



**Tim Stewart,**  
CEO/Manager

## Capital Credit Retirement

### 49<sup>th</sup> Consecutive Year – Benefits from Your Cooperative Demonstrating the Third Cooperative Principle

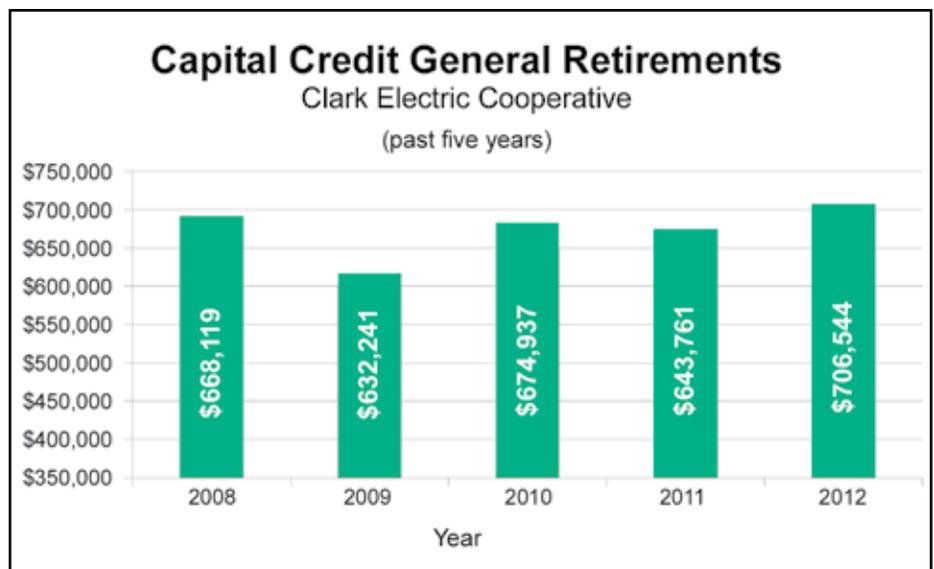
It is my privilege to announce that the Clark Electric Cooperative Board of Directors approved a \$706,544 capital credit general retirement to be made this year. This marks the 49th consecutive year that a capital credit retirement has been made, totaling in excess of \$19,064,134 being returned to the membership since inception.

As a rural electric cooperative member, you are part owner of Clark Electric Cooperative. Basically, you've pooled your money with thousands of other members and created equity for your rural electric cooperative to deliver you electricity and to provide services at an affordable cost.

As a locally owned business, Clark Electric Cooperative is committed to the people, businesses, and communities we serve. Because we are member owned and operated, one of the fundamental principles we follow is a commitment to returning

your investment. This is done in the form of capital credits. Since Clark Electric Cooperative operates on a not-for-profit basis, we return margins to members and former members through the capital credit allocation and retirement process. The amount returned is

the company, not the consumers who utilize the service). Only we don't aim to maximize profits. Our goal is to provide you with electricity at a price that is as close to cost as possible. That way, more of your money stays in your pocket—up front.



in relation to the individual member's transactions with the cooperative. Capital credits are returned to cooperative members on a rotating schedule. Currently the cooperative is retiring 4 percent of our allocated capital and applying that amount against the oldest capital credits assigned to the members. This retirement will affect the cooperative's capital credits assigned in 1989, 1990, and the Dairyland Power Cooperative capital credits assigned for 1986.

Capital credit retirements are to you what dividends are to stockholders at for-profit companies (remember though that in investor-owned utilities, shareholders who purchased stock own

In short, you are receiving a vital resource, electricity, from a business owned and operated by you, your friends, and neighbors. Working together, we provide you with the highest level of service we can while striving to keep your electric bills affordable.

And that's the cooperative difference!

### Load Management Helps Reduce Costs

I would like to spend the rest of this month's article discussing load management and the important role

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### The Seven Cooperative Principles

All cooperative businesses adhere to these seven guiding principles:

1. Voluntary and Open Membership
2. Democratic Member Control
3. Members' Economic Participation
4. Autonomy and Independence
5. Education, Training, and Information
6. Cooperation Among Cooperatives
7. Concern for Community

# It's Annual Meeting Time

Boy, it sure seemed that 2011 just zipped by, and here we are already in the new year with annual meeting just around the corner. This year we will celebrate a significant milestone as this is our 75<sup>th</sup> annual meeting.

The annual meeting is an important event for the cooperative. Members will hear reports about the cooperative and the electric industry, review financials, and elect their representatives to serve on the Board of Directors.

The members will be asked to elect three directors, for three-year terms. Director terms expiring this year are Charles Bena from the Town of Mead area, Anthony Jarocki from

the Town of Hixon area, and Howard Schultz from the Town of Weston area. Directors Bena and Schultz are eligible for re-election. Director Jarocki has reached his term limits and is NOT eligible for re-election. Nominations are taken from the floor of the meeting. The cooperative's bylaws establish the minimum qualifications for being a director. A copy of the bylaws is available on the cooperative's web site at [www.cecoop.com](http://www.cecoop.com) or by contacting the business office at 715-267-6188. If you have any additional questions about becoming a director, please contact our CEO/General Manager Tim Stewart at the business office.

Directors are expected to attend

monthly board meetings; represent the cooperative in state, regional, and national affairs; and take advantage of NRECA educational opportunities such as classes, seminars, and workshops. Directors need to read, study, and analyze a lot of information throughout the month to keep informed on the electric industry as a whole. Directors will spend approximately 20 to 35 days a year in performance of their duties.

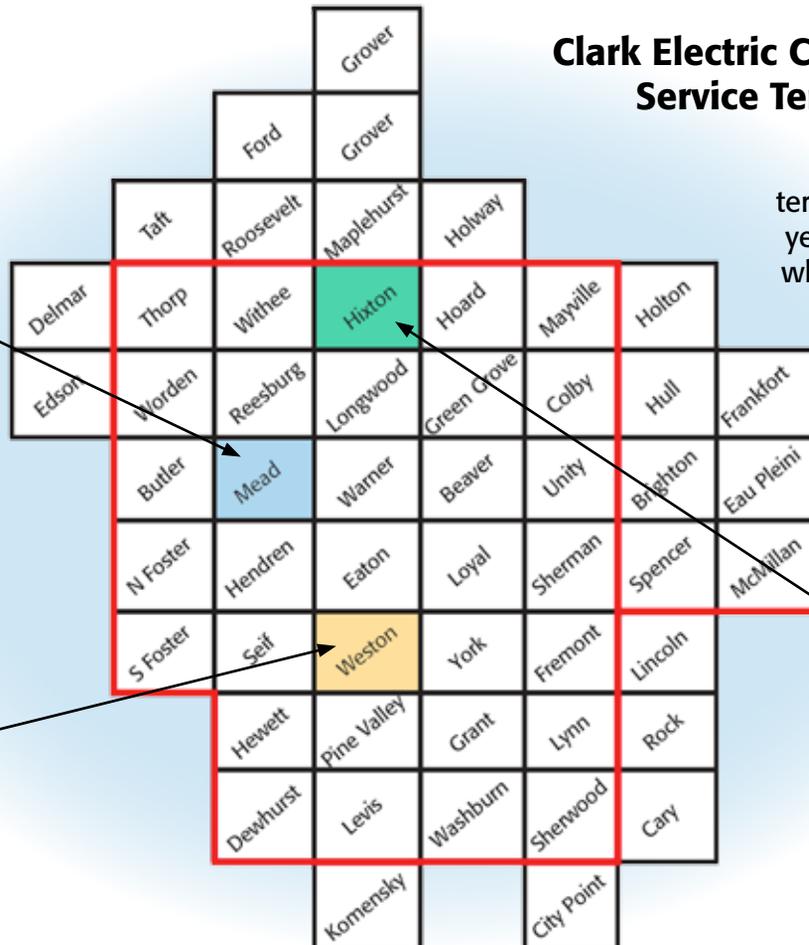
Plan to attend the annual meeting, enjoy a nice meal, register for door prizes, and help conduct the business of your electric utility. Member involvement is critically important to the success of your cooperative. ■



Charles Bena  
(eligible for re-election)



Howard Schultz  
(eligible for re-election)



## Clark Electric Cooperative Service Territory

Directors whose terms are expiring this year and the town in which they reside are shown here.



Anthony Jarocki  
(not eligible for re-election due to term limits)

## Scholarship Applications Available

Clark Electric Cooperative is once again offering a scholarship opportunity to graduating students from participating high schools in our service area. One \$1,000 scholarship will be available for a student from each school or group of schools in our service area.

To be considered for the scholarship, the student's parent or legal guardian must be a member of Clark Electric Cooperative and currently receive electric service at their primary residence from Clark Electric Cooperative.

The Clark Electric Cooperative scholarship program began in 1995, and since its inception we have provided more than \$140,000 in scholarships to area students. An independent scholarship committee judges the applicants based upon merit.

Giving back to the community is one of the cooperative principals; furthering the education of our area youth is another. Clark Electric is proud to help these fine young people meet their educational goals.

Applications are available from your high school counselor, online at [www.cecoop.com](http://www.cecoop.com), and at our office located at 124 N Main St., Greenwood.

**All applications must be returned to the cooperative office by 5 p.m. Friday, March 9, 2012.**

### Schools Eligible for Scholarship Consideration

- Abbotsford High School
- Colby High School
- Columbus High School
- Gilman High School
- Granton High School
- Greenwood High School
- Loyal High School
- Marshfield Senior High School
- Medford High School
- Neillsville High School
- Owen-Withee High School
- Pittsville High School
- Spencer High School
- Thorp High School
- Stanley High School
- Stratford High School
- Osseo-Fairchild High School
- Abbotsford Christian Academy
- Home School Student

If you have any questions, please contact Tracy Nelson, administrative assistant, at 715-267-6188 or 1-800-272-6188.

These scholarships are financed through the Federated Youth Foundation Scholarship Program, which is funded from unclaimed capital credits. Federated Youth Foundation (FYF) is a non-profit charitable foundation serving cooperatives across

Wisconsin. ■



## Capital Credits

(Continued from page 4)

that load management plays in controlling costs for all of our members.

The Dairyland Power Cooperative's load management system is an extremely valuable tool in curtailing load during peak periods. By allowing a load control device to be installed on your electric water heater, electric heating system, air-conditioning system, or other large controllable loads, you can help control increasing generation and transmission costs. In 2011, DPC estimates that the load management program realized savings in excess of \$8.5 million systemwide. Clark Electric Cooperative members saved an estimated \$342,000 over what costs would have been without the program. Please call our office for more details on the load management system. ■

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**UP TO 12 MBPS DOWNLOAD SPEED**  
*Faster than fiber, faster than DSL!*

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 and get on the list today!

## Load Management

**Your Device to Savings**

- Electric Water Heating Credits
- Electric Heating Rates
- Air Conditioning Rates



**Contact Us for More Information**

## Office Hours

**Winter Hours:** November 1 – March 31  
 Monday – Friday, 8 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

**Summer Hours:** April 1 – October 31  
 Monday – Friday, 8 a.m. – 5 p.m.



## Clark Electric Cooperative

Your Touchstone Energy® Partner 

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