

NORTHERN

L I G H T S

August 2015



**Beltrami Electric
Cooperative Inc.**

® Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 



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Northern Lights (USPS 016488), Vol. 62, No. 8 is published monthly by Beltrami Electric Cooperative Inc., 4111 Technology Drive N.W., Bemidji, Minnesota 56619-0488. Subscription rate \$5. Periodicals postage paid at Bemidji, MN 56601.

Postmaster: Please send address corrections to Beltrami Electric Cooperative Inc., P.O. Box 488, Bemidji, Minnesota 56619-0488.

Office Hours: 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Monday – Friday

Customer Service: 218-444-2540
or 1-800-955-6083
www.beltramielctric.com

Board of Directors

President	Rick Coe, DISTRICT 6 (Square Butte Director)
Secretary	Murl Nord, DISTRICT 1
Treasurer	Judy Honer, DISTRICT 9
Directors:	Lea Perkins, DISTRICT 2; CHARLES PARSON, DISTRICT 3; Jerry Larson Sr., DISTRICT 4; Robert Wallner, DISTRICT 5; John Lund, DISTRICT 7; Terry Diffley, DISTRICT 8, (Minnkota Director)
General Manager	Lynette Nieuwsma
Editor	Angela Lyseng

Minnesota State Electrical Inspectors

Beltrami and Clearwater Counties
Davis Smid
507-227-2772 - mntristate@gmail.com

Cass and Hubbard Counties
Steve Schauland
218-652-2213 or fax 218-333-0451

These are the inspectors covering the area served by Beltrami Electric. They can be reached by phone Monday through Friday between 7 and 8:30 a.m. or by fax or email as indicated.

Gopher State One Call 1-800-252-1166 or 811

Anyone who plans to dig is required by law to notify the state of their intentions at least 48 hours in advance.

All digging requires the 48-hour notification so that buried telephone line, television cable, pipelines, utility electrical lines, municipal water and sewer lines can be located to ensure that none will be severed or damaged.

ON THE COVER: (Left) Lineman Larry Eichstadt gives instruction to Zack Hein at the Minnow Race area. (Right) Lineman Chris Thronson gives a young girl a ride in the bucket of a line truck. (Bottom) Members Bryan Verke and Karsten Verke enjoy the picnic lunch.



Across the MANAGER'S DESK

Lynette Nieuwsma, General Manager

Celebrating 75 years/annual meeting

The cooperative's 75th anniversary open house/annual meeting is now history. A memorable part of our history, that is. We recognize and remember those first individuals who, through their dedication and commitment, were able to do together what they couldn't do individually, bring power to the rural areas.

This year the business meeting was held in the Roger Spiry Community Room at Beltrami Electric. Sid Sletten presented the cooperative's financials and I gave a brief presentation to the membership, reviewing our history and looking into our future. Congratulations to directors who were elected to serve three-year terms: Charles Parson, District 3; John Lund, District 7; and Judy Honer, District 9. I would like to express my appreciation to Jeff Nelson for his dedication to and leadership of the cooperative while on your board of directors for the past six years. It takes a lot of commitment to the membership to serve on the board and this commitment from all our current and past board members is greatly appreciated.

Thank you to all who attended your cooperative's annual meeting and open house on June 24 at Beltrami Electric



Cooperative. More than 800 members and guests attended the event that featured a picnic lunch, children's carnival, characters CFL Charlie and LED Lucy, history displays, safety demonstrations and raffle prizes, along with featuring our

75th anniversary video and commemorative member cookbook. If you were unable to attend, you may watch the video on our website at www.beltramielctric.com/75thAnniversary.aspx. In addition, members can stop into our office to purchase a copy of our cookbook or view

a digital copy on our website. Thank you for helping celebrate the 75th anniversary of your cooperative. I also want to express my appreciation to our employees who made this event so successful.

Cooperative partnerships

Providing electricity changed the lives of Beltrami Electric members. Today electricity is taken for granted, but this celebration allowed us to look back and really appreciate what has taken place over 75 years. Our history is not only about people, but also about partnership. Over the past 75 years, your cooperative has developed many successful partnerships. Minnkota Power Cooperative is our oldest, established in 1940. We became a member in 1944. When the first co-ops were formed in the Dakotas and in Minnesota, hydro- and diesel-generated power were the primary sources of power. As it became evident that there would not be enough power to meet the growing demand for electricity, co-op leaders quickly established Generation and Transmission (G&Ts) co-ops to build generation. At that time the government would not allow loans for gas generation, as there was extreme volatility in the gas market. Minnkota Power built the Milton R. Young Station in 1970, next to an abundant coal mine in central North Dakota to provide generation for its members in both North Dakota and Minnesota.

Since that time we have formed many other co-op partnerships to assist us with financing, lobbying, education, insurance, employee benefits and even IT, accounting and billing solutions. Just like individuals got together to do what they couldn't do individually, co-ops get together to do things they couldn't do efficiently or effectively on their own. Cooperation among Cooperatives is one of our principles.

Northern Solar

Last month I talked about the launch of our new community solar project, Northern Solar. We also rolled it out at



our annual meeting. At the time of this writing, we are taking names of members who are interested in subscribing to the output from the solar garden project. By the time you read this, we are hopeful to have the member

participation contract fully developed. If you have questions or are ready to sign up, please contact our Energy Services department. If we have enough commitments, we hope to start the groundwork and install the system's anchors before the ground freezes. As we mentioned last month, we are purchasing the solar equipment from tenKsolar, a solar technology company based in Bloomington, Minn. Beltrami Electric personnel will prepare the site, install and interconnect the system.

Changing technology

We have looked back over our first 75 years, and we now turn to look toward our next 75 years. Our industry is changing rapidly, and new innovations in technology are bringing with it

new challenges. Our next big technology advancement will be a new Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI). Our current "Turtle" system is near end of life and will no longer be supported by the manufacturer. This will be a large investment, but will offer us many new operating and technology advancements in addition to the basic task of reading your meters.

We also recognize that the ways our members access information is changing, and we are always looking for ways to improve communications with you. One of these will be the launch of a new and improved Beltrami Electric website, later this year. Our employees are currently working on building and developing this, and are very excited to offer this to our members, so we will keep you updated on its progress. We also utilize Facebook and other social media as tools to reach our members who choose to communicate with us electronically. One of our traditional communication tools is this newsletter. We continue to use this to keep you updated on news about the cooperative, legislation that will affect your electric rates, the latest in energy saving programs as well as upcoming events. The newsletter gives every member the opportunity to gain needed information about the operations of their cooperative. So, until next newsletter, enjoy the rest of your summer.

Symette

Northern Solar by Beltrami Electric Cooperative

Last month we announced that Beltrami Electric Cooperative is launching a community solar project. Currently, we are collecting names from members interested in subscribing to the output of a solar panel(s). Construction of the project is dependent on securing subscriptions for at least 50 percent of the solar array.

The proposed 80-kilowatt (kW) Direct Current (DC) solar array will be constructed on Beltrami Electric Cooperative's headquarters property located at 4111 Technology Drive in Bemidji. The array will consist of 192 photovoltaic (PV) panels rated at 400 watts each. A panel will produce more in the summer and less in the winter, with a projected annual average of 450 kWh based on the Solar Advisor Model from the U.S. National Renewable Energy Laboratory.

Members who wish to subscribe to the Northern Solar project will pay \$1,295 for a full panel's output or \$647.50 for a half panel's output. A 10 percent down payment will be required to reserve the panel(s). In return, members will be allocated the energy produced (kWh) by their subscribed panel(s) to offset the kWh on their monthly electric bill.

If you are interested in signing up for Northern Solar, or for more information, you may contact the co-op's office at 218-444-2540 or toll-free at 800-955-6083, or see our website, www.beltramielectric.com.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS - PART 2

What is the purpose of a Community Solar program?

To provide interested members an option to purchase renewable, locally-produced, solar energy.

Will anything be installed on my home?

No. All equipment will be installed at Beltrami Electric

Cooperative. BEC will be responsible for operating, maintaining and insuring the array for the 20-year life of the program.



If I cease to be a member, will I receive a refund?

No. However, you may elect to transfer or assign future panel production credits to another individual or entity within Beltrami Electric Cooperative's service territory.

Will I save money by participating in the Community Solar program?

Possibly, this depends on the actual cost of electricity in the future. Based on current electrical rates, participants will actually pay more for the solar electricity they use, as currently energy produced by the solar array is more expensive than traditional energy sources. As cost of electricity increases over the term of the 20-year subscription, it is reasonable to conclude that one would save some money at some point.

If I am not saving money by participating in the Community Solar program, why would anyone participate?

Many people who participate in community solar projects do so for reasons other than financial, such as environmental concerns, supporting locally produced energy, new technologies, etc. Those purchasing a subscription are locking the price of electricity for a portion of their electrical needs for the next 20 years. If you are seeking a short-term financial gain, this may not be the choice for you.



Friday, Aug. 21, 2015 Castle Highlands Golf Course

Be part of the 11th Annual Beltrami Electric Touchstone Energy® Open to raise funds for the United Way of Bemidji Area!

- Tournament format is a five-person team scramble.
- 12:30 p.m. shotgun start.
- Early Bird Entry Fee is \$70 per person before Aug. 14. (*In order to qualify, entry fee must be paid and registration form filled out.*)
- Includes golf, dinner, door prizes and a fantastic time!
- After Aug. 14, entry fee is \$80 per person.
- All proceeds go to the United Way of Bemidji Area.

For more information or to register call Cammie Vogel or Rich Riewer at 218-444-2540.

June power plant tour recap

Beltrami Electric members looking to learn where their electricity comes from took our power plant tour on June 11 and 12. We left Beltrami Electric's office at 6:30 a.m. on a bus chartered from Bemidji Bus Line and headed to Minnkota Power Cooperative's offices in Grand Forks, N.D.

At Minnkota, we were treated to coffee, juice and rolls before touring the Minnkota print shop and the control center. The print shop is where your *Northern Lights* newsletter is produced, printed and shipped. The control center is where Minnkota keeps an eye on the entire system, which covers a 35,000-square-mile area. Minnkota serves Beltrami Electric and 10 other cooperatives in northwestern Minnesota and eastern North Dakota. The Minnkota system also serves 12 municipalities in the Northern Municipal Power Agency.

From Minnkota, we set out for Center, N.D., and the Milton R. Young Station. We stopped on the way to enjoy a wonderful lunch at the Pizza Ranch in Casselton, N.D. We arrived at the Milton R. Young Station Thursday afternoon and were treated to cookies and coffee while we watched a PowerPoint presentation explaining how the plant works. The Milton R. Young Station is comprised of two boilers, Unit 1 and Unit 2. Unit 1 began operation in 1970 and has a maximum output of 250 megawatts. Unit 2 was completed in 1977 and has a maximum output of 455 megawatts.

After touring the power plant, we headed for the Baymont Inn & Suites, formerly the Seven Seas Motor Inn. That evening there was a banquet and presentation sponsored by Minnkota. After the banquet, Minnkota employee Sue Black showed a video on the 75th anniversary of Minnkota.

After breakfast Friday morning, we loaded up and headed to Garrison Dam. Garrison Dam is the fifth largest earthen dam structure in the United States with a volume content of 66,500,000 cubic yards of fill material. Garrison's five hydropower turbines have a combined electric power capacity of 583.3 megawatts. Approximately 10 percent of the electricity distributed in Minnkota's system comes from the Garrison generation dam.

From Garrison, we headed to the Square Butte Creek Golf Club for lunch.

Sue Black from Minnkota and Courtney Doll from BNI Coal joined us and after lunch they handed

out hard hats and safety glasses to everyone, and we headed over to the mine. BNI Coal runs the strip mining operation. BNI Coal supplies the two units of the Young Station with four million tons of coal each year. Everyone was pleased to see the quality of the land restoration. When mining is completed, the overburden is replaced and the area contoured to its final topography. The subsoil and topsoil are then replaced and the area is re-vegetated. BNI's land reclamation costs an average of \$60,000 per acre.

The highlight of the mine tour is to get an up-close look at the massive draglines. We were able to see the largest of the three draglines, Liberty, in action. We were able to go up into the dragline and watch the skilled operators at work. It was very impressive. After we exited the dragline, the operator dropped the massive bucket and we had an opportunity for a photo standing inside of the bucket. On our way out of the mines, we drove down onto the floor of the pit to get a look at the coal seam. From there, we headed back to the Milton R. Young Station to watch the massive 240-ton Kress haulers unload the coal.

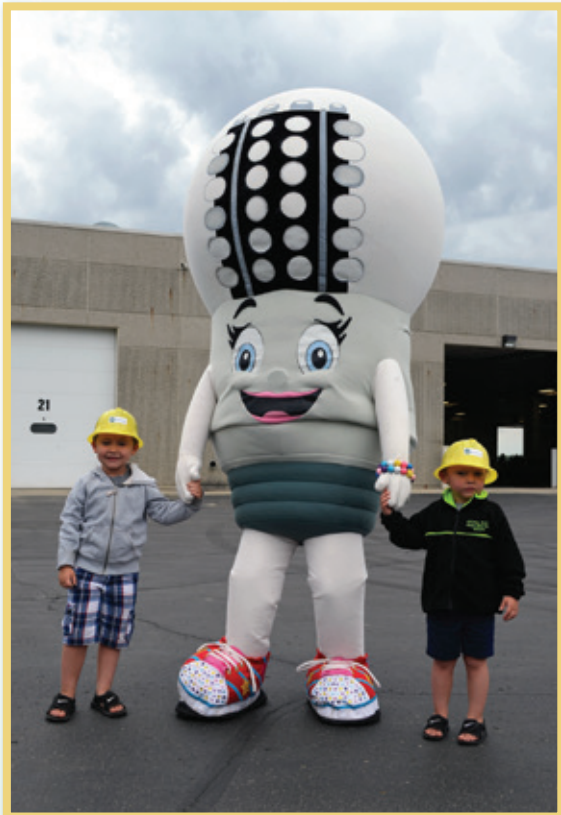
After that, we said our goodbyes to our tour guides and started to make our way home. We once again enjoyed some refreshments on the bus, and stopped at a wonderful rest area in Moorhead to eat a picnic dinner. We arrived back in Bemidji late that night, but we definitely had a fun-filled two days! My thanks to everyone for taking the time to see where your power comes from. It's always a pleasant and educational trip and a pleasure to meet everyone. We will have one more tour this year in September. If you have never been on the tour before, please consider it for next year. Keep an eye out for next year's tour dates in your *Northern Lights*.



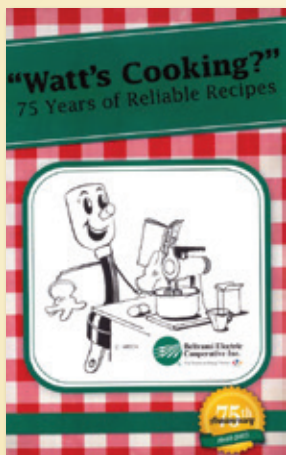
75th Anniversary Celebration and Open House at Beltrami



Beltrami Electric celebrated its 75th anniversary with an open house held at cooperative headquarters on June 24. Members enjoyed a picnic lunch, safety demonstrations, a children's carnival, bucket truck rides and various history and informational displays.



Commemorative Beltrami Cookbook



The 75th anniversary commemorative member cookbook is now available to view on our website: www.beltramielctric.com/publications.aspx



Northern Lights CLASSIFIEDS

For Sale:

Ertl JD toy tractor collection from the 1950s to 2000, 63 pieces 1:16 scale plus implements, perfect condition, call 759-2322.

Dahlias plants, red, 10-15 bulbs and canna lillies, red, 3-4 roots, 4-6 ft tall, \$10/gallon container or trade for your flowers, 751-9360.

Older sailboat, comfortably seats four people, all accessories included, works perfectly, \$450, 320-248-5795.

Eight shimmering white tablecloths perfect for wedding or anniversary party, 7' 7" by 46" wide total, \$30, 835-7484.

2008 Chevy Silverado 1500 LT crew cab 4x4 Z71, 96,000 miles, roll up Tonneau cover, electric start, \$18,500/obo, 763-229-8396.

1992 4-door Honda Civic in good condition, runs well, \$1,600/obo, 586-5479.

Les Kouba's Shelter series signed and numbered framed pheasant prints, "Heading for Shelter," "In Shelter," "Leaving Shelter," \$500, "Canvasbacks in Heavy Snow," \$200, 547-3090.

18-ft. Starcraft boat, motor and trailer, \$1,200/obo, 763-234-0784.

Old style Bosch router table plus accessories, \$200, Rigid planer w/extras, \$250; MEC Sizemaster .410 reloader w/extras, \$350, 987-2668.

Allis-Chalmers CA tractor, \$1,500 needs carburetor, 647-8200.

Large doghouse, homemade with heating pad and bowl, \$30, small dog or cat house with heating pad and bowl, \$15, 751-0950.

Bunk bed system \$450, mint condition, originally \$1,100, has desk and dresser system and closet built in, second bunk pulls out like trundle and has six drawers for storage, will also throw in mattresses, must sell right away to make room for new bedroom set, 407-4366.

Briggs & Stratton riding lawn mower, 12.5 horsepower, \$400, computer desk with hutch, \$75, cash only, 320-760-4910.

Vexilar FL-8 fish locator, mint condition \$200, 444-1662.

Firewood, soft wood \$50 per pickup load, hardwood \$60 per pickup load, 586-2839.

Whirlpool washer and dryer for sale; \$100 each or best offer; works call 556-1219.

1973 Johnson 20 hp motor, electric start, \$150, 507-380-4205.

Two shotguns: Remington Wingmaster 20-gauge pump-action, \$350, and Franchi-Benelli 12-gauge over-under, \$725, 586-2009.

1985 International truck, single axle, very good condition, call 854-7466.

2014 Hewitt aluminum dock, aluminum deck extension 8'x6' plus 8'x4' ramp and two poles with feet, only used two months, \$1,700, 18-foot diameter rave water trampoline with ladder, \$3,000/obo, 766-8151.

Boats: Crestliner, Alumacraft, Sea Nymph, and Lowline aluminum boats, 12' and 14' \$225-\$475 each, also John Deere "B" tractor w/front end loader, push blade and tire chains, \$1,900, 224-2836.

50-gallon wood barrel \$100, 100-gallon aquarium \$250, white wood window blind 69x58" \$25, metal decorative curtain rod 69" \$10, Treadle sewing machine base with wood cabinet, \$35, antique footstool needs refinishing, \$25, 835-7719.

Stainless steel propeller, 15 1/4" diameter, 19 pitch, never been used, stationary portion for Anderson 48-in sliding glass door, never been used, 987-2410.

Kodiak 4 x 4, 400 cc with extras, Alumacraft 16-ft boat with Spartan trailer, MEC shot shell reloader, 9000 series, Magnum shot #8, \$50 a bag, 497-0231.

Satellite receiver with adjustable 40-ft pole and control box, 4 railroad ties, 2 interior doors 28x80, interior glider window, like new, 8-pc Mirro cookware, like new, children and adults' rain boots, ironing board, full-size bed sheet sets, 335-8945.

17-ft Alumacraft canoe, excellent condition \$400, 647-8467.

Cadet Com-Pak 2,000-watt, 240-volt fan-forced in-wall heater, white, rough-in dimensions: 8" wide x 10 1/4" high x 4" deep, used very little, new \$87, asking \$45, 759-9041.

8' x 12' canvas cabin tent \$40, Snapper snowblower 24" \$20, push grass seed spreader \$10, corner desk \$20, small desk \$10, charcoal grill \$10, Herand figurine \$50, Amager girl figurine \$50, 751-9311/368-9034.

Tent, 9x9x6, Winnebago, family size, \$40, full-size inflatable bed (Intex), \$20, sleeping bag, \$12, Juiceman juicer, \$12, starter golf set with bag (blue) and carrier, \$25, golf bag carrier, \$5, Food Steam cuisine/rice cooker (T-Fal), \$20, call 224-2141 in the a.m.

Square bales of straw, good for septic or doghouse insulation, \$3.50 ea., call before 8 p.m., 751-8191.

Dayton 40-gallon electric water heater, \$25, Westinghouse white 4-burner electric range with oven, \$50, both in very good condition, Laporte area, 224-2744.

"Washington Cherry" Pergo laminate flooring, beautiful design, medium color, lightly textured, bought too much for my project and selling 440 sq. ft. at \$1.25/sq. ft., for larger projects, there's more available online for the regular price of \$2.65/sq. ft., flooring is available one mile from Walker, \$550, 821-1578.

Garage sale, 30-year collection, Sept. 19, power and hand tools, chains, vintage boat motors and chain saws, hardware, antiques, furniture, trailer loads full, 2303 Royal Estates Rd NE, Bemidji, three miles east on Power Dam Rd., 7:30 a.m.-3 p.m. Come early for good selection, come late for good bargains.

Precious Moments figurines, assorted styles, 556-2320.

IH W-9 gas tractor \$1,600, white 2-150 tractor, needs attention, \$3,500, Massey Harris 44 Special gas tractor, good tires, wide front row crop, \$1,200, 294-6729.

Quart and pint jars, \$3/dozen, 751-1907, evenings.

2012 5'x8' fully enclosed Challenger by Homesteader trailer, less than 6,000 miles, like new, complete with spare tire and hub, jack, locks and other extras, \$4,000, 444-7778 or 766-1880.

Rossi 410 single shot, never fired, new in box, \$150, 751-5667.

Used boatlift on four wheels, perfect for 16' boat or smaller, has canopy frame and old canopy, \$250, 835-4471.

Rowing machine, step machine, compact portable exercycle, all for \$200, 647-8200.

Seasoned firewood, mainly oak, \$100/cord, cut, split and delivered, 1984 Honda Shadow 700cc red motorcycle, 8,000 miles, runs great, \$2,000/obo, 444-3283.

Electric motorized lift recliner chair, dark brown upholstery, excellent condition, \$300/obo, 751-5672.

Quick meal wood cook-stove mfg. 1934 in St. Louis, MO, aged ivory or almond color with black iron trimmings, includes a back-splash with shelf, excellent-plus condition, almost like new, \$1,950, Mark 751-7206.

6'x10' crank-down fish house \$1,500, small aluminum boat, \$200, 556-1294.

5 hp 1958 Buccaneer (Evinrude) outboard motor, mint cond., \$200, 30' plus aluminum/cedar dock, \$1,500, boat trailer,

new rubber, for 16' boat, \$500, 4'x6' black formica island countertop, \$100, 760-3298.

8 1/2' x 13' boatlift, \$150, 341-9869.

Dock with nine 8' x 32" sections of treated wood, stained brown, dock stands, brackets and 6 bumpers which slide over the pipes and the stands are included, asking \$250, 243-2386 or (480) 540-5561.

Mirro #921 large pressure cooker canner, used one season, no gaskets needed, \$60, gas single-burner stove for canning, \$35, Technics electronic organ, seldom used, \$1,000, Sears Craftsman all-metal table saw and base, \$175, 760-5957.

3020 John Deere diesel tractor, new rubber, best offer, 647-8467.

Wanted:

Good, used, inexpensive or free indoor wood stove, tent, ax or chain saw 751-6210.

Bolens lawn and garden tractor, running or not, attachments or not, 835-6304.

Old, weathered wood siding off old building, approximately 2-4-6 or 8-inch wide and 8' long boards, 987-2302.

Free:

Assorted sized windows, 467-3384.

Older upright piano, needs to be tuned, you haul, 751-5730.

We are Looking for you!

Beltrami Electric is looking for Bill J. Lange (Bemidji, Minn). Please call 218-444-2540 if you have any information.

Classified ads rules

For sale and wanted items only. 50 words or 300 characters, maximum length. No rental, business, service, real estate or personal ads. Ads are published on a first-come, first-serve basis and are free to Beltrami Electric members. Due to space constraints, there is no guarantee your ad will appear. Limited to one "for sale" and one "wanted" ad per issue. Repeat ads are only allowed for three consecutive months. The ad deadline is the first of the month to be included in the next issue. For example, an ad received August 1 would be included in the September issue due out the end of August. An ad received August 2 would be included in the October issue due out the end of September. Ads are preferred to be submitted via the web at www.beltramielctric.com or via email at info@beltramielctric.com, but may be submitted by mail, phone or in person at the cooperative. All telephone numbers are presumed to have a 218 area code unless otherwise noted.

Board Meeting Highlights

"Watt's Cooking?"

Raspberry Cream Cheese Pie



CRUST:

2 C. graham crackers, crushed
 ¼ C. sugar
 ½ C. butter, melted
 ¾ tsp. Saigon cinnamon

Mix together and form into a large pie pan. Bake 8-10 minutes at 375°. Then cool.

NEXT LAYER:

8 oz. cream cheese, softened
 ½ C. powdered sugar
 8 oz. cool whip, defrosted
 1¼ tsp. Mexican vanilla

Mix and place in bottom of cooled graham cracker crust, then chill.

NEXT LAYER:

1 C. sugar
 ¼ C. cornstarch
 1 C. water
 4 C. fresh raspberries

Mix sugar and cornstarch; then add water. Cook until thick. After thickened, remove from heat and add raspberries. Chill in ice water and put on top of cooled cream cheese layer. Chill until ready to serve.

(Submitted by member Susan Stillwell, Laporte, Minn.)

Beltrami Electric's board of directors conducted its monthly meeting Wednesday, June 24, 2015. All directors were present except Judy Honer. Also present were General Manager Lynette Nieuwsma, Director of Finance and Member Services Sid Sletten and Executive Secretary Kay Olson.

The following reports were given:

- President Coe presented John Lund with a Certified Credentialed Director certificate he earned this year.
- Manager Nieuwsma presented on behalf of the board of directors and Beltrami Electric Cooperative a donation to Dan King for the Red Lake Nation College.
- Discussion of a community solar garden at Beltrami Electric Cooperative.
- The manager made her monthly report, including a review of the average sales and revenue and power costs. Final legislative changes were also discussed, including obtaining a net metering distribution adder analysis. Information on Northern Solar was also discussed.
- Sid Sletten gave the financial and statistical report and reviewed the work order inventories and special equipment. He also reviewed the cooperative's loan portfolio and gave the annual report on the procedures of Beltrami Electric in regard to the Red Flag Rule.
- The manager presented a request for a donation to the Cooperative Finance Corporation (CFC) Integrity Fund along with area cooperatives that have used the fund in the past.
- Rick Coe reported on the Minnesota Rural Electric Association board meeting and also the Square Butte board meeting.
- Terry Diffley reported on the Minnkota Power board meeting.
- The board discussed the upcoming Beltrami County Fair and Hubbard County Fair 4-H animal auctions.
- Jeff Nelson presented revised BEC Policy #102 as recommended by the Policy Committee.
- Jerry Larson reported on the recent power plant tour he attended.

The following actions were taken:

- Approved a donation to the CFC Integrity Fund.
- Approved revised BEC Policy #102 as presented.

The next board meeting will be July 22, 2015, at 9 a.m.



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Click on the "Connect with BEC on Twitter" and "Connect with BEC on Facebook" links at www.beltramielc.com



Northern Safety & Security offers customized security systems to help guard against intrusion, fire, unexpected flooding, carbon monoxide and much more.

Call us for a free consultation at

218-444-3902 or 1-877-751-3902





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2015 YOUTH TOUR RECAP

In her own words: Andrea Bunich

Thank you to Beltrami Electric for choosing me to represent the cooperative at the 2015 Youth Tour in Washington, D.C., this June. Over the week I got the opportunity to tour numerous museums and monuments as well as make new friends with people from all over Minnesota and meet people from all over the country.

The trip began as soon as we got off the plane. We went to the hotel just to quickly drop our luggage off, then on to dinner and touring the Air Force Memorial and the 9/11 Memorial. Laying down and looking up at the Air Force Memorial made it look more like planes taking off.



On Sunday we toured the WWII Memorial, Vietnam Veteran Memorial, Korean War Veterans Memorial, Lincoln Memorial and MLK Memorial. The Vietnam Memorial really stood out to me. There were people there looking for their family

members' names and putting things by it. Our guide told us that all the things collected from the memorial are hopefully going to be used to make a museum. After seeing the monuments, we went to Arlington and the Holocaust Museum. Seeing the shoes the Nazis collected and going through David's story really made me think of all these people had to go through.

We had the opportunity to tour the NRECA building while there. We got to see the CEO's office and sit in the boardroom. While at NRECA Martin Lowery, Executive Vice President of Member and



Association Relations, talked to us. Prior to going on the tour we had a presentation by Adam Swartz: "The Cooperative Way." It was about the cooperative principles and how they work. We also got to see the play "1776" at Toby's Theater.

On our last whole day in D.C. we went to the Capitol. We were able to meet Amy Klobuchar and Al Franken. The people from District 7 were able to talk with Collin Peterson's legislative assistant Zach Martin. He told us about what his job was and some of the things he has been able to help with. We were also able to talk with John Kline and Rick Nolan.

In one week I made new friends, saw where Lincoln was assassinated, saw the White House and stood where Martin Luther King Jr. gave his "I Have a Dream" speech. Thank you Beltrami Electric for giving me this incredible experience!

