



Tim Stewart,
CEO/Manager

88th ANNUAL MEETING

RECAP May 21, 2025

Ever since the creation of Clark Electric Cooperative, back in 1937, the Cooperative has held an annual meeting. The annual meeting is a time for members to come together to learn more about

their organization, conduct business, enjoy a nice meal, and socialize with their friends and neighbors. For many, it is an event that members look forward to year after year. This year's event was held in Neillsville, WI, at the American Legion Hall.

President Seebandts' Report

The following is an excerpt from President Seebandts' report to the members.

President Seebandt began his report by focusing on the board of directors' community involvement saying that whether directors serve on the school board, county board, or volunteer with other community organizations, he is incredibly proud of the participation and engagement in the communities they serve. Mr. Seebandt also encouraged members to spread the word about the cooperative's scholarship program that offers \$2,000 per scholarship to each school district within the cooperative's service territory. This year the cooperative provided \$28,000 to area students, which brings the total to over \$378,000 since the program began.

CEO/General Managers' Report

The following is an excerpt from CEO/GM Stewart's report to the members.

2024 Financial Review

Clark Electric Cooperative continues to report solid financial performance. Operating revenue per kWh sold remained relatively stable at 12.11 cents per kWh (this is the average price per kWh sold). The total cost of providing electric service increased 3.64% over last year, resulting in a positive operating margin in excess of \$1.05 million. Total kWh sales for 2024 set an all-time high sales record eclipsing the previous record set in 2022 by 2.10% and 2.24% over last year's level. Total margins increased slightly to \$2,383,159.

The cooperative's debt ratio remained relatively flat at 26.00% of total assets. Equity increased \$1,377,704 to 67.72% of assets. Assets and Liabilities, as well as various operating statistics, were reviewed. The Cooperative has met and exceeded financial metrics required by our lenders.

The Cooperative retired over \$1.13 million in capital credit in 2024. In January of 2025, an additional \$1.01 million was retired to members. Over \$6.95 million has been retired



Members enjoyed a meal at the Annual Meeting held on Thursday, May 8.

between 2019-2024.

The Cooperative invested in excess of \$3.230 million in distribution plant during 2024. This represents new construction and replacement of electric lines and infrastructure, new service extensions, and member service upgrades. Mr. Stewart

reported that the Rural Utilities Service

approved a new \$13.0 million loan to fund the current work plan projects, and the Cooperative received a \$600,000 Grid Reliability Grant.

2 Megawatt Utility Scale Solar

The Popple Creek Utility Scale Solar Project, a 2.0 megawatt solar array, located in Green Grove Township, became operational on January 9, 2024. The array produced over 3.8 million kWh. Clark Electric Cooperative purchases 100% of the output.

The Cooperative will be participating in another 2.5 megawatt project in 2026. This project is anticipated to generate approximately 5.5 million kWh. Both projects are in conjunction with One Energy Renewable. One Energy Renewables is a leading solar energy company that is experienced in site development, engineering, equipment purchasing, construction, and solar operations.

Youth Programs

This year's meeting highlighted two youth programs, the Clark Electric Cooperative /Greenwood FFA program, and the Youth Leadership Program.

Clark Electric Cooperative/ Greenwood FFA Program

Mr. Seebandt welcomed the Greenwood FFA to give a presentation on the Clark Electric Cooperative Land Plot Program. This program allows



Greenwood High School FFA participants explain the benefits of the Land Plot Program.

the Greenwood FFA students real hands-on experience in managing crop land which is located adjacent to the Cooperative's headquarters. The students learn about Cooperatives, the Seven Cooperative Principles, and the not-for-profit business model that makes cooperatives unique. Any proceeds realized are utilized to fund FFA students in the form of scholarships. This is a great program that first began in 2015.

Youth Leadership Program

The Cooperative sponsors area youth to participate in the Youth Leadership Program. All area schools are eligible to participate in the program.

Clark Electric youth member Jonah Vircks, who was elected to serve as alternate on the Youth Governing Board and also served as a blue shirt at NRECA's Annual Meeting (PowerXchange) in Atlanta in March 2025, was introduced to talk about his cooperative youth journey and experiences.

Vircks, a junior at Loyal High School, said, "Before I went to WECA's Youth Leadership Conference (YLC) a few summers ago, I had no idea about the opportunities that a co-op provides. During that conference, I learned about where my electricity came from and what makes a co-op different than every business out there. It's all about the members."

Vircks explained how YLC opened many doors for him, including Youth Tour in Washington, D.C. and a wealth of other activities and experiences, including his participation in NRECA's Youth Leadership Program.

Vircks said, "This past March, because of you, the members of Clark Electric, and the Clark Electric Board who graciously sponsored me, I attended the PowerXchange & Tech Advantage Conference in Atlanta, Georgia. What I experienced there will stay with me for life and continues to shape who I am today. "The professional development opportunities in Atlanta were transformative. I participated in specialized leadership workshops designed specifically for youth representatives, where industry experts taught us about effective communication, strategic thinking, and how to advocate for causes we believe in."

Vircks detailed the many experiences he had during the week in Atlanta and said, "Perhaps most importantly, I've developed a deeper understanding of servant leadership through the cooperative model. This perspective helps me focus on inclusive decision-making and ensuring all voices are heard—skills I use whether organizing school events or working on community service projects," and added that "The cooperative values I've experienced—especially education



Loyal High School junior Jonah Vircks speaks to the members about his experience as part of the Youth Leadership Program sponsored by Clark Electric.

and concern for community—have become central to my understanding of leadership. Through my various roles in school organizations and at events like this, I can share these values with many others."

He concluded by saying, "My story demonstrates how youth programs create a multiplier effect. The young people you support today connect with peers, participate in their communities, and help spread cooperative values to hundreds more. Thank you for believing in the power of youth engagement. Your support has created not just one advocate for cooperatives, but a network of hundreds who will be touched by the cooperative spirit through my journey."

Rural Electric Supply Cooperative

Rural Electric Supply Cooperative (RESCO) President & CEO Matt Brandrup was on hand to give an update on current utility material

supply and supply chain issues. He said to ensure co-ops can get what they need, RESCO has increased inventory levels by more than double over the past couple of years and are now at all-time record-high levels, around \$60 million. RESCO recently

opened a new warehouse in Stanley, Wisconsin that Clark Electric Cooperative provides service to. Rural Electric Supply Cooperative is a member-owned, not-for-profit wholesale distributor of high-voltage electrical products. As one of the largest full line distributors in the Midwest, RESCO provides strength in numbers and competitive pricing on materials. RESCO was founded in 1936 by Wisconsin Electric Cooperatives to obtain high-voltage material on a cost basis.



Brandrup (right) presents Stewart with a patronage check from RESCO's excess margins.

Outage Management System

Director of Operations Mike Ruff gave a presentation of the Cooperative's Outage Management System (OMS). Mr. Ruff explained how the technology of the metering system, call response system for outage calls from members, and engineering models all are interconnected to be able to identify, track, and restore outages efficiently. Members can also track outages on the Cooperatives website and sign up for outage notifications.

Director Election

In board elections, directors Chuck Lindner and Allen Jicinsky both ran unopposed and after making comments to the crowd, both were re-elected to a 3-year term.

We hope everyone in attendance found the meeting informative and look forward to seeing you all at next year's meeting.

HELP US STABILIZE COSTS BY DOING THE SUMMER SHIFT

The Summer Shift supports stable rates by helping members use less electricity during times of high demand. Anyone can participate in the Summer Shift by “shifting” non-essential energy use to before 11 a.m. or after 7 p.m. during summer weekdays (June through August). That afternoon window of time is usually when the demand for electricity is at its peak. With a successful Summer Shift program, the cooperative’s wholesale power provider, Dairyland Power Cooperative, purchases less electricity during times of peak demand and high prices. Reducing the price paid for our wholesale power contributes to stable retail electricity rates in the long term.

Dairyland works with its 24 member cooperatives, including Clark Electric Cooperative, to cover all our electricity needs every hour of every day of the year. By joining with other cooperatives, the benefit of the Summer Shift is multiplied. To be fair, just doing the Summer Shift may not mean a reduction in actual electricity used because members will still run a dishwasher or take a shower earlier or later in the day. But members looking for a few power tips can not only do the Summer Shift but also save energy and improve in-home comfort this summer.

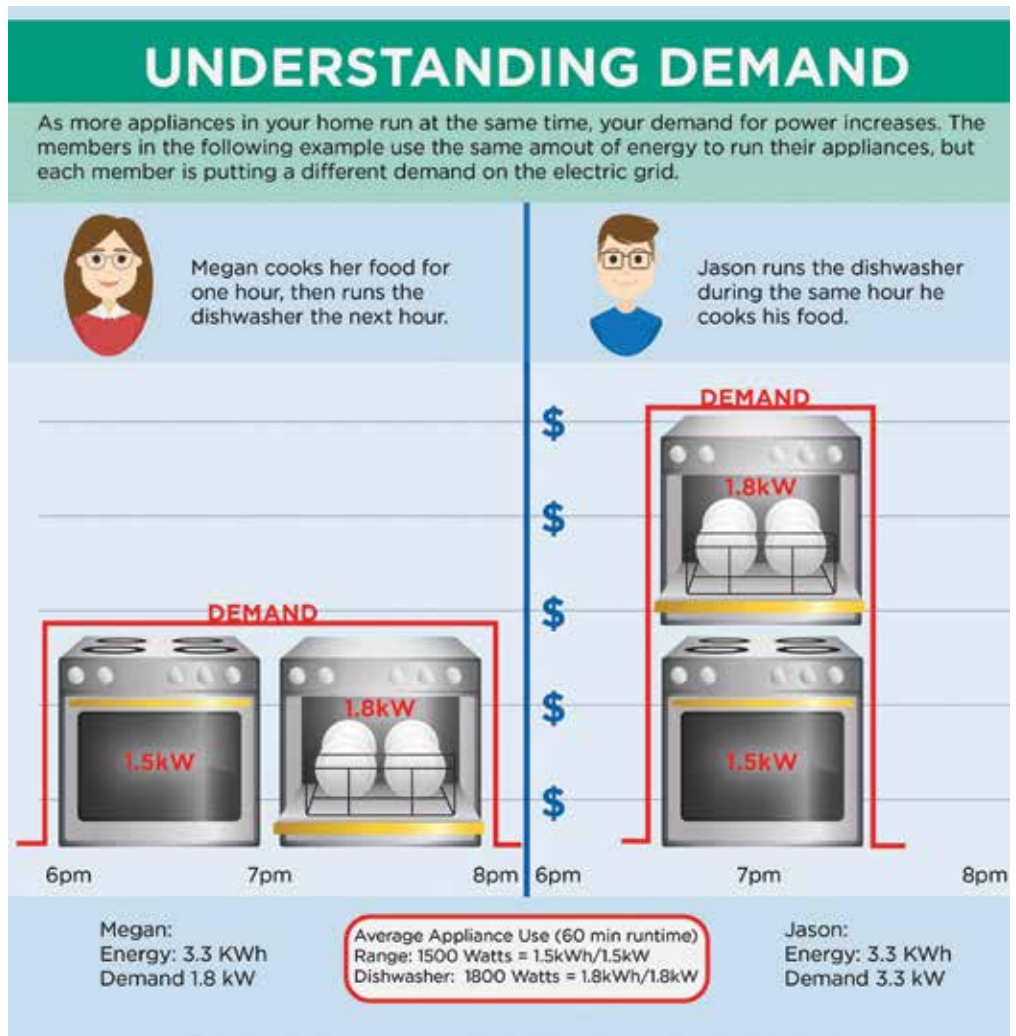
Discover Power Tips

- Cook outdoors to avoid additional heat from the oven.
- Close blinds to help keep the house cool; use a ceiling or table fan to circulate air.
- Shift laundry to before 11 a.m. or after 7 p.m., and air-dry clothes instead of putting them in the dryer.

- Catch a summer breeze! Line dry your clothes.
- Make sure chicken is the only thing crispy this summer. Use an air fryer instead of your oven.
- Utilize an ENERGY STAR dishwasher over hand washing to conserve water and energy.
- Run the dishwasher after 7 p.m. Open the door to let dishes air dry overnight.
- Create a schedule for your smart thermostat and lighting to minimize energy use between 11 a.m. and 7 p.m.

- Bump up the thermostat setting 4 degrees on summer weekdays.
- Charge electric vehicles overnight (after 9 p.m.).
- Adjust the water heater to no higher than 120 degrees.

Before 11 a.m. and after 7 p.m.: When we all work together to shift non-essential electricity use to off-peak times, we can all help keep rates stable. Utilize the power tips shared above to help save energy and save money. Reach out to your trusted energy advisor at your Clark Electric Cooperative for more information.



WELCOME, JARED



Jared Jensen, from Owen, returned to Clark Electric Cooperative on May 19, 2025. In his free time, he enjoys hunting and snowmobiling out West. Jared is excited to be back and looks forward to once again serving the members of Clark Electric.

ENERGY EFFICIENCY TIP OF THE MONTH

During summer months, run large appliances that emit heat such as clothes dryers and dishwashers during the evening when the outdoor temperature is lower. Running heat-emitting appliances in the evening will reduce indoor heat gain during the day when outdoor temperatures are highest and ultimately keep your air conditioner from working harder than necessary.

Source: [energy.gov](https://www.energy.gov)

5 WAYS to Reduce Use During Extreme Heat

During periods of extreme heat, the demand for electricity can skyrocket, placing additional strain on the grid. By working together to lower our electricity use, we can reduce pressure on the grid.

Here are five effective ways to lower use at home.


1. **Raise your thermostat** setting a few degrees higher than usual. Every degree can reduce cooling energy consumption.
2. **Cook with smaller appliances** to save energy and reduce heat gain in the kitchen.
3. **Keep blinds, curtains and shades closed** during the hottest part of the day to block direct sunlight.
4. **Use fans** to circulate air, which can make you feel cooler without needing to lower the thermostat.
5. Shift activities that require a lot of energy consumption to **off-peak hours** when demand is lower.

Tim Stewart, CEO/Manager

1209 West Dall-Berg Road
P.O. Box 190, Greenwood, WI 54437
email us at info@cecoop.com or mwalde@cecoop.com
www.cecoop.com



**Clark Electric
Cooperative**

Your Touchstone Energy® Partner 

Office Hours:

November through April—7:30 a.m.–4:00 p.m.
May through October—7:00 a.m.–3:30 p.m.