

# PowerLines

*Your Trusted Energy News Source*



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## CLP's 82nd Annual Meeting Review

We want to thank everyone who came out to the 82nd CLP Annual Meeting. We had 167 registered members in attendance. The evening began with a delicious sloppy joe dinner provided by the Two Harbors Lion's Club and fantastic entertainment by the Two Harbors Ukelele Band (THUGS). The kids had a great time swimming in the pool and playing in the gym while the adults attended the business meeting. District #2 Director Scott Veitenheimer and District #5 Director Robert Nikolai were both re-elected to three-year terms. Operation Round-Up Board Member, Lenore Johnson, distributed \$18,000 in grant funds to local nonprofit organizations. David Ranallo of Great River Energy; Hal Halpern, CLP CEO; Kevin Olson, CLP Telecommunications Manager; and Carey Hogenson, CLP Marketing Manager; gave presentations to the membership. Member account number seven hundred fifteen thousand six hundred ninety three. After the adjournment of the meeting, the prize drawing began. Twenty prizes were given away, and four lucky kids won a new bike!



Joren and Willem, a couple of our lucky new bike winners!



Young CLP members enjoying the sloppy joe dinner



Hal Halpern,  
Co-op Light & Power  
CEO/General Manager



Peggy Kuettel,  
Co-op Light & Power  
Board President



David Ranallo,  
GRE's Manager of  
Member Services



## The Undeniable Force of WANT

Hal Halpern, Chief Executive Officer/GM

Dear Member:

Coming on the heels of our Annual Meeting, my first for CLP, I again marveled at the differences between the Public and Cooperative business models. In a public company, the emphasis is primarily focused on improving shareholder value through ever-increasing sales, profits and stock price.

In a cooperative the emphasis is on improving the quality of life of the members in their community. Since the beginning, Cooperatives have been quality-of-life improvement facilitators through their concern and actions for their communities. Whether it be Electric, Telco or Agricultural, the cooperative model's goal is to ensure that its members have a better quality of life through the services they provide.

It was a dark land in 1935, with only 1 American farmer in 10 receiving electric service. Yet, these were the families that could have used electricity the most. It would have helped them complete the many number of chores necessary to keep their farms thriving and healthy.

When electricity became accessible to a large number of people it allowed city dwellers to enjoy life's little luxuries.

However rural communities realized electricity wouldn't be coming to them anytime soon. Their WANT of electricity drove them to organize and operate an electric distribution system successfully, which was predicted to doom by men of widespread utility experience.

At CLP's first director meeting on August 24, 1935, they prepared a petition for member sign up and collection of a \$1 deposit because they wanted electricity. This deposit would be credited towards a membership if the CO-OP succeeded in receiving a loan from the REA which they did. CLP's first members bellied up to the farm table and 272 signers gave \$1 each to form our cooperative. No longer did they have to take a back seat to their neighbors in the cities.

Cooperatives are individuals brought together by the undeniable force of WANT. It is this force of WANT that was the impetus for starting CLP and all cooperatives. It was this same force of WANT, the WANT for freedom, which led our colonies to the independence we enjoy today.

Although it's nice to acknowledge our heritage and celebrate CLP's unique

history, your Co-op is focused on our members WANTS for today and how that will benefit and improve our members lives in the years ahead.

CLP has started its strategic planning process and is looking at many exciting product & service options that our members will have the opportunity of benefitting from in the future. These options will be vetted carefully to ensure they're options our members WANT and are also technology wise, environmentally conscious and economically viable.

**Electric CO-OPs like CLP are in the quality-of-life improvement business. We take that responsibility seriously and that's what makes us different.**

We're in the business of providing services and improving the quality of life for our members far beyond power lines. This includes safety education, job training, community development, internet access, health fairs, scholarships, veterans' programs, youth tours, food banks, Operation Round-Up and returning to our members over \$6.5 Million in capital credits.

*Continued on page 3*

### Call Before You Dig

**800.252.1166**

**it's the law!**

Call 800.252.1166 to locate underground wires.

You must call at least 48-hours in advance before any excavations (this notice does not include weekends, holidays or emergencies).

CLP will only locate the underground wires that are owned by CLP, we do not locate or take responsibility for locating wires beyond the meter location.



### PowerLines

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Cooperative Light & Power

Association of Lake County

1554 Highway 2 • P. O. Box 69

Two Harbors, MN 55616

[www.clpower.com](http://www.clpower.com)

CLP Office: 218-834-2226 or 800-580-5881

Power Outage (24/7): 800-927-5550

Summer Business Hours:

Monday - Thursday 7:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Friday 7:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

### Important Contacts

#### OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

Peggy Kuettel, President, District 1  
218-525-2155

Robert Nikolai, Vice President, District 5  
218-353-7332

Alis Stevens, Secretary, District 4  
218-226-8744

Scott Veitenheimer, Treasurer, District 2  
218-340-8968

Gregory Lien, Director, District 3  
218-595-6187



# Review CLP's Connect/Disconnect/Reconnect Policies

Cooperative Light & Power Billing Department

The following contains important information regarding Cooperative Light & Power Board Policy II-12, Connection/Service Charge. Please read this information carefully so you know and understand your rights as a Cooperative Light & Power member.

A \$15 Service Connection Charge is required for any one or combination of the following: connection of new service, change of account from one renter to another, transfer of account to a new buyer/owner, but excluding spousal transfers.

An electric account disconnected for non-payment may not be reconnected until the delinquent account and associated charges have been paid or satisfactory arrangements for payment have been made with the Cooperative Light & Power's

Credit Manager. Member account number six hundred thirty seven thousand four hundred ten.

A \$50 Collection Call Charge and a \$50 Service Reconnection Charge is required of an existing service that was disconnected due to non-payment. If a service is reconnected after business hours, a minimum of a \$250 additional Overtime Charge will be applied. Member account number six hundred fifty seven thousand nine hundred sixty one.

All trips to the member premises under this policy shall be scheduled to occur during regular business hours, unless otherwise stated. For further information on CLP Board Policies, please contact CLP's General Manager, Hal Halpern at 218.834.2226 or 800.580.5881.

## Ken Jones Named CLP Member Services Manager

Carey Hogenson, Marketing Manager



I am happy to report that in March, CLP lineman, Ken Jones was promoted to Member Services Manager! Ken will be replacing Chris Brellie who will be retiring in May.

Ken has worked as a lineman for CLP for the last 8 years. Before then, he was a lineman for the City

of Two Harbors for 18 years.

Ken and his wife, Lynnea have two children, a grandson, and three bonus grandsons. In his spare time, Ken enjoys spending time with his family, fishing, and hunting.

Ken has past volunteer experience with the Lake County Rescue Squad (12 years), Two Harbors Fire Department (10 years) and coached Two Harbors Hockey (12 years).

Ken is excited to start his new role and is looking forward to working with the members of CLP.

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Our communities come first. Although CLP is mainly focused on our own community your CO-OP does not stand alone but part of a family of over 900 electric CO-OPs that serve over 42 million people in the US. This large family of CO-OPs lean on each other when needed. Aside from statewide collaboration our crews will help out wherever and whenever it's feasible as evidenced by CLP restoring service in

NYC when Hurricane Sandy hit. Member account number six hundred ninety five thousand four hundred seven.

So, rest assured that CLP will continue to be vigilant with our core values, emphasizing good governance, best practices and the undeniable force of WANT focused on improving life in the communities we serve.

Check out your Manager's Annual Meeting Power Point presentation on our web site.

### Million Dollar Dip

*From the Kitchen of: Robyn Swarmer*

5 Green Onions, diced  
1 ½ cups Mayonnaise  
½ cup Bacon Bits

8 oz Cheddar Cheese, shredded  
½ cup Slivered Almonds

Mix all ingredients together. Chill for 2 hours. Good with Frito Lay Scoops, Wheat Thins, or Baquette Bread.

Would you like to keep seeing recipes in your newsletter? If so, we need your recipes! If your recipe is printed in an issue of "Powerlines" you will receive a \$10 credit on your electric bill.

**Thank you to everyone that stopped  
by our booth at the  
Arrowhead Home and Builder Show  
April 3 - 7, 2019**



We are happy to announce that

**Brenda Prestidge  
and  
Wendy Carlson**

each won a \$50 credit on their  
electric bill just for stopping by!

## Read Your Board Meeting Summary

A regular meeting of the Board of Directors was held on March 28, 2019. All directors were present at the time the meeting was called to order at 9:50 a.m. Also present for all or parts of the meeting were Chief Executive Officer, Hal Halpern and Office Manager Spring Detlefsen also attended the financial and audit portion of the meeting. Mike Pederson from Esterbrooks, Scott, Signorelli, Peterson, Smithson, Ltd. was also present to discuss the 2018 Audited Financial Report.

The Auditor presented and discussed the audited 2018 Financials. A motion to accept the audited financials was made and seconded. Motion carried.

Hal Halpern then updated the Board that the operating staff and General Manager Hal Halpern will prepare a

brief outline of the strategic plan as a starting point for the planning process for the board to review.

A motion was made and seconded to approve the Operation Round Up donations. Motion carried.

A discussion ensued regarding Board Policy II-13 Right of Way Vegetation Management. It was agreed that we should study the effects of using less chemicals and more tree trimming for vegetation management. Hal Halpern will begin that study to see the effect that it would have on our infrastructure, lineman, safety, financial impact to the Coop and the community's benefit.

There being no further business to come before said meeting, adjournment was called for at 3:50 p.m. with a motion and a second. Motion carried.

Minnesota State Electric Inspector 7 a.m. - 8:30 a.m.  
(Mon. thru Fri.) Lake County and parts of St. Louis County:  
**Richard Rue 218-969-5612**

Anytime a homeowner or an electrical contractor installs wiring or performs other electrical work, Minnesota law requires an electrical inspector to perform a proper inspection of the work. A rough-in inspection must be made before any wiring is covered. A final inspection is also required. For more information visit [dli.mn.gov](http://dli.mn.gov) and go to the Electrical home page.

## Year-to-date Financials

<u>FEBRUARY</u>	<u>2009</u>	<u>2018</u>	<u>2019</u>
Operating Revenue	\$ 1,978,472	\$ 2,578,016	\$ 2,637,608
Cost of Purchased Power	\$ 1,144,911	\$ 1,707,411	\$ 1,780,419
Other Operating Expenses	\$ 529,516	\$ 882,480	\$ 838,644
Total Cost of Electric Service	\$ 1,674,427	\$ 2,589,891	\$ 2,619,063
Operating Margin (Loss)	\$ 304,045	\$ (11,875)	\$ 18,545
Interest Income	\$ 12,490	\$ 27,277	\$ 28,668
Other Margins	\$ 49,545	\$ (110,324)	\$ (26,990)
Capital Credits	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Total Margins	\$ 366,080	\$ (94,922)	\$ 20,223
kWh Purchased	21,213,579	24,384,324	24,711,681
kWh Sold	21,694,195	23,547,711	23,102,609
Line Loss	N/A	3.43%	6.51%
Members Billed	5,859	6,133	6,179
Average kWh Used, Resident	1,851	1,672	1,696
Average Bill, Residential	\$ 157.90	\$ 174.25	\$ 183.17
Average Cost/kWh, Resident	\$ 0.0853	\$ 0.1042	\$ 0.1080
Interest Expense	\$ 72,241	\$ 72,471	\$ 79,338

## Dates to Know...

- April 29:** CLP moves to summer hours:  
M-Th 7:00 am - 4:30 pm  
Fri 7:00 am - 11:00 am
- May 15:** Cookies and coffee in CLP's lobby
- May 16:** CLP Board Meeting
- May 27:** Memorial Day  
CLP offices CLOSED
- May 28:** CLP bills due

*NOTE: CLP dates subject to change*

## DID YOU KNOW...

...if you have electric heat and have not been paying sales tax for the winter months (November-April), please remember the sales tax will be added on this month.

## TO REPORT AN OUTAGE:

Call CLP at 834.2226 or 800.580.5881 during business hours or 800.927.5550 after hours.

**BEFORE** calling, please check your breakers. If an outage is found to be on your side of the meter, you will be billed for a service call.

## SPOT YOUR NUMBER:

A \$20 electric credit is awarded each month to our faithful readers. Four account numbers are spelled out in each newsletter. If you find yours, notify CLP by the 25th of that month and a credit will be applied to your bill.

**Credits claimed for March:** Paul Deaner  
**Credits not claimed:** Duane & Pam Nelson, James & Christina Manahan, and Dennis & Mary Prestidge

## OPERATION ROUND UP TOTALS:

March Donations: \$1,633.65

Year-to-date Donations: \$4,931.81

Thank you to all the participants! If you have questions about Operation Round Up, or would like to apply for a grant from the Fund, please contact CLP at 218.834.2226 or 800.580.5881, or visit our website at [www.clpower.com](http://www.clpower.com).