

# PowerLines

Your Trusted Energy News Source



September 2019 • [www.clpower.com](http://www.clpower.com)



▼ attend your CLP events, pg 1

▼ teach them while they're young, pg 2

▼ take advantage of the rebates, pg 3

▼ read board meeting summary, pg 4

## CLP Member Events

Carey Hogenson, Marketing Manager

### Electric Vehicle Show and Tell

Are you considering purchasing an electric vehicle (EV) or interested in learning more about EVs? We have the perfect opportunity for you to learn more! Join us for an “Electric Vehicle Show and Tell Event” on Monday, September 16th from 5 pm- 7 pm at the Canal Park Lodge in Duluth. The event will feature a discussion panel of EV owners, experts, and enthusiasts. It's free and open to the public. Come and take a look at the wide variety of EVs on the market today.

### Kilowatts and Brats District Meetings

Each fall, Cooperative Light & Power (CLP) staff visit your co-op district for an informal evening of food, fellowship, and discussion. As the name would imply, we serve bratwurst with a side order of shop talk. By attending a Kilowatts and Brats event, you have the opportunity to speak with your local elected co-op director and your CLP team. Member account number seven hundred seven thousand four hundred twenty-six. Come and find out what is happening at your electric

co-op. We will be discussing what makes being part of a cooperative so special, current events in the cooperative world, and what is in store in the future for Cooperative Light & Power. Being that the evening is informal, you have an opportunity to talk about topics that are specifically important to you! And, we can't have an event without giving something away! All members who attend a Kilowatts and Brats event will have their name in a drawing to win a \$100 electric credit! The Kilowatts and Brats District Meetings will be held towards the end of October. Please see your October issue of “Powerlines” for the dates and times. We hope to see you there!

## Considering an Electric Vehicle?

Join us in Duluth during National Drive Electric Week. A panel of EV experts and enthusiasts will be available to answer questions. Take a look at the wide variety of EVs on the market.

**MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 16**  
**5 PM – 7 PM**  
**CANAL PARK LODGE AND PARKING LOT**

*Light refreshments will be provided*



brought to you by



and these participating cooperatives





## Teach Them While They're Young

Hal Halpern, Chief Executive Officer/GM

Dear Member:

important life lesson.

I recall two things, among many, that my father always told me. The first you might have heard

yourself: "Finish your food. People are starving in Africa." Obviously, by my girth, I followed that advice. The second was: "Shut off those damn lights! I'm not made out of electricity!"

My response was always: "Why? We don't pay for electricity; it's free." You see I grew up in a Co-Op and the electric bill was tied into the rent. We didn't get a separate electric bill. My father explained to me that it's not free. "It's included in the rent, so when you waste electricity you not only cost your parents more money, but everyone in the Co-Op has to pay more."

So here I am, a 10-year-old kid back in my room at night reading by a flashlight feeling guilty thinking my single light bulb was making my neighbors go broke. It was the first time I learned about Energy Efficiency and Conservation, and it stuck with me ever since.

Electronic and mobile devices, TVs, computers, and gaming stations have become ubiquitous fixtures in our homes, particularly those with children. With lifestyles increasingly reliant on technology and, in turn, energy consumption, teaching youngsters to save energy is an

natural resources and how it benefits the world and especially your child. Otherwise, they will not understand the need to change their habits and will be less motivated to do so. In the simplest terms, less money spent on an electric bill can mean more money used for fun activities (that's something children can relate to!).

As most parents can attest, convincing kids to care about energy efficiency is a hard sell. Parents need to explain why it's important to save energy and conserve



**The Why**  
Unlike my generation when parents could answer the "why" question with "because I told you to," today's kids need to understand "why" or, more practically, "what's in it for me?"

### Learning by Doing

Because "saving energy" is an abstract concept for children, be specific about energy efficiency actions and set an example. We know that children learn by

observing what their parents do. Even if they don't say anything, children are processing your actions. When you turn off the lights when leaving a room or unplug the phone charger once the device is fully charged, they will notice.

Learning about energy efficiency doesn't have to be a boring lecture. Make it fun for greater impact.

For younger kids, turn energy efficiency into a "treasure hunt" to locate all the things in your house that use electricity. Depending on the age of the children, challenge them to count and group the items into categories: electronics, appliances, lights, etc. If age-appropriate, have them create a list. Ask which gadgets and appliances could be turned off or unplugged to save power every day.

For older children, show them how to program the smart thermostat and appliances. Shop with them for LED lights and discuss ENERGY STAR-rated appliances. Show them the electric bill so they can see the costs, energy use, and how their actions impact the bill.

### Rewards

Offer rewards for agreed-upon milestones. Rewards provide positive reinforcement on energy-saving actions. The idea is to create a habit of being energy efficient. And for parents, this could mean less nagging about "turning off those damn lights!"

## 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

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

## What is the Cloud?

Kevin Olson, Telecommunications Manager

When you google the definition of the cloud, the results are confusing and overwhelming. I will use an analogy instead. A cloud provider (like Amazon, Microsoft, or Google) is a utility company. Utility companies, like CLP, leverage resources to deliver services when you need them - like electricity, for example. Turn on a light? No problem! Plug in an appliance? Sure! Utility companies meter how much you use, so you only pay for what you use. It's all very convenient where you get the resources you need when you need them. It just works without having to think about it.

## Appliance Rebate Reminder

Ken Jones, Member Services Manager

I want to remind you to keep an eye on our web page ([www.clpower.com](http://www.clpower.com)) for rebates. It is easy for members to go out and purchase a new appliance and not think about a possible rebate from their electric cooperative. I myself have purchased several new appliances at my house and have forgotten to fill out my rebate form.

CLP offers rebates on many appliances: washers, dryers, dishwashers, refrigerators, freezers, dehumidifiers, wi-fi thermostats, air conditioners that include room units, central air units, and ductless air source heat pumps to name a few. Member account number six hundred fifty five thousand four hundred fifty two. These appliance rebates may only run for a certain

The utility model holds true with cloud services too, but instead of electricity, the cloud delivers computing resources in the form of access to servers, storage, networks, and applications through the pipes of the internet. The advantages are it is inexpensive, scalable, easy to use on multiple devices, and backed up. The disadvantages are security concerns (you really don't know where your data is stored), and you always need connectivity to the internet. Because of this, you may exceed your data plans.

amount of time or until CLP's allotted rebate funds run out, and may change from year to year, so it is a good idea to check the website.

Members can download copies of our rebate forms from our website or stop in the office and pick one up. Fill out the rebate form, include a copy of your receipt, and send it to CLP or drop it off at our office.

Once a month rebates are entered into our system. After they are processed, a credit will be applied to your account. So, if you are thinking about making a purchase, or have done so this year, remember to check our website for rebates. It's like getting free money!

## Did You Know CLP Offers Budget Billing to its Members?

Spring Detlefsen, Office Manager

Knowing how much to budget each month for your utility bill can make paying your bills much more manageable.

The CLP Budget Billing Plan offers this convenience by averaging your last twelve(12) monthly billing periods so that you pay the same amount each month.

To qualify, you must have twelve (12) months of billing history at the same residence, maintain good credit, and be current on your CLP account. To register, go to [www.clpower.com](http://www.clpower.com) and find the enrollment form under "Electric Services" tab. Then click on "Billing and Payments." You will find the Budget Billing form listed below the red circle. Don't have an internet connection? Call and speak to a CLP representative with any additional questions or to request a form.

### Tavern Hamburgers (Sloppy Joes)

*From the Kitchen of: Dianne Wulff*

2 ½ # ground beef	¼ tsp pepper
3 stalks of celery, chopped	1 tsp salt
1 sweet onion, chopped	1 tsp chili powder
1 can Tomato Bisque soup	2 Tbsp mustard
1 can Chicken Gumbo soup	2 Tbsp vinegar
1 cup ketchup	2 Tbsp brown sugar

Brown meat. Add celery and onion. Drain juices. Add the rest of the ingredients. Place in roaster or dutch over (uncovered). Bake 250° for 2 hours. Stir occasionally.

Submit your favorite recipe! If your recipe is printed in an issue of "Powerlines" you will receive a \$10 credit on your electric bill.

REMEMBER TO CALL BEFORE YOU DIG!  
LARRY SANDRETSKY, OPERATIONS MANAGER

DON'T FORGET TO CALL GOPHER ONE  
AT 1-800-252-1166. YOU MUST CALL 48  
HOURS BEFORE DIGGING. WITH ONE CALL,  
ALL UNDERGROUND ELECTRIC, GAS, WATER,  
SEWER, CABLE AND TELEPHONE LINES CAN  
BE LOCATED.

\*PLEASE NOTE, ELECTRIC LINES ARE ONLY  
MARKED UP TO THE ELECTRIC METER. IF YOU  
NEED UNDERGROUND ELECTRIC LINES LO-  
CATED BEYOND THE METER, YOU MUST CALL  
AN ELECTRICIAN.

## Read Your Board Meeting Summary

A regular meeting of the Cooperative Light & Power (CLP) Association of Lake County Board of Directors was held on July 25, 2019. All directors were present at the time the meeting was called to order at 9:45 a.m.

A motion was made and seconded to accept the agenda as amended with the addition of an update on CLP's Commitment to Zero Contacts safety program, website navigation review, and CLP product storefront. Motion carried.

Auditor Mike Pederson from Es-terbrooks presented form 990 to the Board and answered all questions. Member account number six hundred sixty seven thousand one hundred one.

A motion was made and seconded to accept the financials after clarification. Motion carried. The Board wants to see Pro Forma Financials vs. Budget that was included in prior years. General Manager Hal Halpern will make it part of the financial board packet moving forward.

The Board was updated on the state broadband grant/loan application process.

General Manager Hal Halpern in-

formed the Board that the safety 'No Contacts' program with Federated started and is now in full effect, as of July 17, 2019.

The Board suggested we have a product store at CLP that members can see firsthand some of the energy products offered by CLP. General Manager Hal Halpern will work with Marketing Manager Carey Hogenson and update the progress at the next board meeting. Member account number six hundred twelve thousand three hundred eighty two.

The Board was updated on the staff's Strategic Planning Meeting. The staff is diligently working to populate the remaining strategic plan fields which the Board can review, edit, update, and approve.

A motion was made and seconded to accept the Consent Agenda as presented. Motion carried.

There being no further business to come before said meeting, adjournment was called for with a motion and a second to adjourn the meeting at 4:22 p.m. Motion carried.

## Year-to-date Financials

<u>JUNE</u>	<u>2009</u>	<u>2018</u>	<u>2019</u>
Operating Revenue	\$ 4,951,735	\$ 6,674,980	\$ 6,740,090
Cost of Purchased Power	\$ 2,725,311	\$ 3,822,123	\$ 3,945,678
Other Operating Expenses	\$ 1,781,410	\$ 2,619,127	\$ 2,462,350
Total Cost of Electric Service	\$ 4,506,721	\$ 6,441,250	\$ 6,408,028
Operating Margin (Loss)	\$ 445,014	\$ 233,730	\$ 332,062
Interest Income	\$ 51,630	\$ 90,841	\$ 93,668
Other Margins	\$ 158,176	\$ (159,573)	\$ (78,090)
Capital Credits	\$ 102,319	\$ 10,730	\$ 9,572
Total Margins	\$ 757,139	\$ 175,728	\$ 357,212
kWh Purchased	49,694,472	57,794,507	57,655,610
KWh Sold	47,057,638	54,963,050	54,586,735
Line Loss	5.31%	4.90%	5.32%
Members Billed	5,859	6,157	6,194
Average kwh Used, Residential	1,369	1,175	1,227
Average Bill, Residential	\$ 124.60	\$ 143.26	\$ 148.52
Average Cost/kwh, Residential	\$ 0.0910	\$ 0.1219	\$ 0.1210

## Dates to Know...

- Sept 7:** CLP Pancake Breakfast
- Sept 16:** Cookies and coffee in CLP's lobby
- Sept 19:** CLP board meeting
- Sept 25:** CLP bills due
- Oct 7:** CLP winter hours begin 7:30am- 4:00pm Mon-Fri
- Oct 11:** Co-op Month Open House at CLP

*NOTE: CLP dates subject to change*

## DID YOU KNOW...

Some manufacturers set water heater thermostats at 140 degrees° F, but most households usually only require them to be set at 120° F.

For each 10°F reduction in water temperature, you can save 3-5 percent in energy costs.

Cooperative Light & Power is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

**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 July:

**Gerald & Pamela Finley**

Credits not claimed: David Elcombe, Linda Sorem, and Josh & Eve Lynn Fellerger

## OPERATION ROUND UP TOTALS:

July Donations: \$1,582.89

Year-to-date Donations: \$11,296.62

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).