

February 2020 • www.clpower.com



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Stanley LaBounty Takes Big Steps to Lower Their Carbon Footprint

Carey Hogenson, Marketing Manager

This past September, Stanley LaBounty of Two Harbors contacted Cooperative Light & Power (CLP) looking for ways to reduce the company's carbon footprint. CLP teamed up with its wholesale power provider, Great River Energy (GRE), to see what options were available to help Stanley LaBounty accomplish its goal. CLP and GRE did a walkthrough of the Stanley LaBounty plant and discussed a few possible changes where CLP and GRE could assist.

One of the options was a new program that allows CLP members with a qualifying fleet of forklifts to try a new electric forklift for a month-long trial period. Multiple studies have shown that using electric forklifts is a great way to reduce fuel and maintenance costs when compared to internal combustion (IC) forklifts.

This trial offer was developed to help CLP members get familiar with today's electric forklift technology and to see if the electric lifts can meet their workload needs, as well as to highlight the potential savings associated with adopting electric forklifts.

CLP worked with the member's

current forklift vendor and covered the rental fees for a month-long rental of an electric forklift. During that time, the electric forklift usage, electric consumption, and other useful information was tracked using a data logger.

At the end of the month, the data was collected and compared to the company's cost of its propane forklifts. Stanley LaBounty was able to show it would achieve

significant long-term savings by replacing its existing IC forklifts with electric lifts and optimize the number of forklifts in the fleet to better match the workload of the lifts.

Additionally, Stanley LaBounty was able to capture a substantial CO2 reduction from converting two of its IC lifts to electric as part of the first phase of adopting electric lifts at the facility.

A second option for Stanley LaBounty was the Wellspring renewable energy credit (RECs) program, which provides an opportunity for CLP members who want to purchase a more significant percentage of their power from renewable sources.



Stanley LaBounty's, Jon McDannold trying out the new electric forklift.

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Today's Preparation Determines Tomorrow's Achievement

Hal Halpern, Chief Executive Officer/GM

Here's to a Happy Healthy New Year and Increased Transparency at CLP

Ahh...New Year's, a fresh start, a renewal, a new beginning. Although we all know New Years is a day just like all the other days, our culture somehow tricks our psyche into believing it's a day to get motivated. A day to create 'resolutions' of what you might think is a plan for a better version of yourself in all aspects. Member account number six hundred twelve thousand three hundred. A day when you can get your life organized, improve your health, exercise more, eat and drink less, get all those pesky longstanding projects done around the house, improve family ties, lose those bad habits, etc.

Yes, I too fall for it every time. By the time Valentine's Day comes around, and you and I might not have measured up to the resolutions we set, we look for a new holiday to start all over. Tomorrow is always the best day to begin again and be hopeful. Hmmm... maybe I'll start on Presidents Day. Ha!

While you and I might not live up to our personal new year's resolutions, our Co-

Op doesn't have that indulgence. CLP must meet our objectives and goals as our members, and extended community, are counting on us.

Fortunately for CLP, we have a very systematic, detailed, and measurable roadmap that your team at CLP created. It will lead us to the promised land of achieving CLP's full potential. It's our Strategic Plan that we introduced in last month's newsletter and posted online. Unlike a single new year's plan, it's a 3-year plan covering 2020 to 2023. It's now time for us to start completing the action items that will lead to achieving the goals we set for our Co-Op. Some of these action items have already been realized, and we are well on our way. Each planned action item will be evaluated throughout the planned period and can/will change. Our Strategic Plan is not static or fixed but is now 'live' and changing as action items are completed, market conditions change, and new opportunities arise. These action items are measurable through various Key Performance Indicators (KPI's) that determine our level of performance.

At our members' request, and in an

effort towards being more transparent, the Board Meeting Minutes will now be posted online. Moving forward, all Board Meeting Minutes will be posted. Our new Strategic Plan for the 2020-2023 period has been posted as well.

CLP believes the more you know about how we operate your Co-Op, the better you'll appreciate our efforts. Transparency is one of the core values in our Strategic Plan. It allows our members to see how we are contributing to making their lives and community a better place and the pride we take in the important responsibility and trust our members place in us.

At our Annual Meeting in April, we'll go over 2019 and some specific highlights of our Strategic Plan, performance YTD, and our vision for 2020 and beyond. What a convenient correlation- Our Vision for 2020. Just like having perfect 20/20 vision, our new Strategic Plan creates a clear and transparent roadmap for CLP to follow in order to achieve its full potential.

*Happy New Year,
The Future is Now!*

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

Februrary 2020 - Vol. 22, Issue 2
OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF

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

Winter Business Hours:
Monday - Friday 7:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.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

Dressed for Success, Safety, & Dangerous Work!

Larry Sandretsky, Operation's Manager

Safety is a top priority at CLP! A lineworker's gear may be cumbersome and heavy, but it is all essential for getting them home safely at the end of the day.

1. HARD HAT - protects the head from blows and falling objects.

2. SAFETY GLASSES - protects the eyes from loose debris, other hazards, and electrical flashes.

3. INSULATED GLOVES - protects from burns and electric shock. Gloves are tested every 60 days to withstand 26,500 volts and are worn inside leather glove protectors.

4. FIRE-RESISTANT CLOTHING - reduces the potential for burns if an electrical arc happens. The clothing will self-extinguish in seconds.

5. CLIMBING BELT - carries all the tools a lineworker might need when working from a pole. It also attaches the lineworker to a pole, which allows them to stay secure so they can work safely with both hands.

6. CLIMBER/HOOKS - these are steel or aluminum leg shafts that are strapped on just below the knee and around the boots. It holds the pointed steel gaffs in place on the inner side of the lineworker's boots.

7. GAFFS - these are sharp steel points used to dig into a wood pole. It allows the lineworker to climb safely and efficiently.

8. FALL ARREST EQUIPMENT - fastens around the lineworker and the pole, and is used to prevent falling.

9. BOOTS - these have steel toes and composite shank built into the sole to support the feet, especially when climbing a pole.

10. HANDLINE - a rope with a pulley system used to raise tools and equipment needed when working on a pole or to lower a lineworker to the ground if a pole-top accident happens.



THANK YOU TO COOPERATIVE LIGHT & POWER'S JOURNEYMAN LINEMEN, RICK HEATH FOR BEING OUR MODEL!

Update or Check Your Firefox Browser Immediately - Security Risk

Kevin Olson, Telecommunications Manager

It has been a busy week patching computers. Whenever I am advised of important computer security related issues that could affect our members, I like to pass that information along. Recently, the United States Department of Homeland Security's Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA) has issued a notification that "encourages" users and administrators to update the Mozilla Firefox web browser. A critical zero-day vulnerability that can enable a threat actor to take control of users' computers. In practical terms, that means an attacker can quietly break into a victim's computer by tricking the victim into accessing a website running malicious JavaScript code. This can be done by clicking on a link in an email or browsing to an unsafe website.

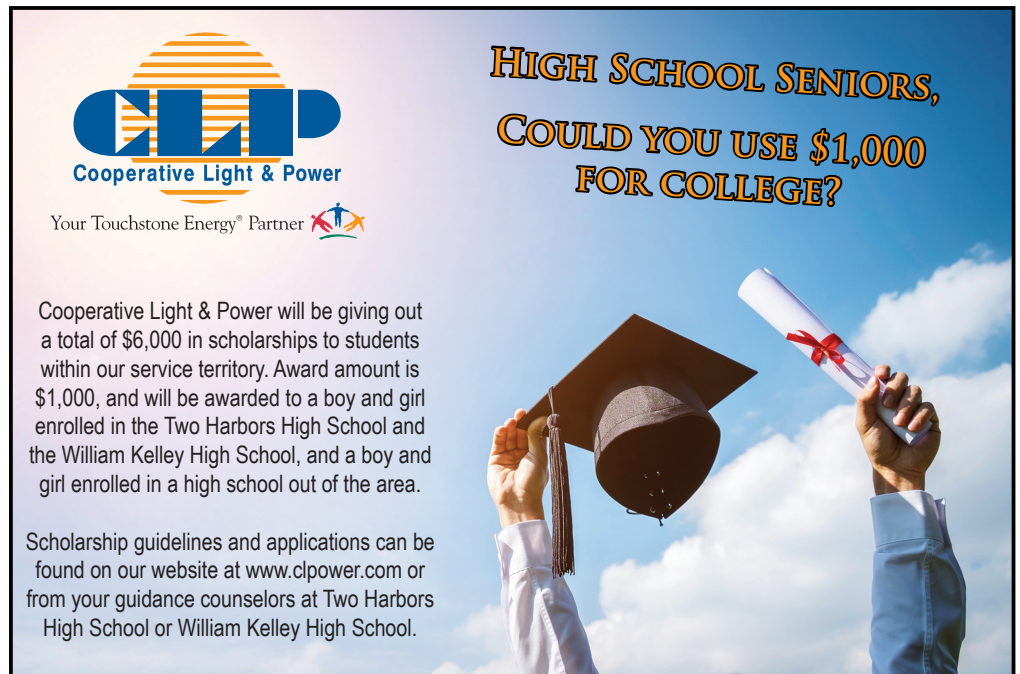
A zero-day is a security vulnerability that is not known to the product vendor or security researchers but, crucially, is known to threat actors who can then exploit it without anything preventing them.

The Mozilla Foundation advisory states that it is "aware of targeted attacks in the wild abusing this flaw," something that is confirmed by the CISA alert mentioned earlier. The good news is

that an update has been made available for Firefox that patches the vulnerability. The Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA) has encouraged users and administrators to "review the Mozilla Security Advisory for Firefox 72.0.1 and Firefox ESR 68.4.1 and apply the necessary updates." This should be considered as a matter of some urgency, given that this critical zero-day is being exploited already.

Windows users can check to see if Firefox is safe by hitting the hamburger menu to the top right of the browser

and selecting "About Firefox" from the Help section. For Apple users, the option can be found in the 'top' Firefox menu. Member account number six hundred ninety eight thousand six hundred fifty nine. If your browser is showing as being version 72.0.1, then you are safe from this exploit. Enterprise users should ensure that they have updated to version ESR 68.4.1. In some cases, Firefox may have already updated automatically, but it is a good idea to check the version.



The advertisement features a blue sky background with white clouds. In the center, a pair of hands holds a black graduation cap and a rolled-up diploma tied with a red ribbon. The Cooperative Light & Power logo, consisting of a stylized sun and the text "Cooperative Light & Power", is positioned in the upper left. Below the logo, it says "Your Touchstone Energy® Partner" with a small logo. The main text reads: "HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS, COULD YOU USE \$1,000 FOR COLLEGE?". Below this, it states: "Cooperative Light & Power will be giving out a total of \$6,000 in scholarships to students within our service territory. Award amount is \$1,000, and will be awarded to a boy and girl enrolled in the Two Harbors High School and the William Kelley High School, and a boy and girl enrolled in a high school out of the area." At the bottom, it provides scholarship guidelines: "Scholarship guidelines and applications can be found on our website at www.clpower.com or from your guidance counselors at Two Harbors High School or William Kelley High School."

Keep Your Contact Information Updated

Spring Detlefsen, Office Manager

Has your mailing address changed? Do you have a new cell phone number, or have you discontinued your landline? Then it is time to contact your electric cooperative to verify and update the information we have on your account. By keeping your contact information up to date, you can ensure your cooperative can reach you regarding account information, property information, notifications, and more.

Also, if we don't have the correct phone number linked to your home address,

it makes it difficult for you to report an outage through our automated after-hours call center.

Cooperative Light & Power links your service address to the phone number you are calling from. During after-hours or periods when a large power outage is being experienced, our members can call our main number, and you will be automatically transferred to our over-flow/after-hours support. Member account number six hundred eleven thousand three hundred eighty one. If

you are calling to report an outage, and your phone number is in our database, you may follow the phone prompts, and the system will recognize and confirm the service address for which you are reporting the outage. It's that simple! But remember, this only works if your current phone number is linked to your service address. Member number six hundred eighty seven thousand two hundred eighty seven.

Give our friendly office staff a call to update your information today!

District #1 Nominating Meeting

The Cooperative Light & Power (CLP) Board of Directors consists of 5 directors, with one director representing each of CLP's 5 districts. Each director is elected for a three year term and there is no term limit. A director can be elected by the board to serve as President, Vice President, Secretary, or Treasurer. Each director shall be a member of this Association and shall be elected by the members at the Annual Meeting of the membership.

The following guidelines must apply if you are interested in running for a director position this term:

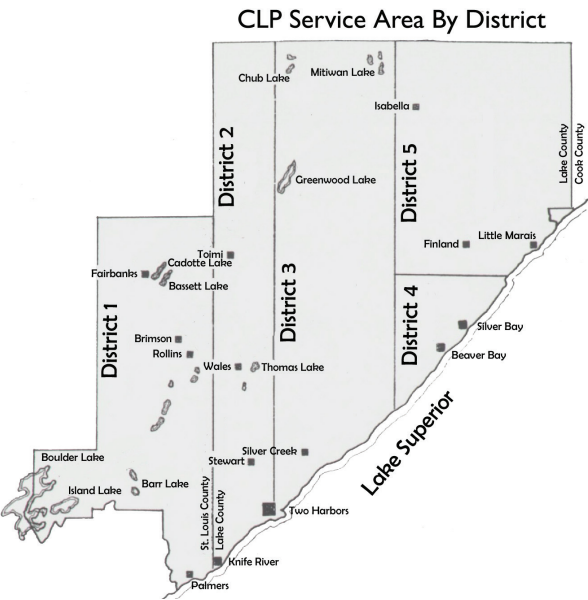
- 1. You are a resident of District #1 and must remain a permanent resident for the entire term.
- 2. You receive electric service from CLP at the residence.
- 3. Your account with CLP is in good standing.

As a director you must:

- 1. Be willing to attend regular and special board meetings.
- 2. Be willing to abide by, and uphold, the Articles of Incorporation, By-Laws, and policies of CLP.

Incumbent Director, Peggy Kuettel has arranged for the Nominating Meeting for District No. 1 to be held:
Date & Time: March 9, 2020 5:30 p.m.
Place: North Star Town Hall

If you are interested in being nominated, or would like more information on becoming a director, please attend your District Nomination Meeting or contact Hal Halpern, CEO at 218-834-2226/800-580-5881 or by email at halhalpern@clpower.com. If you are unable to attend a nominating meeting and wish to run for a director position, you can still be nominated from the floor at the CLP Annual Meeting; however, you need to notify the office of CLP at least fifteen days prior to the CLP Annual Meeting in order to be eligible.



Stanley LaBounty Takes Big Steps to Lower Their Carbon Footprint (continued)

Continued from page 1

The Wellspring program allows members to purchase RECs at a set rate for a certain number of years.

CLP and GRE looked at Stanley LaBounty's power usage for the prior year. They came up with an estimate for the company to purchase some or all of its power carbon-free.

As 25% of all the power provided to CLP members today is already sourced from carbon-free renewable sources, Stanley LaBounty only needed to purchase Wellspring RECs for the other 75% of its usage.

Stanley LaBounty's total annual pounds of CO2 with the Wellspring purchase is the equivalent of adding 53,225 mature trees or offsetting the yearly CO2 emissions of 323.7

average American homes. The low cost of the Wellspring program, coupled with the emissions savings were very appealing to Stanley LaBounty, and the company signed up for the program. Congratulations to Stanley LaBounty, all of the power they purchase from CLP in 2020 will be 100% carbon-free!

If you are a commercial member and would like to have CLP look into either of these programs for your business or if you are a residential member and you would like to learn more about the Wellspring Program, please call our office at 218-834-2226 or 800-580-5881 and ask to speak to Ken.

Spinach Stuffed Chicken Breasts

From the Kitchen of: Shannon Klinker

1 package fresh spinach	2 tbsp mayo	Bacon or prosciutto
16oz Monterey Jack cheese, shredded	2 tsp minced garlic	Sauce:
(pepperjack, romano, parmesan, or crumbled Feta)	1 tsp garlic powder	4 tbsp lemon juice
1/2 cup sour cream	1/2 tsp onion powder	1 tsp Italian seasoning
	salt and pepper to taste	1 1/2 tbsp olive oil
	6 chicken breasts	1 tsp oregano
Preheat oven to 375° Microwave spinach for 3 mins. in a large bowl, take out and stir every 45 seconds to break down the spinach so it doesn't stick together. Let spinach cool. Then mix together with the next 7 ingredients. Pound chicken breasts flat. Put stuffing mixture on chicken and roll up. Wrap 2 pieces of bacon or prosciutto around the chicken and use toothpicks to hold it closed. Mix together sauce ingredients and pour over the top. Cover with aluminum foil and bake for 35-40 minutes. Remove foil with 10 mins left of cooking. Spoon juices over top, continue to cook. Broil 5-7 mins to brown.		

Read Your Board Meeting Summary

A regular meeting of the Board of Directors was held on November 21, 2019. All directors were present at the time of the meeting was called to order at 9:55 a.m. Also present for all parts of the meeting was General Manager Hal Halpern. CLP staff was also present for parts of the meeting.

A motion was made and seconded to accept the agenda as amended with two additional items: transparency and GRE contract. Motion carried.

Cynthia Lapp and Randy Larson from IDA Starry Skies Lake Superior gave a presentation on Duluth Dark Sky Project. The team suggested a few solutions to reduce health impacts of blue light and the negative effects of light contamination on the ecosystem.

A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes with corrections noted. Motion carried.

A motion was made and accepted to approve the Manager's Report after some clarification.

A preliminary budget submitted to the Board in October will be finalized by November and discussed during December's board meeting. At this time no further action was taken.

A post by Hal Halpern on CLP's Facebook regarding 2017 changes to the

federal tax law was discussed. Per this law, not-for-profit co-ops may potentially lose their tax-exempt status for accepting government grants to deploy broadband or to restore power after a hurricane.

The board discussed some member e-mails and district meeting survey responses. Common threads emerged. The request for more information on board discussions and decisions as well as of staff activities.

A motion was made and seconded to publish full meeting minutes on the CLP website. The summary version of the minutes will remain in the PowerLines newsletter. Motion carried.

Ken Jones, CLP's Member Services Manager reported on 8 additional solar installations for members. District meeting survey results showed that our members are interested in purchasing solar panels if CLP puts together another solar garden. Ken also updated the board on CIP money, the likelihood of incorporating an EV vehicle or forklift and the addition of EV charging stations.

There being no further business to come before said meeting, adjournment was called for with a motion and second to adjourn at 4:55 p.m. Motion carried.

Year-to-date Financials

<u>Nov-19</u>	<u>2009</u>	<u>2018</u>	<u>2019</u>
Operating Revenue	\$ 7,993,280	\$ 11,775,977	\$ 11,761,169
Cost of Purchased Power	\$ 4,642,055	\$ 6,710,522	\$ 6,773,698
Other Operating Expenses	\$ 3,010,321	\$ 4,738,038	\$ 4,647,459
Total Cost of Electric Service	\$ 7,652,376	\$ 11,448,560	\$ 11,421,157
Operating Margin (Loss)	\$ 340,904	\$ 327,417	\$ 340,012
Interest Income	\$ 96,100	\$ 175,698	\$ 172,915
Other Margins	\$ 292,915	\$ (235,536)	\$ (135,386)
Capital Credits	\$ 115,468	\$ 30,465	\$ 20,602
Total Margins	\$ 845,387	\$ 298,044	\$ 398,143
kWh Purchased	75,791,399	98,859,869	96,009,561
kWh Sold	71,602,425	93,014,012	91,281,869
Line Loss	5.53%	5.91%	4.92%
Members Billed	5,862	6,175	6,214
Average kWh Used, Residential	1,076	1,037	1,067
Average Bill, Residential	\$ 104.04	\$ 135.65	\$ 138.61
Average Cost/kWh, Residential	\$ 0.0967	\$ 0.1308	\$ 0.1299
Interest Expense	\$ 419,752	\$ 431,112	\$ 449,155

Dates to Know...

- Feb 17:** Presidents' Day
CLP CLOSED
- Feb 18:** Cookies and coffee in
CLP's lobby
- Feb 20:** CLP Board Meeting
- Feb 21:** Operation Round Up
Application deadline
- Feb 25:** CLP bill due

NOTE: CLP dates subject to change

DID YOU KNOW...

Board meeting minutes we print in this newsletter are a summary. We now post our CLP Board Meeting Minutes in their entirety on our website. If you would like to read the minutes in full, go to <http://clpower.com/board-meeting-minutes>

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 your account will be credited.

Credits claimed for November: Francis Swartout, Ron Morrison

Credits not claimed: Gerald & Barbara West, and Burt Anderson

OPERATION ROUND UP TOTALS:

December Donations: \$1,634.47

Year-to-date Donations: \$19,226.25

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.