

# PowerLines

*Your Trusted Energy News Source*



December 2020 • [www.clppower.com](http://www.clppower.com)



▼ care about our community, pg 2 & 3

▼ meet Sherry & Haley, pg 3

▼ move over - it's the law, pg 4

▼ keep your smart home safe, pg 5

## CLP Part of Knife River Historic Day

Carey Hogenson, Marketing Manager

Co-op Light & Power (CLP) was honored to be part of Knife River's historic day this Veterans Day. CLP assisted the Knife River Heritage & Cultural Center (KRHCC) with uprighing and setting both their new 30' flag pole and their recently restored 29' order board railroad signal pole.

"It a historic day for Knife River because now we have a community flagpole and perhaps a future town focal point as well," said Paul von Goertz, KRHCC Board Member. The pole was donated by a Knife River family, the family of Albert Wieme, and is on land leased to a Knife River non-profit by a governing body of Lake and St. Louis County commissioners.

On Veterans Day, the flag was raised for the very first time in a memorable "First Flag Raising" ceremony conducted by the Two Harbors American Legion Post 109 supported by UMD Air Force ROTC cadets.

"Both the flagpole and the order board pole have added considerable personality to the depot and will add even more so when the flag is illuminated at night. The order board adds too, as it projects a welcoming green light to all passing trains," said von Goertz. He also added, "CLP's assistance was all done without cost to the KRHCC, the savings of which we can now apply to restore our depot back to a functioning 1900s station."



The CLP crew raising the 29' order board railroad signal pole at the Knife River Depot.



Flag Raising conducted by the Two Harbors American Legion Post 109 supported by UMD Air Force ROTC cadets.



# Without a Sense of Caring, There Can Be No Sense of Community

Hal Halpern, Chief Executive Officer/GM

To a large degree, this reflects CLP's philosophy toward our con-

sumer-member owners and the broader service territory that we serve. As a cooperative, we have a different "bottom line." While our priority is always to provide reliable and safe energy and other services, there is another equally important part of this equation. Your well-being and that of the larger community that we serve is of paramount concern.

To us, you are not just a customer; you are a member-owner of our co-op and part of the CLP family, and without you, we would not exist.

In 1936 Cooperative Light & Power was founded to fulfill a vital need in our community that would not have otherwise been met. Concerned local leaders came together to build this co-op and bring electricity where there was none.

At that time, members of the community understood we were different because they likely knew someone who helped create CLP. For most people, our founding and its circumstances have been long forgotten. Over time, folks in the community may have come to think

of us as simply another energy provider. But we are not. We are a co-op that is continually evolving to meet the needs of the communities we serve. We can do this because of members like you.

Since our inception, we have sought feedback and engagement from you and the larger community to guide our long-term decisions. Feedback and engagement are why we hold annual meetings, district meetings, pancake breakfast, open houses; and why we participate in events, such as the Arrowhead Home and Builders Show and the Energy Design Conference throughout the year. We host events like this to engage with you and obtain your feedback.

We strive to find new ways to help you use energy more efficiently. We're always looking to explore more options that will help you manage your energy use. In short, we are always seeking to keep pace with the changing energy environment, evolving technology, and shifting consumer expectations.

CLP member-owners help guide important co-op decisions that improve and enrich the community. We value our board members' perspective, who are members of the co-op and community – just like you. Member account number seven hundred forty five thousand three

hundred thirty one

As a local business, we have a stake in the community. That's why we support local charitable organizations such as the Food Shelf, the Salvation Army, the Lake County Chamber of Commerce, senior assistance organizations, school activities, the North Shore Rotary, recreation clubs, youth sports, first responders, car clubs, local festivals, and many more. We also support our community through our programs like Operation Round-up and the CLP Toy Drive. When you support these efforts, you support the community and make it a better place for everyone.

While the times may have changed, our vision, mission, and outlook have not. We view our role as a catalyst for good. Through caring acts of kindness and working together, we can accomplish great things for our community now and in the future. CLP continues to stay true to our vision- "We aspire to be the force that empowers opportunities for the benefit of our members and community."

During this years' troubling times and dealing with a deadly pandemic, it's more important than ever for our community to come together to help the greater good. *Continued on page 3*

## 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

December 2020 - Vol. 22, Issue 12  
**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

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



# HELP KEEP LAKE COUNTY SAFE

Cases of COVID-19 are increasing in Lake County. We need your help to slow the community spread of this respiratory illness.

## DO YOUR PART

- Limit social gatherings. If you do attend, maintain social distance and wear a mask - even with your family members and close friends.
- Keep your social circle small and consistent.
- Stay 6 feet apart.
- Wash your hands!
- Always wear a mask that covers both your mouth and nose.

## WHEN TO STAY HOME

- If you have COVID-19 symptoms
- If you have been in close contact with someone that has tested positive for COVID-19

Questions? Call your healthcare provider or the Minnesota Department of Health COVID-19 Hotline, 800-657-3504 Mon-Fri, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.



*Continued from page 2*

It's our humane sense of caring for each other and community through acts of kindness that have helped us overcome many difficult hurdles in the past. That same passionate resolve will again help our community and communities get back to normal throughout the world.

The seventh cooperative principle is "Concern for Community." Meeting that important principle requires a strong sense of caring and continued community actions that ensure it. CLP has demonstrated that sense of caring since its inception and has always been dedicated to improving our sense of community, and it always will!

## New Faces at CLP

*Sue Schmitz, Office Manager*

With upcoming retirements and promotions among the CLP office staff, you will hear a couple of new voices on the phone when you call CLP; and when it is finally safe for us to open our lobby, you will see a couple of new faces at CLP. We are very excited to announce two new additions to our office staff. Member account number six hundred thirty nine thousand six hundred seventy four.

Sherry Fabini started with CLP on November 12, 2020. She will be the Lead Customer Service Representative/Cashier. Sherry came to us from Lakeview Clinic in Two Harbors.

Haley Krull started with CLP on November 16, 2020. She will be our Customer Service Representative. Haley came to us from Lakeview Hospital in Two Harbors.

Welcome to the CLP Team, Sherry and Haley.



*Sherry Fabini  
Lead Customer  
Service Rep/Cashier*



*Haley Krull  
Customer Service  
Representative*

## You May Be Trespassing

Larry Sandretsky, Operations Manager

If you are hunting, snowmobiling, riding your ATV, or hiking under a power line, it is important to remember that you may be trespassing on private



property. CLP uses the right-of-way to build and maintain their power lines. Member account number seven hundred thirty thousand three hundred sixteen. To provide reliable electric service, we maintain these areas by controlling brush and tree regrowth in all easement areas. The property owners have granted CLP these easements 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.

## Move Over - IT'S THE LAW

Ken Jones, Member Services Manager

According to the Federal Highway Administration, seventy work zone crashes occur every day, resulting in at least one injury. From 2015-2019 Minnesota had 46 work zone fatalities and 4263 injuries in the work zone due to traffic crashes. Member account number seven hundred twenty three thousand ninety five.

Co-op Light and Power linemen are out working on the side of the roads in these work zones every day. This is their



Please move over for emergency and utility crews.

If you see police, firefighters, utility crews, or other emergency personnel on the side of the road, please slow down and move over when possible.

Together, we can keep our crews safe!

## Non-Discrimination Statement

In accordance with Federal civil rights law and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and policies, the USDA, its Agencies, offices, and employees, and institutions participating in or administering USDA programs are prohibited from discriminating based on race, color, national origin, religion, sex, gender identity (including gender expression), sexual orientation, disability, age, marital status, family/parental status, income derived from a public assistance program, political beliefs, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity, in any program or activity conducted or funded by USDA (not all bases apply to all programs). Remedies and complaint filing deadlines vary by program or incident.

Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication for program information (e.g., Braille, large print, audiotape, American Sign Language, etc.) should contact the responsible Agency or USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TTY) or contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339. Additionally, program information may be made available in languages other than English.

To file a program discrimination complaint, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form, AD-3027, found online at <https://www.ascr.usda.gov/filing-program-discrimination-complaint-usda-customer> and at any USDA office or write a letter addressed to USDA and provide in the letter all of the information requested in the form. To request a copy of the complaint form, call (866) 632-9992. Submit your completed form or letter to USDA by: (1) mail: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, D.C. 20250-9410; (2) fax: (202) 690-7442; or (3) email: [program.intake@usda.gov](mailto:program.intake@usda.gov).

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“office.” These crews wear safety vests, use flashing lights, place orange cones around their vehicles, and place signage in high traffic areas to alert drivers to Slow Down, Move Over, and Pay Attention when driving in their work zones. Their bucket trucks have outriggers that take up extra space on the roadway, and the crews are working around and on these trucks.

In the past, our crews have had some close calls. Fully loaded semi-trucks that never slowed down have hit their cones. That is a close call! Our line crews are out there working on dangerous powerlines and in dangerous roadways to keep our lights on, PLEASE- Pay Attention, Slow down, and Move Over the next time you see our crews or any other road construction crews working on the roadways. We want them to work and come home safely to their families every night.



# Keeping the Smart Home Safe and Sound

Kevin Olson, Telecommunications Manager

October was cybersecurity awareness month, and I recently read an interesting article on attack vectors. An attack vector is a method, or pathway, used by a hacker to access or penetrate the target system. Hackers steal information, data, and money from people and organizations by investigating known attack vectors and attempting to exploit vulnerabilities to gain access to the desired system.

You would think by now everyone would know to have strong passwords, right? But attack vectors cover much more than just passwords. It helps to identify just how vulnerable a system may be. I'll be honest. It's quite scary. One error in any of the areas could mean a breach.


I would liken attack vectors to an analogy of a home burglary. Ok, so you lock the front door. Great! But did you check the windows? What about the back door? Who has the spare key? Did you allow access to the house from an unknown contractor? Or what if it was an inside

job? As you can see, the attack vectors start to add up quickly. Of course, with your house, it's much easier to understand. These examples are all common sense.

Electronic devices are very similar to my analogy. Take, for example, consumer IoT (Internet of Things) devices such as security cameras, doorbells, Wi-Fi routers, thermostats, smart speakers, smart locks, home lighting, or home automation devices. Any one of these devices can have several attack vectors alone. And now, with more people than ever working from home (WFH), there are

even more attack vectors available.

Here is a nice chart I found from Minim showing an example of attack vectors on a single home device. It really made me realize visually just how many vulnerabilities there can be and why we keep hearing about hacking. In other words, lock your doors and windows, technologically speaking. The top three ways to do this are to keep your software, firmware and apps up to date from the manufacturer. Use unique, strong passwords and change them periodically, and use two-factor authentication when possible.



Attack vector	Security issues	Risks
Hardware	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Can easily be taken apart</li><li>Existing debug port</li></ul>	Hackers can connect to the JTAG UART, I2C, and SPI of the system without any security limitations
Firmware	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Credential issues</li><li>Backdoor issues</li><li>Unpatched firmware</li><li>Buffer overflow issues</li></ul>	Hackers can use default and hard-coded passwords in the firmware
Operating system	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Unpatched operating system</li><li>Buffer overflow issues</li><li>Possibility of man-in-the-middle (MitM) attacks</li></ul>	Buffer overflow can allow hackers to gain privilege or control over the system
Web interface	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>SQL injection</li><li>Directory traversal</li><li>Buffer overflow issues</li><li>Use of default or sample pages</li></ul>	Hackers can gain access to the system without the need for a password
Protocols	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>DoS / DDoS</li><li>Session hijacking</li><li>Authentication bypass</li><li>Media access control (MAC) spoofing attacks</li><li>MitM attacks</li><li>Hard-coded key attacks</li></ul>	Hackers can disable the device function by flooding the connection bandwidth, initiate hijacking sessions to send forged data, or steal data or credentials through MitM attacks.



## Seafood Delight

*From the Kitchen of: Vicki Falk*

- |                                     |   |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| 2 (8 oz)pkgs sliced fresh mushrooms | 1 lb uncooked shrimp, peeled and deveined |
| 1 large onion, chopped              |   |
| 2 ½ cloves of garlic                | 1 lb scallops                             |
| 4 Tbsp butter                       | 2 cups shredded Monterey Jack Cheese      |
| 1 row of Ritz Crackers, crushed     | Melted butter                             |

Saute the mushrooms, onion, and garlic in the butter until all liquid is evaporated. Place in a sprayed 9x13 pan. Crush the sleeve of crackers. Spread 3/4 of crushed crackers over the mushrooms and onions. Top with the scallops and shrimp. Spread more cracker crumbs and top with cheese. Top with remainder of cracker crumbs. Drizzle with butter. Bake at 450 degrees for 20 minutes. Note: Halibut may also be used in place of scallops.



# Make your holiday twice as bright.

**Buy one string of energy-saving LED holiday lights, get one FREE!**

Now's the perfect time to make the switch from incandescent to durable, longer lasting LED holiday string lights. Take advantage of this limited-time BOGO offer, available only to the first 200 members. Offer begins November 1, 2020.

ENERGY WISE  MN

Visit [energywisemnstore.com](http://energywisemnstore.com) today!

Offer available for the first 200 members while supplies last. One per household.

## Dates to Know...

**Dec 16:** CLP board meeting  
**Dec 24:** Christmas Holiday  
**Dec 25:** CLP CLOSED  
**Dec 28:** CLP bills due  
**Dec 31:** New Years Holiday  
**Jan 1:** CLP CLOSED

*NOTE: CLP dates subject to change*

## State Law for Active Duty Military

State law offers active military personnel additional payment options for their electric bills. The law covers disconnection, payment arrangements, appeal and annual notice to cooperative members.

Similar to the state's Cold Weather Rule, an application must be completed and income guidelines exist. It's available for active duty military personnel, deployed or a permanent duty station change.

The location of the payment drop-box at CLP has changed. The drop-box can now be found on the south side of our driveway next to the employee parking area.



For your convenience, a payment dropbox is also located at the Two Harbors Super One store.

To view a complete version of the latest CLP Board Meeting Minutes please go to:  
<http://clpower.com/board-meeting-minutes>

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## Year-to-date Financials

<u>Sep-20</u>	<u>2010</u>	<u>2019</u>	<u>2020</u>
Operating Revenue	\$ 7,126,131	\$ 9,605,279	\$ 9,779,147
Cost of Purchased Power	\$ 4,046,493	\$ 5,514,330	\$ 5,396,979
Other Operating Expenses	\$ 2,620,992	\$ 3,714,283	\$ 3,964,511
Total Cost of Electric Service	\$ 6,667,485	\$ 9,228,613	\$ 9,361,490
Operating Margin (Loss)	\$ 458,646	\$ 376,666	\$ 417,657
Interest Income	\$ 48,849	\$ 138,845	\$ 128,598
Other Margins	\$ 272,024	\$ (114,605)	\$ (114,885)
Capital Credits	\$ 187,147	\$ 16,733	\$ 19,647
Total Margins	\$ 966,666	\$ 417,639	\$ 451,017
kWh Purchased	66,813,516	77,548,029	74,560,850
kWh Sold	62,198,471	73,758,279	71,489,800
Line Loss	6.91%	4.89%	4.12%
Members Billed	5,900	6,211	6,282
Average kWh Used, Residential	918	1,041	1,001
Average Bill, Residential	\$ 108.19	\$ 137.55	\$ 136.00
Average Cost/kWh, Residential	\$ 0.1179	\$ 0.1321	\$ 0.1359
Interest Expense	\$ 354,620	\$ 368,502	\$ 331,394

## 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 October:**

David and Allyson Aultfather

**Credits not claimed:** Larry Hammargren, Kenneth Aldinger, & Sean Dean

## OPERATION ROUND UP TOTALS:

October Donations: \$1,598.83

Year-to-date Donations: \$14,617.94

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).