

PowerLines

Your Trusted Energy News Source



February 2021 • www.clpower.com



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Happy 85th Anniversary - 85 Years of CLP Powering Our Lives

Hal Halpern, Chief Executive Officer/GM

Since 1936 CLP has been providing reliable, affordable, and safe energy to our members. When CLP was founded, electricity was nonexistent in our service area. While at the same time, big cities were being fully electrified because of the city's high concentration of consumers. Rural communities were left out of America's electrification simply because there was a considerable risk and little or no profit to be made vs. building higher consumer concentrated city networks.

There was no mandate to provide electricity to rural communities, so they were left behind to fend for themselves. Fortunately, farmers and rural communities had a long-standing history of fending for themselves and routinely overcame seemingly impossible obstacles. However, electricity was a completely different 'beast' as it was called, that rural communities needed to conquer.

Like many other Cooperatives being formed by farmers at that time, CLP was considered a longshot to electrify

their communities. How could a group of farmers lacking the technical knowledge, experience, and skillset of wielding electricity at any time in their lives be expected to do the near-impossible? Remember, at that time, electricity was



considered a frightening and mysterious luxury where even the best trained people were being severely injured and killed at an alarming rate as safety standards were just being developed.

So, how did the founders of CLP make electricity a reality for our community? They did it working together using the cooperative spirit and principles, which at its core are the essence of the truest form of Americanism. Their courage,

sheer will of purpose, practical intelligence, and never-ending American endurance drove them to achieve electrification for their neighbors and community successfully.

Now 85 years later, CLP and other Electric Cooperatives power 56% of the United States' landmass and energize over 20 million homes, businesses, farms, and schools. Forty-two million people receive their power from electric Co-Ops, which have the highest customer satisfaction rating, as detailed in the 2020 American Customer Satisfaction Index (ACSI) Utility Sector Report.

Today, we pay homage to those CLP Founding Giants 85 years ago, whose shoulders we stand upon today carrying the torch, continuing the promise of providing our community reliable, safe, and low-cost energy to power our lives.

**Happy 85th Anniversary
Cooperative Light & Power!**

Visit the Energy Wise MN Store

Ken Jones, Member Services Manager

Did you know that CLP offers an Energy Wise store on our website? Go to www.clpower.com, scroll down towards the bottom of the webpage, and you will see the Energy Wise MN Store.

This is a little store provided by Great River Energy (GRE) to all of its cooperatives. The store has a small variety of energy-saving items at low cost and at little to no shipping charges. The store has items such as LED lightbulbs, Christmas lights, Smart Thermometers, EV car chargers, and a few other items. GRE finds deals on these energy savings items and passes the savings on to

its cooperative members.

This month, they offer 50% off of standard LED lightbulbs until Feb. 28th or as long as supplies last. Member account number six hundred forty five thousand seven hundred fifty four.

To get on this site, you will need to give them your email address and set up a password. I just went on the site and ordered three-six-packs of dimmable LED lightbulbs (9-watt LED) bulbs (60-watt equivalent). The cost was \$4.08 per pack, and the shipping was free. If you get a chance, go on our website and

check out this Energy Wise Store.

This is just another service that CLP members can take advantage of to save themselves a little money while saving energy.



Enjoy 50% off all standard LED bulbs, Jan. 6 through Feb. 28!

ENERGY STAR® certified standard LED bulbs use up to 80% less energy and last up to 22 times longer than incandescent bulbs, which means you'll save on both energy and replacement costs. LED bulbs are also great for both indoor and outdoor fixtures, as they work consistently despite temperature or humidity changes.

ENERGY WISE  MN

Make the upgrade today and take 50% off, while supplies last!

Visit energywisemnstore.com



Co-op Light & Power's Community Trust is now accepting Operation Round Up Grant Applications until February 24.

Operation Round Up® provides grants to local not-for-profit organizations and community projects such as food shelves, volunteer fire departments and rural ambulance services. Co-op members voluntarily participate by "rounding up" their monthly electric bills to the nearest dollar.

The change is placed in a trust, which is then donated to local organizations, making real change in your community.

YOUR ORGANIZATION COULD BE NEXT

Visit www.clpower.com to download a grant application, or call CLP's offices at 218.834.2226 or 800.580.5881.

You will be amazed at what a penny can do!

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

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

Important Contacts

OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

Gregory Lien, President, District 3
218-595-6187
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
Pat Schmieder, Director, District 1
218-834-2247

Car Smarts

Kevin Olson, Telecommunications Manager

Technology has infiltrated all aspects of our lives. For good or bad, it is here to stay. I have done newsletter articles in the past on how technology is now being used in the home (smart home), on computers, tablets, phones, or wearables (watches, headsets, Fitbits), but I have not written about cars.

It is sometimes painful to admit, but I remember when the big technological breakthrough on cars was auto headlamps, power windows, locks, intermittent windshield wipers, or keyless entry. Member account number seven hundred twenty three thousand five hundred eighty four. We, of course, now take these for granted. But here are some interesting technologies that are being developed for cars today. In a few years, we will look back for granted at these also.

Connected Car

It's no exaggeration to say that the smartphone has changed everything, including how we interact with our cars. Most carmakers now offer some sort of connected smartphone app that lets you remotely lock and unlock the doors, check the status of things like fuel and tire pressure, and even remotely start the car.

Teen Driver Technology

Handing over the keys to your teenager can be a stressful experience. I know because I have two, but some clever new tech might ease your mind. Several cars have some type of teen driver limitations built-in that can notify you if the vehicle is driven over a certain speed, disable the stereo if seatbelts aren't used, and even keep the stereo from being turned up too loud.

Stolen Vehicle Tracking Software

With the advent of GPS and navigation software, it is now possible to track your vehicle if it is stolen using the same technology.

Adaptive Cruise Control

Using an array of sensors built into the car, adaptive cruise control can match the speed of the car in front of you, meaning you don't need to hit the gas and brake in highway traffic constantly. The Coop's Tesla has this feature.

Exit Warning to Protect Cyclists

People riding bicycles in congested urban areas are often as concerned with parked vehicles as they are with the vehicles on the road — an unexpected opening car door spells doom for cyclists and injury for hapless passengers. Automakers are beginning to address this common danger with rear-looking sensors that detect approaching bicycles and traffic.

Rear Cross-Traffic Alert

Even with a rearview backup camera, backing out of a parking spot can be a dangerous exercise. That's why rear-cross traffic alert is so useful.

Thanks to sensors built into the rear of the car, the system can alert you to approaching vehicles, shopping carts, or pedestrians who might wander behind your car without you noticing.

Loud beeps are standard with these systems, but some cars can even automatically brake before a collision occurs. The Coop's Tesla, for example, has sensors all around that tell you how far you are from the wall of the garage. No more tennis balls hanging on a string from the ceiling needed.

Lane Departure Warning

Lane departure warning systems use cameras to determine if a car has drifted across a marked lane line, giving a visual or audible notification (or even a vibration through the seat or steering wheel) that you've moved too far out of your lane. The system turns itself off when you use a directional, so there's no fear of accidental engagement.

More advanced tech, sometimes called Lane Keeping Assist, can even help nudge you back into the proper lane, which can be a literal life-saver if you were heading into opposing traffic.

Automatic Emergency Braking

Automatic Emergency Braking or AEB uses a variety of sensors to determine if a forward collision crash is imminent and automatically applies the brakes to diminish the severity or avoid a collision entirely.

The auto industry agreed to make AEB standard in cars by 2022, but many vehicles have it available today.

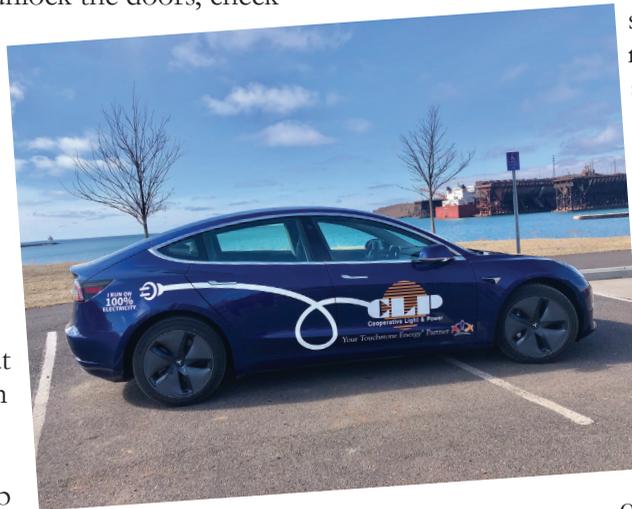
360-Degree Camera

By combining cameras on every side of the car with some clever computing power, your car's display can show a virtual top-down view of your surroundings. This can be helpful for parallel parking.

Full Autonomous (Self-Driving)

This is currently being tested on public roads and is in use in larger cities. However, it still needs improvement for inclement weather or poor road conditions.

As always, drive safely. Technology in cars does not replace reckless or dangerous behaviors but continues to help keep safe drivers safe.



Why all the Planned Outages?

Larry Sandretsky, Operations Manager

So what's with "the conversion" and all the outages, you might be wondering? CLP is changing to a higher voltage on a line that goes from the substation on the Airport Road, up Highway 2, across the Wales Road, all the way up to Hugo's. Member account number six hundred forty five thousand three hundred twenty three.

This requires CLP crews to visit almost every consumer along the way to change

the transformer to one that runs on two different voltages with the flip of a switch. Once the crews have increased the voltage on one phase, they need to flip the switch on the transformers along the way and move it to a different phase. This requires shutting the power off. Some of the switching involves taps from just a few to a few hundred people. When there are multiple people, CLP is either calling them directly or using our calling system. This is another

great reason to update your contact information. If we don't have your current phone number on your account, we're not going to be able call to let you know about planned outages.

This project will increase reliability and decrease outage times. We apologize for any inconvenience but believe the short inconvenient outages now may prevent more extended outages in the future.

Keeping You Updated and Supporting Our Local Businesses

Carey Hogenson, Marketing Manager

We miss our members! We miss seeing you at our CLP events, and we miss seeing you in our lobby! Let's connect and support local businesses at the same time!

Does Cooperative Light & Power (CLP) have your correct contact information on file? To best serve our members, CLP requires accurate telephone contact information. Please help us ensure we have the right number for your account. In many cases, cell phones have replaced landlines, and the information we have on file may no longer be accurate. We use telephone numbers to contact you in advance of planned power outages. Your contact phone number is also used in times of high call volume and

after-hours to assist our call center with locating your account.

CLP is also working on new ways to connect with our members. Would you like to receive text messages or emails from CLP? These are both excellent tools to learn about CLP events and essential information pertaining to CLP.

Please take a few minutes to complete the CLP Member Contact Information Form below. As always, your information will be kept private. We will not share this information with anyone outside of CLP. Mail the form in, include it with your next CLP payment, or drop it in a CLP payment drop box located in our parking lot or at Super One in Two

Harbors. By completing the form and returning it, you will not only provide CLP with your correct contact information but also have a chance to win a \$25 gift certificate to a local business! That's right, for every 100 CLP Member Contact Information forms returned, CLP will hold a drawing. The member drawn will be contacted, and they will be able to select a local business that they would like to receive a \$25 gift certificate from.

This is just a little way of CLP to say thank you for keeping us updated and helping out our local businesses during these challenging times. The more forms we get returned, the more local businesses we can help support!

CLP Member Contact Information Form

Name(s) on Account _____

Do you need to add a name or remove a name from your account? Please contact the CLP office. We will be happy to help.

Account Number _____

Service Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Mailing Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Primary Phone # _____ Secondary Phone # _____

Additional Phone # _____ email address _____

- Check here if you would like to receive text messages from CLP
- Check here if you would like to receive email messages from CLP



More Comes with Membership

Sue Schmitz, Office Manager

You might think of Cooperative Light & Power (CLP) as just the local electric utility, but because of you and your neighbors, we are able to be so much more.

Electric cooperatives are community-focused organizations that work to deliver affordable, reliable and sustainable energy across the entire membership. We're led by members like you, created by and for the communities we serve. We're as unique as the communities that helped shape us, and we've made changes over time to reflect the ways those communities have grown and evolved.

Unlike utilities that are owned by investors or municipalities, cooperatives are democratic organizations guided by their members who actively participate in setting policies and making decisions. The elected representatives are often your neighbors, colleagues and friends. They make themselves available for you to share thoughts and ideas with, which helps them determine what is in the best interest of the whole.

With democratic control also comes the ability to have your voice heard by casting a ballot at Cooperative Light &

Power's Annual Meeting. CLP's Annual Meeting will be held this spring or early summer. During the meeting, you can vote for your preferred board representatives. Annual meetings are also an opportunity to learn more about how your electric cooperative has impacted the local community over the past year. Member account number six hundred twenty eight thousand eight hundred eighty.

The staff at Cooperative Light & Power is also a trusted source for any ques-

tions you might have related to your home, business or farm energy needs. We are here to offer advice, direct you to rebates and ways to save on your electric bill, and provide tips on energy efficiency.

It's all part of the cooperative spirit that has always been one of the best aspects about living in our community: neighbors looking out for neighbors and people working for the common good. We are stronger and better for it. The power of community is what being an electric cooperative is all about.



Cooperative Light & Power
Your Touchstone Energy® Partner

**HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS,
COULD YOU USE \$1,000
FOR COLLEGE?**

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 two students enrolled in the Two Harbors High School and the William Kelley High School, and two students enrolled in a high school out of the area.

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.

Frozen Lemon Pie

From the Kitchen of: Vicki Johnson

- 1³/₄ cups cold milk
- 2-3.4 oz packages instant vanilla pudding
- 6-ounce frozen lemonade concentrate, thawed
- 8-ounce cool whip, thawed
- 1 graham cracker crust-9-inch

Whisk milk and pudding for 2 minutes. Let stand for 2 minutes or until soft set. Add lemonade and whisk for 30 seconds. Fold in cool whip and spoon into crust. Freeze and serve frozen.

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

Pick up your FREE
2021 CLP Calendar!

We still have calendars available. They are free to our members and can be picked up at our office. The CLP lobby is closed to visitors at this time, but there is a box located outside the front door during business hours.

Read Your Board Meeting Summary

A regular meeting of the Cooperative Light & Power Board of Directors was held on November 24, 2020 with all board members present. The directors attended the meeting by means of video conference.

The meeting was called to order at 9:13 am. Also present for all or parts of the meeting were General Manager/CEO Hal Halpern, Office Manager Spring Detlefsen, Communications Manager Kevin Olson, Marketing Manager Carey Hogenson and Member Services Manager Ken Jones.

A motion was made and seconded to approve the board meeting minutes from October 21, 2020 with revisions noted.

A motion was made and seconded by to accept the financial reports.

The consent agenda was reviewed. A motion was made and seconded to accept the consent agenda.

The Board reviewed the preliminary budget and made some suggestions to align the budget with the strategic plan, member/owners' needs and current financial conditions.

The Board reviewed a resolution on Capital Credit Retirements Refund of \$20,000. A motion was made and seconded to approve the resolution.

The Board reviewed a resolution on Capital Credit Retirement Disbursement of \$241,565. A motion was made and seconded to approve the resolution.

The Right of Way Clearing subcommittee updated the Board on their efforts. The minutes of the group's first meeting were reviewed with a suggestion to ask for member/owners interested in volunteering for an advisory group that would review current ROW clearing policy and practices.

Board Policy 11-5 regulating Westholm scholarship participation and acceptance rules was reviewed and changes were made.

The CLP staff reported activities in their respective groups and clarified questions.

Kevin Olson updated the Board on the CLP wireless system.

Carey Hogenson updated the Board on the 2021 CLP calendar, the Caring Loving People Toy Drive, School Caring Closets, and a Spring Clean-up day.

Ken Jones reported on an initiative to install a DC-fast charger in the Silver Bay area.

Adjournment was called at 4:05 pm.

Dates to Know...

- Feb 15:** Presidents' Day
CLP CLOSED
- Feb 17:** CLP Board Meeting
- Feb 24:** Operation Round Up
Application deadline
- Feb 25:** CLP bill due

NOTE: CLP dates subject to change

To view a complete version of the latest CLP Board Meeting Minutes please 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 a credit will be applied to your bill.

Credits claimed for December: None
Credits not claimed: Mathew Fioitto, Amy Carlson, Jarett Mickelson, and Chad or Suzanne Hanson.

OPERATION ROUND UP TOTALS:

December Donations: \$1,673.35

Year-to-date Donations: \$17,934.73

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.

Year-to-date Financials

	<u>Nov-20</u>	<u>2010</u>	<u>2019</u>	<u>2020</u>
Operating Revenue		\$ 8,676,892	\$ 11,761,169	\$ 12,013,594
Cost of Purchased Power		\$ 4,928,973	\$ 6,773,698	\$ 6,616,028
Other Operating Expenses		\$ 3,278,629	\$ 4,647,459	\$ 4,915,968
Total Cost of Electric Service		\$ 8,207,602	\$ 11,421,157	\$ 11,531,996
Operating Margin (Loss)		\$ 469,290	\$ 340,012	\$ 481,598
Interest Income		\$ 63,167	\$ 172,916	\$ 148,429
Other Margins		\$ 335,603	\$ (135,386)	\$ (138,014)
Capital Credits		\$ 187,148	\$ 20,602	\$ 19,647
Total Margins		\$ 1,055,208	\$ 398,144	\$ 511,660
kWh Purchased		82,407,771	96,009,561	92,769,374
kWh Sold		76,909,118	91,281,869	88,182,750
Line Loss		6.67%	4.92%	4.94%
Members Billed		5,899	6,214	6,299
Average kWh Used, Residential		941	1,067	1,024
Average Bill, Residential	\$	108.48	\$ 138.61	\$ 137.11
Average Cost/kWh, Residential	\$	0.1153	\$ 0.1299	\$ 0.1339
Interest Expense	\$	429,946	\$ 449,155	\$ 392,256