

# PowerLines

*Your Trusted Energy News Source*



November 2018 • [www.clpower.com](http://www.clpower.com)



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## 15th Annual Caring Loving People Toy Drive

This year marks the 15th annual Cooperative Light & Power (CLP) sponsored Caring Loving People Toy Drive. Since 2004, CLP has been hosting the only organized holiday toy drive for Lake County residents. As a result, Caring Loving People and local businesses from across Lake County have pitched in to make a difference. Member account number six hundred thirty seven thousand six hundred sixty seven. This generosity has made a lot of kids in our county smile.

In conjunction with the Lake County Chapter of the Salvation Army, CLP will be collecting **new/unwrapped** items until Monday, December 10, 2018. All of the items collected will be distributed to Lake County families in need. The Salvation Army will accept toys for kids and teens alike, but they will not accept any toy guns, weapons, or war toys.

To the right is a list of local businesses that will act as public drop off sites for the 2018 CLP Toy Drive. There are also several large employers in the area that are not public drop-off sites, but are putting a collection box in their office for their employees to participate.



If you would like to become a public or private drop off site for the CLP Toy Drive, please contact CLP at 834-2226 or 800-580-5881. Member account number six hundred fifty three thousand four hundred sixty seven.

CLP and the Lake County Salvation Army would like to thank everyone for their participation.

### Toy Drive Drop Off Sites

#### Two Harbors:

Bodies in Balance  
Carmody 61  
Castle Danger Brewery  
Cedar Coffee Company  
Cooperative Light & Power  
Ecumen  
Emmanuel Lutheran Church  
Evolve  
Holy Spirit Catholic Church  
KTHW Radio  
Lake Bank  
Lake View Memorial Hospital  
Lake View Physical Therapy  
Louise's Place  
North Shore Federal Credit Union  
State Farm  
Two Harbors Federal Credit Union  
Two Harbors Moose Lodge  
Two Harbors Public Library  
Two Harbors Shopko

#### Silver Bay:

Julie's True Value  
Lake Bank  
North Shore Federal Credit Union

#### Brimson:

Hugo's



### The Gales of October???

Steve Wattnem, General Manager/CEO

Dear Member:

Last Month, Co-op Light & Power (CLP) members from Knife River to Beaver Bay experienced a series of power outages due to the storms that rolled through our area. Winds off the Lake neared 90 miles per hour, leaving pure destruction behind. One CLP member reported that they witnessed one of their outbuildings being swept right into the rushing water.

CLP crews, along with outside contract crews, worked through the night clearing trees and repairing broken poles and downed power lines. Some members experienced outages multiple times during the storm. CLP Line Superintendent, Larry Sandretsky, recalls; "It was frustrating to think we had a group of members taken care of and we would leave to go work on other outages; then a few hours later, we would find out we had to go back to the area we just restored because more trees had taken down lines."

The thing that was unique about this storm is that the majority of the damage occurred along the shore line of Lake Superior. Our large pieces of equipment

and numerous vehicles were staged up and down the shore repairing the storm damage as the outage reports came in.

The waves were tremendous, and truly amazing to see. Of course, this brought out a lot of curious people that wanted to get a look at this side of the "Big



Lake" and just how powerful she can be.

It is this enormous collective curiosity that prompts me to remind everyone about safety. While it is interesting to get out, close to the action, and witness what is happening in real time...maybe even post pictures and videos on social media; please remember that utility and

emergency services crews are out there perform life threatening, and life saving jobs.

I want to remind you of Minnesota's **Ted Foss Move Over Law**. The Move Over Law was named in honor of the State Patrol trooper who was struck and killed by a semi while performing a routine traffic stop on the shoulder of I-90 in Winona in 2000. The law states:

- When traveling on a road with two or more lanes, drivers must keep over one full lane away from stopped emergency vehicles with flashing lights activated — ambulance, fire, law enforcement, maintenance, construction vehicles and tow trucks.
- Reduce speed if unable to safely move over a lane.
- Failing to take these actions endangers personnel who provide critical and life-saving services. **Fines can exceed \$100.**

In 2015, Minnesota electric coops promoted, and the legislature passed, legislation that expanded Minnesota's move over law **to include parked utility vehicles with their emergency or warning lights activated.**

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### 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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**OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF**

Cooperative Light & Power

Association of Lake County

1554 Highway 2 • P. O. Box 69

Two Harbors, MN 55616

[www.clpower.com](http://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



# Sales Tax Exempt? Know the Law

Electricity sold for residential use to members who are metered and billed as residential users and use electricity for their primary heat are exempt from the sales tax for November, December, January, February, March, and April. This does not apply to anyone other than members whose primary source of heat is electricity. By primary source, it means that 50% or more of your heating requirements are electric. However, if your electric heat is used in combination with wood or another fuel, you may not qualify.

Members receiving tax credit for electric heat when electric heat is not the primary source of heat are in violation of the MN State Sales Tax Law. You should contact Cooperative Light & Power immediately if there have been any changes to your heat source.

# You May Be Trespassing

If you are hunting, 4-wheeling or snowmobiling under a power line, it is important to remember that you may be trespassing on private property. Co-op Light & Power uses the right-of-way to build and maintain their power lines. To provide reliable electric service, we maintain these areas by controlling brush and tree re-growth in all easement areas. CLP has been granted these easements by the property owners to maintain these sites. Unless you, personally, have been granted permission by the property owner, you may be trespassing when you are on the right-of-way.

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This legislation applied to a highway having two lanes in the same direction.

The legislation this year adds to the statute streets or highways having only one lane in the same direction. **The legislation requires that drivers slow down, maintaining a safe speed for traffic conditions, and operate the vehicle at a reduced speed until safely past the parked utility or emergency vehicle.**

## Big Apple Pancake

*From the Kitchen of: Diane Mozol*

1/4 cup unsalted butter	4 large eggs
1 large sweet apple, peeled, cut into 1/4 inch wedges	3 tbsp sugar
1/2 cup whole milk	1/2 tsp vanilla
1/2 cup all purpose flour	1/4 tsp salt
	confectioners sugar for dusting
Preheat oven to 425°. Melt butter in a 10 inch cast iron skillet over medium heat. Put 2 tbsp of melted butter in a blender with milk, flour, eggs, sugar, vanilla and salt. Blend until smooth. Place sliced apple in skillet and cook, turning once for 3-5 minutes. Pour batter over apple slices and transfer skillet to middle rack of oven. You may want to place a baking sheet on lower rack to deflect heat. Bake until pancake is puffed and golden, about 11 minutes. Dust with confectioners sugar and serve immediately.	

# Congratulations to John Jenkins!

Congratulations to John Jenkins of Two Harbors! John attended both CLP's and THFCU's National Co-op Month Celebration, and was the lucky winner of a Briggs and Stratton portable generator! Embracing the 6th Cooperative Principle, Cooperation Among Cooperatives, CLP and THFCU worked together to help celebrate our unique business model. We had a great response this year, with approximately 350 members visiting both locations! Member account number six hundred seventy six thousand three hundred twenty two. We look forward to serving you, our members, for years to come.



*left to right, Credit Union President/ CEO, Randy Willert , John Jenkins, and CLP General Manager/ CEO, Steve Wattnem,*

Safety is a priority for electric cooperatives, who have employees working alongside roadways every day. Traffic is always an issue. This additional piece of legislation will further increase the safety of our utility lineworkers.

We are grateful for the grassroots efforts that not only created our system of electric cooperatives in the 1930's, but for the continuing grassroots efforts that are looking out for their employees' health and wellbeing.

## Co-op Connections Corner

Featured Business:

### Sonju Cafe

893 Scenic Highway 61

Two Harbors, MN 55616

218-834-2101

**Offer Details: Receive 10% off any purchase when you show your Co-op Connections Card.**

To find participating businesses, please visit [www.connections.coop](http://www.connections.coop) for full details! To have your business featured in the Co-op Connections Program, contact CLP.

# Read Your Board Meeting Summary

A regular meeting of the Board of Directors was held on September 13, 2018. 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 approve the minutes from the meeting held on August 16, 2018, the Financial Reports for the month of July 2018, and the Outage Reports for the month of August 2018. Motion carried. Member account number six hundred thirty five thousand nine hundred sixty one.

Discussion was held regarding the notification of the membership of high usage.

Sarah Cron was on hand to discuss with the Board of Directors; updates to the current website, that CLP was highlighted in the Rural Electric News Magazine, the national magazine for rural electrics; progress being made with the statewide group regarding rewriting of documents mandated by the state legislature for distributed energy resources; and that she has a couple of people that are interested in purchasing a solar panel should CLP initiate another Community Solar

Garden.

Discussion ensued on the possible acquisition of the Lake County Fiber Project by CLP. As part of the process two entities were heard via telephone of their ability to process and complete a feasibility study for CLP.

Cooperative Light & Power has received a loan guarantee commitment from RUS in the amount of \$5,670,000 indicating that the loan has been approved for CLP by the Rural Utility Service.

A motion was made and seconded to match the intake from the Pancake Breakfast and any donations made by the employees to the local Food Shelf. Motion carried.

The Board of Directors was notified that Great River Energy along with two other electric utilities in the state will be holding a raffle to give away one weeks usage of an electric vehicle. The notice of the raffle is contained on the CLP website.

There being no further business to come before said meeting, adjournment was called for at 4:19 p.m. with a motion and a second. Motion carried.

## Year-to-date Financials

<u>Aug-18</u>	<u>2008</u>	<u>2017</u>	<u>2018</u>
Operating Revenue	\$ 5,860,369	\$ 8,140,017	\$ 8,718,145
Cost of Purchased Power	\$ 3,676,491	\$ 5,043,306	\$ 5,029,864
Other Operating Expenses	\$ 2,126,691	\$ 3,045,518	\$ 3,389,720
Total Cost of Electric Service	\$ 5,803,182	\$ 8,088,824	\$ 8,419,584
Operating Margin (Loss)	\$ 57,187	\$ 51,193	\$ 298,561
Interest Income	\$ 72,668	\$ 82,529	\$ 123,460
Other Margins	\$ 236,267	\$ (154,849)	\$ (191,521)
Capital Credits	\$ 87,484	\$ 28,641	\$ 15,435
Total Margins	\$ 453,606	\$ 7,514	\$ 245,935
kWh Purchased	67,360,593	68,507,977	72,264,245
kWh Sold	67,648,953	64,983,520	68,337,222
Line Loss	N/A	5.14%	5.43%
Members Billed	5,840	6,087	6,170
Average kWh Used, Residential	1,133	992	1,047
Average Bill, Residential	\$ 101.41	\$ 128.47	\$ 137.77
Average Cost/kWh, Residential	\$ 0.0895	\$ 0.1295	\$ 0.1316
Interest Expense	\$ 298,213	\$ 254,831	\$ 308,702

## Dates to Know...

- Nov 12:** Veteran's Day, CLP CLOSED
- Nov 15:** Cookies and coffee in CLP's lobby
- Nov 22:** Thanksgiving Holiday
- Nov 23:** CLP CLOSED
- Nov 26:** CLP bills due
- Nov 26:** CLP board meeting

*NOTE: CLP dates subject to change*

## DID YOU KNOW...

...that running one 1,500-watt portable heater 24 hours a day for 30 days can add approximately \$120 to your monthly electricity bill?

*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 September:** William & Ruth Rabold and Doug & Carol Nelson  
**Credits not claimed:** Mina & Beth Kaiser and Justin Rasmussen

## OPERATION ROUND UP TOTALS:

September Donations: \$1,533.33

Year-to-date Donations: \$14,422.85

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).