegetation growing into the right-of-way can cause power outages, blinking lights, and block access for maintenance and repairs. If you are planting a tree, keep areas around electric meters, transformers or other electrical equipment free of any vegetation that could limit utility service access. Follow the tree planting guide and variety of trees based on height:

Tree Planting Guide



Tree Varieties based on height: Shrubs (Height 4'-10')

Arrowwood
Azalea
Burning Bush
Bush Honeysuckle
Cranberry Bush
Currant
Dogwoods
Hydrangea
Juneberry
Lilac

Small-Medium Trees Height 10' - 40'

Canada Cherry
Eastern Red Cedar
Flowering Crabapple
Flowering Dogwood
Hawthorn
Ironwood

Large Trees (Height 40'+)

Maple
Amur Sugar/Red/Silver
Blue Spruce
Oak
Ash
Red/Scotch Pine

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.

Monthly Photo Contest *Spring Landscapes*

Members are invited to participate in the 2018 photo contest. We are currently looking for spring 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).
- Photo 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 April 10, 2018. Include your Barron Electric account number, address and phone number.

Celebrating Over 100 Years of Business among Five Generations

What started as a small gas station in Sun Prairie, WI in 1915 has since grown to become one of the longest standing family-operated automobile dealerships in the entire country. Today Don Johnson Motors is a fifth-generation family business with dealerships and collision repair facilities located in Rice Lake, Hayward, and Cumberland. The Johnson family and their team have been serving the surrounding areas for over 100 years and are proud to represent Chevrolet, Buick, GMC, Ford, Chrysler, Dodge, Fiat, Jeep, and RAM automotive brands as well as Berkshire Pontoons and Mercury boat motors.

Josh Johnson, CEO, shared, "As a fifth-generation family business, Don Johnson Motors is different from other companies, different in how we treat our guests, different in how we work together, and different in the extraordinary results that we achieve. These differences are the direct result of our heritage and

the family-first culture we have developed together. Through the past 100+ years, we've experienced everything from oil embargos to economic depressions and world wars. The only reason we've survived those challenging times is because of our loyal clientele and the outstanding team of individuals that we employ. In short, it's all about the people."

Whether you're looking for a new vehicle or pontoon, need service work or a collision repair, or if you're simply interested in learning more about their history and current team, you can visit

Don Johnson Motors online at donjohnsonmotors.com or give them a call at:

- Rice Lake: 715.234.8161
- Hayward: 715.634.4848
- Cumberland: 715.822.4931



Russ LaPoint Wins Megawatt Community Service Award

Congratulations to Russ LaPoint. His outstanding community service landed him the Megawatt Community Service Award. He has served on the Youth Baseball Association Board of Directors since 2010. He volunteered as a high school JV baseball coach last season. He is a District Administrator for the 2017-2020 Little League, which serves all leagues from La Crosse to Superior. He was a Youth Curling Coordinator and served on the Bethany Lutheran Church Council



for several years. He is currently a youth basketball coach. Russ is a member of the Blue Hills Mason Lodge. He has also volunteered his time to the Rice Lake Celebrity Charity Classic, which raises money for local organizations. He is a volunteer speaker at UW-Barron County, where he helps educate students on financial planning. He is also a member of Barron County Business Leaders, which provides networking and education for small business owners.



Melissa Klump, Member Technology Coordinator, presents the Megawatt Community Service Award to Member Russ LaPoint.

Director Notes



Selmer Nelson is President of Barron Electric's Board of Directors representing District 8, which includes the townships of

Crystal Lake, Almena, Clayton, Turtle Lake, Arland, Clear Lake, Vance Creek, Prairie Farm, New Haven, and Sheridan.

Condensed Board Minutes January 31, 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: #92993 thru #93192 of CCF Bank was in the amount of \$437,476 and capital credit estate checks of \$17,335. Director Helm reported on activity of total receipts in the office - \$4,046,471; total receipts by wire and ACH - \$1,962,925; disbursements by ACH, EFT, wire - \$4,288,985; transfer of funds was made for payroll - \$265,997 and power bill paid 01/31/18 in the amount of \$2,602,549. A membership list of 79 was presented and approved without objection by the board.

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.



Cook's Corner

Beef Stew

Scott Clark

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|---|---|
| 1 ½ pounds boneless beef (chuck, sirloin, tip or round) Cut into 1-inch cubes | ½ bag (16 oz.) peeled carrots, cut into 1" pieces |
| 1 T. shortening | 1 large onion, sliced |
| 3 cups hot water | 1 stalk celery, diced |
| ½ teaspoon salt | ½ green pepper, diced |
| ¼ teaspoon pepper | 2 beef bouillon cubes |
| 3 large potatoes, diced | 1 package dry brown gravy mix |

Cook and stir beef in shortening in Dutch oven until beef is browned, about 15 minutes. Add 3 cups hot tap water, 2 beef bouillon cubes, salt and pepper. Heat to boiling; reduce heat. Cover and simmer until beef is almost tender, 2 ½ hours. Stir in potatoes, carrots, green pepper, celery, and onion. Cover and simmer until vegetables are tender, about 40 minutes. Mix in package of gravy mix, stir well, cover and let simmer for another 15 minutes. Serve with warm buns.

Win a cookbook if your recipe is chosen for Cook's Corner. Send in your favorite recipes to:

Member Services
Barron Electric Cooperative
PO Box 40 • Barron WI 54812



Sign up for Outage Texting

Barron Electric members now 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: _____