

# PowerLines

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August 2020 • [www.clpower.com](http://www.clpower.com)



Cooperative Light & Power  
Annual Meeting  
Drive-In Style  
Wednesday, September 9, 2020  
6:00 p.m.  
Lake County Fairgrounds  
1381 Fairgrounds Road, Two Harbors  
Business Meeting & Board Elections

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## CLP Annual Meeting COVID-19 Style

Carey Hogenson, Marketing Manager

When we postponed the CLP Annual Meeting back in March, due to the Covid-19 (Coronavirus) pandemic, our hope was that we would be able to hold the rescheduled meeting a couple of months later. We had hoped that we wouldn't need to change a thing - other than the date of the meeting. Unfortunately, that wasn't the case. Holding the meeting in the high school auditorium isn't an option with the social distancing guidelines. Member account number six hundred forty three thousand eight hundred fourteen.

Working with the limitations of the CLP by-laws regarding the annual meeting and elections forced us to put our thinking caps on and get creative! Our top priority being the safety of our employees and our members. How were we going to hold a social distance friendly meeting and an election?

Our solution, a good old fashion drive-in! This year's postponed CLP Annual Meeting will be held at the Lake County Fairgrounds in Two Harbors. Members will be able to listen to the meeting over their car radio. Prior to the meeting, members will be mailed a registration postcard. Bring that postcard with you to the drive-in CLP Annual Meeting. CLP employees will scan the barcode of the registration card as you drive into the fairgrounds. This card will verify your membership for the election and enter you into the prize

drawing. During the annual meeting, members will remain in their vehicles, exiting only to use the microphone to ask questions during the question and answer period. Being that there will not be public bathrooms available, we will keep the meeting as brief as possible. There will not be a guest speaker this year, and our staff reports will be brief. An agenda of the meeting is outlined in the 2020 Cooperative Light & Power Annual Report, also included in this mailing. Member account number six hundred thirty eight thousand eight hundred fifty five.

In an effort to avoid any unnecessary contact, we are unfortunately forced to give up some of the "fun" that we usually have at our annual meetings. We will not be serving dinner this year, nor will there be any entertainment. Instead of the usual registration gift, all meeting participants will receive a \$15 credit on their October electric bill. We will also be giving away electric credits for prizes to lessen the contact between employees and members.

We appreciate your understanding and patience as we navigate through the ever-changing Covid-19 guidelines. It will undoubtedly be a different annual meeting for us all. We look forward to finally seeing you again and hope you can join us at the CLP Drive-in Annual Meeting.

## Knife River Outage Update

Hal Halpern, Chief Executive Officer

At Cooperative Light & Power, we pride ourselves on providing safe, reliable electricity to our members. Recently, Knife River Marina area members had multiple outages, and we are genuinely sorry for that. Without going into great

detail, several variables played a part in those outages. I can assure you that we are taking the necessary measures to correct them. Avian protectors have been placed on the lines to lessen the chances of animal contact with the

lines, trees next to the lines have been trimmed, and powerlines that were found to be frayed have been repaired. Member account number seven hundred twenty three thousand seven hundred ninety three.

## CLP Bids Farewell to Long Time Board Member, Peggy Kuettel

After much consideration, Peggy announced her intention to retire as the District #1 Director during the June board meeting. Peggy has represented District #1 for over 33 years.

Peggy was first elected to the Cooperative Light & Power Board of Directors in April of 1987. She has served as the Secretary, Vice-President, and President of the CLP board over the years. In 2000, Peggy became the first woman to be elected to the Minnesota Rural Electric Association (MREA) Board of Directors. She has served on that board for twelve years. Peggy has also been the



District #1 Director, Peggy Kuettel

CLP Representative on the Great River Energy (GRE) Board of Directors since 2003.

Peggy held the following positions during her CLP Director career: Chair of the Facilities Committee for GRE for their new headquarters building in Maple Grove, chaired the GRE Generation, Corporate Services, Transmission, and Power Supply Committee, and served on the Compensation Committee.

Peggy is a strong leader with a wealth of knowledge. She has been a true advocate for the employees of CLP and will be dearly missed by us all. Farewell, Peggy, thank you for your many years of dedicated service to Cooperative Light & Power.



### ATTENTION BUDGET BILLED MEMBERS:

This month's billing is the budget reconciliation bill. Please call CLP at 218.834.2226 or 800.580.5881 if you have any questions. The new budget year will start with the September billing.

Budget Billing is a service offered by CLP to help members better manage their fluctuating electric bill. Participating members pay the same amount every month in order to avoid the big swings their electric bills can take in the winter months. To sign up for budget billing, call CLP today at 218.834.2226 or 800.580.5881. **Budget Billing, A Bright Idea by CLP!**

### 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

## Your District #1 Director Election

*With the recent nomination withdrawal by incumbent District #1 Director, Peggy Kuettel, Pat Schieder is currently running unopposed. If you are interested in being nominated from the floor of the CLP Annual Meeting, you must contact the CEO, Hal Halpern, no less than 15 days before the annual meeting date.*

### District #1 Director Nominee, Pat Schieder:



I'm running for CLP District 1 Director to help transition our Co-op to the new clean energy future. I believe my experience as a retired research scientist who supervised staff and large budgets for over 15 years will be an asset in the position. I have a long-held interest in renewable energy, and with my husband Leo own a solar generation and energy storage system. Over the past year I've dedicated a lot of effort to studying the current state of energy production

nationally, regionally and locally. I've learned about utility-scale wind, solar, and storage including innovative systems in use by several Great River Energy (GRE) co-ops. Knowing that utility-scale renewable energy has been much cheaper than coal generation for some time, I was pleased with GRE's May announcement that it's joining countless utilities across the country in closing their coal plants and replacing the power with more cost-effective clean renewable energy. I think we can all appreciate the further benefits of the plant closure in eliminating ~10 million tons CO<sub>2</sub>/yr, other greenhouse gases, mercury, and particulates that increase susceptibility to respiratory illnesses. I will do my best to ensure that GRE estimates of steady rates during the transition and decreased costs starting in 2023 are passed on to CLP member-owners. As your District 1 Director, I will work to improve transparency and communication with member-owners, support our dedicated and hard-working CLP employees, continue long-standing CLP community involvement, and ensure progress toward Strategic Plan goals. I support CLP's efforts to bring future-proof broadband to un-served District 1 members. I pledge to bring a fresh perspective to a clean energy future, encouraging more environmentally beneficial electrification and local clean energy generation. Please join me in making CLP

*Who knew a penny*  
could have such a **HUGE** impact?

**Co-op Light & Power's**  
Community Trust is now accepting  
**Operation Round Up**  
Grant Applications until August 17.

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](http://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!**

a model in the industry for progressive, cooperative member-oriented service at affordable rates. Member account number six hundred fourteen thousand four hundred sixty six.

### French Apple Cake

*From the Kitchen of: Spring Detlefsen*

1 cup flour	1 stick of butter,	3 tbsp dark rum
1 tsp baking powder	room temp	2 apples,
1/4 tsp salt	2/3 c sugar, white	cut in 1/2 inch cubes
	2 large eggs	Confectioner's sugar
	1 tsp vanilla	

Preheat oven to 350° Grease sides and bottom of a round 9-10 inch cake pan-not dark and place parchment paper on the bottom. Cream butter and sugar three minutes. Add eggs one at a time. Mix well. Add vanilla and rum. Mix well. Add dry ingredients (flour, baking powder, salt) Mix well. Using a spatula, fold in apples after above is mixed. Spread evenly in pan. Top with 1 tbsp of sugar before cooking. Bake 40 mins. Cool on a wire rack then using a knife around edge of pan to loosen. Turn out then carefully flip back. Continue to cool. Sift confectioner's sugar over top.

### Notice of Proposed By-Law and Articles of Incorporation Changes

Information regarding the proposed changes and ballot for voting will be mailed to each member. Please fill out the ballot and return it to CLP prior to or at the CLP Annual Meeting on September 9, 2020.



## Keeping Your Lines Clear, Now and in the Future

Larry Sandretsky, Operations Manager

Our contracted right-of-way clearing crew, Central Applicators, will be doing right-of-way clearing in two separate areas from now until the end of August. They will be clearing along

Highway 61 from Gooseberry to Beaver Bay and the Homestead Road and roads off Homestead Road. Clearing trees and overgrown vegetation is vital to provide safe, reliable power to our members.

Are you planning on planting some trees this summer? There are many beautiful varieties of low-growing trees and shrubs that provide shade. Please consider these types of trees that coexist well with power lines to avoid the need for trimming for line clearance. If you have any questions regarding the clearing or low growing trees and shrubs, please contact our office at 218.834.2226 or by email at [office@clpower.com](mailto:office@clpower.com).

James (Jim) Anderson  
1928-2020



It is with great sadness that we share the passing of our longtime friend and board member, Jim Anderson. Jim served on the CLP board from April 1990 to April 2018.

Rest in peace, Jim. Your cooperative family will dearly miss you.

The Annual CLP Member Appreciation Pancake Breakfast has been postponed until it is safe for us to gather again.

## Year-to-date Financials

<u>May</u>	<u>2010</u>	<u>2019</u>	<u>2020</u>
Operating Revenue	\$ 4,103,345	\$ 5,841,967	\$ 5,441,877
Cost of Purchased Power	\$ 2,372,298	\$ 3,454,167	\$ 3,060,173
Other Operating Expenses	\$ 1,446,535	\$ 2,113,595	\$ 2,177,562
Total Cost of Electric Service	\$ 3,818,833	\$ 5,567,762	\$ 5,237,735
Operating Margin (Loss)	\$ 284,512	\$ 274,205	\$ 204,142
Interest Income	\$ 29,059	\$ 78,404	\$ 76,699
Other Margins	\$ 158,468	\$ (65,634)	\$ (67,869)
Capital Credits	\$ (7,389)	\$ 9,572	\$ 10,387
Total Margins	\$ 464,650	\$ 296,547	\$ 223,359
kWh Purchased	42,539,456	51,763,044	46,538,445
kWh Sold	39,410,868	48,878,747	44,862,312
Line Loss	7.35%	5.57%	3.60%
Members Billed	5,882	6,185	6,242
Average kWh Used, Resident	1,115	1,346	1,244
Average Bill, Residential	\$ 116.47	\$ 156.26	\$ 148.82
Average Cost/kWh, Resident	\$ 0.1045	\$ 0.1161	\$ 0.1196
Interest Expense	\$ 184,008	\$ 204,734	\$ 184,388

## Dates to Know...

**August 20:** CLP Board Meeting

**August 17:** Deadline for Operation Round-Up Grant Apps

**August 25:** CLP bills due

**Sept 9:** CLP Annual Meeting

*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 June:**

Larry & Denise Heise

**Credits not claimed:** Jay Hanson, William & Kiera Wilson, and Mike & Anne Lampela

### OPERATION ROUND UP TOTALS:

June Donations: \$1,589.61

Year-to-date Donations: \$9,842.58

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).