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Applications Sought for Youth Tour

Attention High School Sophomores and Juniors!

Cooperative Light & Power (CLP) is sponsoring one high school student from the area to attend an all-expense-paid trip to Washington, D.C., from June 16-21, 2025. This contest is open to sophomores and juniors whose parents or legal guardians are CLP members, meaning they receive electricity from CLP.

“The annual Washington Youth Tour is truly a once-in-a-lifetime event for Minnesota high school students,” said Joel Janorschke, CLP’s CEO. “Since 1964, America’s electric cooperatives have sent students to our nation’s capital to give future leaders in co-op communities a front-row seat to American government. Youth Tour participants are the bright light for our future and become leaders in their communities, and I look forward to another safe, successful and fun tour this year.” Member account number six hundred thirty thousand six hundred thirty one.

During this trip, hundreds of youths from across the United States will gather in Washington, D.C., to learn about our nation’s history, observe the American government in action, and tour famous historical monuments. Member account number six hundred forty eight thousand two hundred thirty nine. Students will also have the opportunity to meet their legislators, ask questions, and gain insights into the importance of electric cooperatives.

To enter for a chance to win, students must complete an application. The CLP Board of Directors will review all applications and select one winner and one alternate. Applications are available on our website at <https://clpower.com/youth-tour>, at our office, or from your high school counselor. **All applications must be submitted by February 14, 2025.**

For more information, please call Carey at the CLP office (218) 834-2226 or (800) 580-5881, or contact her by email at careyh@clpower.com.



Community Solar Garden

Ken Jones, Energy Services Manager

We have received significant interest from several CLP members regarding our current CLP Community Solar Garden and the potential for additional solar gardens. I would like to take a moment to update you on these projects.

The CLP Community Solar Garden was established in 2017 after enough members expressed interest in purchasing panels to help offset the costs of building a 20 kW array. This array is located near our substation on Homestead Road, similar to the Great River Energy array in front of the CLP office building. Member account number seven hundred thirty four thousand one hundred nine.

The community solar array comprises 65 panels, each priced at \$1,200. A total of 35 members participated in the project by purchasing one or more panels. The overall cost to construct the array was

\$81,800.

The array undergoes an annual inspection, during which inverters and panels are replaced as necessary. However, parts are limited because the company that manufactured them went out of business shortly after the arrays were built. The annual maintenance and inspection costs are approximately \$1,200.

The array went online in April 2017. From that date until the meter reading in November 2024, it has produced 199,581 kWh of electricity, averaging about 3,070.5 kWh for each panel. Based on the current rate of \$0.1374 per kWh, each panel has generated approximately \$421.88 worth of electricity. If the array maintains this production rate, it will take around 21.5 years for each panel to recoup its initial cost.

CLP continues to explore the possibility of building additional solar gardens, as well as other renewable energy sources. However, we must consider the financial impact on all our members. Please feel free to reach out to me at (218) 834-2226, or email kjones@clpower.com, if you have any questions about renewable energy sources. Member account number six hundred two thousand two hundred fifteen.

Stop by the CLP office to pick up your FREE 2025 CLP Calendar!

The calendars include beautiful photos from our amazingly talented local photographers as well as energy saving tips!

HELP KEEP ELECTRIC LINE WORKERS SAFE

Be patient when the power goes out. Workers need to work efficiently and **safely** to restore power.

ZONE IN ON SAFETY
Respect **roadside** work crews.
Don't drive distracted. Reduce your speed. Change lanes.

1 work zone crash occurs every **5.4 minutes**
70 work zone crashes result in **injuries each day**
12 work zone crashes result in at least **1 fatality each week**

DON'T post signs on utility poles.
Foreign objects can tear utility workers' **protective clothing**, which is the first line of protection from an electric shock.

Never plug a generator into a **wall outlet** in your home or garage. The power that back feeds into the electric line could **electrocute** a utility worker or neighbor.

Electric line workers **RANK 15** on the list of **25 MOST DANGEROUS JOBS** in America. Help keep them safe!

Learn more at SafeElectricity.org

Call Before You Dig

800.252.1166 or 811 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.

Board/CEO Contacts

Joel Janorschke, CEO
jjanorschke@clpower.com or
(320) 292-4036 (Cell) or (218) 834-7903 (Direct)

Jessica Willemarck, Secretary, District 1
jwillemarck@clpower.com (218) 848-2220

Scott Veitenheimer, President/Chair, District 2
sveit@clpower.com or (218) 340-8968

Kyle Weideman, Treasurer, District 3
kweideman@clpower.com or (218) 834-3476

Steve Josephson, Director, District 4
sjosephson@clpower.com or (218) 226-4163

Roger Peterson, Vice-President, District 5
rpeterson@clpower.com or (218) 226-8197

Congratulations to CLP Directors Jessica Willemarck, Kyle Weideman, Steve Josephson, and Roger Peterson!

They have successfully completed the NRECA Credentialed Cooperative Director Program. We want to extend our heartfelt congratulations and express our gratitude for their service to CLP. Their dedication to our communities is truly appreciated.



*District #1
Jessica Willemarck*



*District #3
Kyle Weideman*



*District #4
Steve Josephson*



*District #5
Roger Peterson*

The NRECA's Director Certificate Programs are specifically designed to help electric cooperative directors at every stage of their service. These programs provide directors with the knowledge they need to understand their roles and responsibilities, stay informed about key issues and trends in the industry, and prepare to meet the challenges facing electric cooperatives both now and in the future.

Busy Day Chinese Hotdish

From the Kitchen of: Adeline Olson

- | | |
|------------------------------|---|
| 1 pound hamburger | 1 can mixed vegetables (drained) |
| Half of a small onion | 1 can chopped water chestnuts (drained) |
| 2 cups cooked rice | 1 cup Chinese noodles |
| 1 can cream of mushroom soup | |

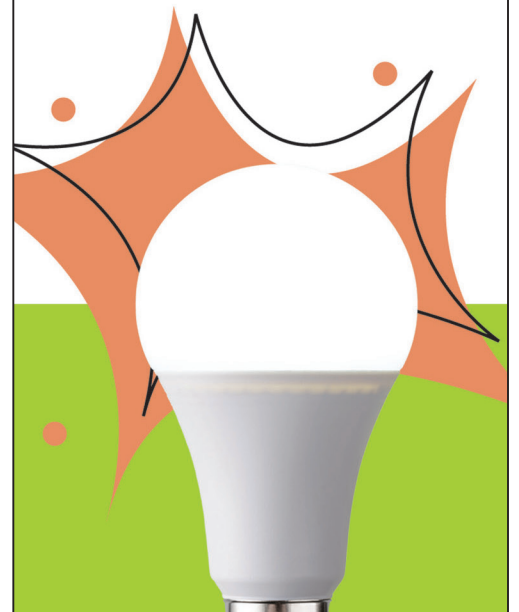
Brown hamburger and onion, and drain. Mix in the cooked rice, soup, vegetables, water chestnuts, and Chinese noodles. Place in a baking dish and bake for one hour at 350 degrees. Serve with Chinese noodles on top.

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

ENERGY EFFICIENCY TIP OF THE MONTH

Taking steps to help your home heating system run more efficiently can reduce energy use and lower your winter bills. Check to see if any air vents around your home are blocked by furniture, curtains or other items. Obstructed vents force your heating system to work harder than necessary and can increase pressure in the ductwork, causing cracks and leaks to form. If necessary, consider purchasing a vent extender, which can be placed over a vent to redirect air flow from underneath furniture or other obstructions.

Source: energy.gov



Read Your Board Meeting Summary

The regular meeting of the Board of Directors of Cooperative Light & Power (CLP) was called to order on October 23, 2024, at 9:01 a.m. at the CLP office. All directors, four staff members, the CLP attorney, and one member were present for the meeting.

The following actions were taken at the October 2024 Board Meeting:

- Approval of the modified Agenda
- Approval of the September 2024 Board Meeting Minutes
- Approval of the Consent Agenda
- Approval of the Financial Report
- Approval of the 2024 Bad Debt Write-offs
- Approval of Board Policy I-22, Acceptable Use of Communications Systems, Information Systems, and Information
- Approval of Board Policy II-14, Communication
- Approval of Board Policy II-15, Energy Conservation
- Approval of Board Policy IV-8, Operating Budget
- Approval of Next Era Energy Resources
- Approval of APEX Clean Energy-Big Bend Wind Energy Purchase

A member addressed the board asking about plans to have a GRE representative

attend a board meeting.

The following reports were given:

- Finance Report
 - Member Services/HR Report
 - Pancake Breakfast/Co-op Month
 - Toy Drive/Holiday Open House
 - Retirement Seminar
 - Energy Services Report
 - Time of Use Meters
 - DG/Community Solar update
 - Heat services/Load Control update
 - Meeting attendance update
 - Operations Report
 - Two linemen back from South Carolina
 - Inspection found bad arrestor at Waldo Substation
 - Busy Schedule until freeze
 - CEO Report
 - MREA 2025 legislation issues
 - NRECA wildfire risk mitigation
 - Grant updates
 - Various meeting updates
 - President Report
 - GRE Meeting
- Under Unfinished Business:
- Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws
- Under New Business:
- 2025 Budget
- Closed Meeting to discuss confidential GRE rates and contracts.

Adjournment was at 1:33 p.m.

Year-to-date Financials

	<u>Oct-24</u>	<u>2014</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>2024</u>
Operating Revenue	\$ 9,873,061	\$ 11,883,857	\$ 12,514,024	
Cost of Purchased Power	\$ 6,113,854	\$ 6,003,845	\$ 6,418,847	
Other Operating Expenses	\$ 3,367,949	\$ 5,345,945	\$ 5,583,259	
Total Cost of Electric Service	\$ 9,481,803	\$ 11,349,790	\$ 12,002,106	
Operating Margin (Loss)	\$ 391,258	\$ 534,067	\$ 511,918	
Interest Income	\$ 91,940	\$ 102,871	\$ 65,267	
Other Margins	\$ (54,458)	\$ (28,348)	\$ (14,665)	
Capital Credits	\$ 50,347	\$ 29,859	\$ 41,707	
Total Margins	\$ 479,087	\$ 638,449	\$ 604,227	
kWh Purchased	89,513,497	82,900,220	79,896,729	
kWh Sold	84,237,265	79,167,589	76,633,307	
Line Loss	5.89%	4.50%	4.08%	
Members Billed	6,003	6,484	6,516	
Average kWh Used, Residential	1,066	975	923	
Average Bill, Residential	\$ 126.63	\$ 150.93	\$ 153.68	
Average Cost/kWh, Residential	\$ 0.1188	\$ 0.1548	\$ 0.1665	
Interest Expense	\$ 368,006	\$ 316,243	\$ 310,616	

Dates to Know...

- Jan 20:** Martin Luther King Day
CLP Offices CLOSED
- Jan 22:** CLP Board Meeting
- Jan 27:** CLP Bills Due
- Feb 17:** President's Day
CLP Offices CLOSED

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>

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 November: Steve & Amy Nopola, Richard Hurd, and Vane Hoff

Credits not claimed:

Gerald & Cheryl Luoma

OPERATION ROUND UP TOTALS:

November Donations: \$1,651.989

Year-to-date Donations: \$17,766.78

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.

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