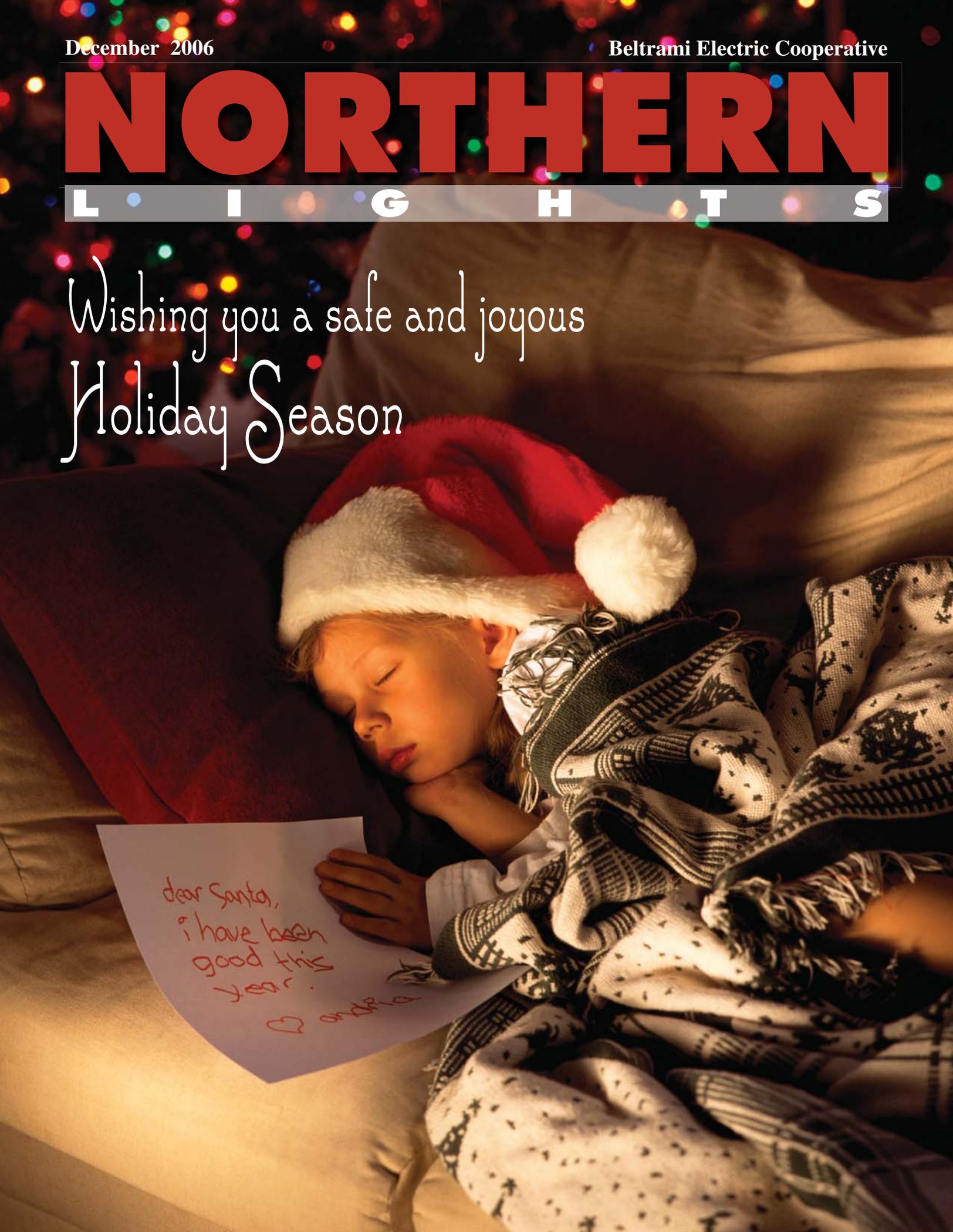


# NORTHERN

L I G H T S

Wishing you a safe and joyous  
Holiday Season



dear Santa,  
i have been  
good this  
year.  
♡ andrea



# Across the MANAGER'S DESK

Lynette Nieuwsma, General Manager

If you have read this column the last few months, you know that we have been conducting a rate study. Last month, the BEC board reviewed the study and approved rates that will become effective Jan. 1, 2007. You will first see these changes on the bill you receive in February reflecting your January electric use.

This rate increase was driven by two wholesale power rate increases from Minnkota Power Cooperative, our wholesale power supplier. Their first increase was a .5 mill (one mill equals one-tenth of one cent) increase last March to be followed in early 2007 by an 8.5 percent increase.

The 2006 increase was not passed on in our retail rates to delay the impact on members' rates as long as possible. We would have fared reasonably well with this increase in 2006, but added pressures of changes in wholesale contracts and the eventual loss of part of our Ainsworth sales will leave us with very slim, if any, operating margins. Wholesale power makes up 60 percent of our total costs, however that is not the only place we are seeing increases. Line construction materials and increasing interest rates are also affecting the necessary increase in retail rates.

The new rate schedule and bill comparisons are in this issue of *Northern Lights*. Rate changes impact each member's bill differently depending on what rate schedule you fall in and how much electricity you use. In the case of rates with demand components, the load factor (how consistently the load is run at peak demand) greatly impacts the net cost per kilowatt-hour (kwh). The purpose of the rate study conducted by Power System Engineering is to not only ensure we will have enough revenue to operate the cooperative, but also to determine fair and equitable rates. That is why some rate schedules are more heavily impacted than others.

I don't have room to comment on all the rates, but want to address the off-peak rate increases. We have separated off-peak into two seasons; winter heating months October through May (I really hope winter doesn't last that long) and summer months June through September. Being we are in the heating months the increase from .035 to .039 per kwh will impact you first. This rate is still a bargain with its comparison to propane at 94 cents per gallon with a high-efficiency furnace. That's about half the cost of propane. Last March, Minnkota increased our rates slightly to go out on the market and buy additional power to help reduce load management control times during the heating season. Most off-peak users would say this was

**"Beltrami Electric's new rates will continue to be among the lowest in the state."**

money well spent.

The summer month increase may appear to have a larger impact, but that isn't the case because comparatively few kwh are used from June through September. As off-peak users likely realize, summer load management is very minimal and is mostly reserved for emergency transmission or power plant outages. Our alternative to not increasing this rate in the summer was to significantly control air conditioning and water heaters. We put ourselves in your shoes and decided that a higher rate was much more acceptable than long summer control hours.

Beltrami Electric's new rates will continue to be among the lowest in the state. I would like to tell you this is the end of increasing rates, but it is not. As Minnkota makes improvements to power plants to be in compliance with all EPA regulations and as new power plants and alternative energy sources are developed to meet future needs, electricity rates will continue to increase. As we have done this time, we will raise rates only as much as necessary to supply you with reliable electricity. We need to meet your electric-

*(continued on page 3)*

## NORTHERN L I G H T S

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General Manager Lynette Nieuwsma  
Editor Jared Echternach

### Minnesota State Electrical Inspectors

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[smytheelectricinspections.com](http://smytheelectricinspections.com)

*Cass and Hubbard Counties*

**Bob Orgon**

218-556-3829 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 9 a.m. or by fax or e-mail as indicated.*

### Gopher State One Call

1-800-252-1166

Anyone who is planning 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, electrical lines, water lines and sewer lines can be located to ensure that none will be severed or damaged.



# Beltrami Electric to distribute nearly \$1 million in capital credits

**B**eltrami Electric's board of directors approved a general capital credit retirement of more than \$766,000 at its October meeting. The amount is the remaining balance of 1987 and 2.2 percent of all other years. Another \$175,000 in estate retirements brings the total retirement to nearly \$1 million. This year's change in the retirement method results in more members receiving a capital credit check in December.

Capital credits will be paid to all members with an allocation balance of at least \$150. Retirements of less than \$15 will be applied as a credit to the member's electric account. Members with retirements greater than \$15 will receive a check in mid-December, just in time for the holidays.

## Co-op advantage

As a co-op member, you're entitled to a return of a portion of the margins the cooperative earns. These are returned in the form of capital credits. Rather than returning those margins each year, a portion of those margins are used for the construction of new services and general plant maintenance, just as members before you supplied the capital for your service.

By allowing Beltrami Electric to use your accumulated shares of the cooperative's margins from prior years, members are supplying a significant portion of the capital needed to pay for new construction and maintenance. This reduces the need for borrowed capital and avoids higher interest rates that would in turn increase electric rates.

Each year, a formal accounting process determines the cooperative's income and expenses. Income remaining after deducting all expenses is the net margin. This amount is then divided among the owners in proportion to the amount of electricity they used. The practice is based on one of the core cooperative principles that ownership benefits are in proportion to use. In other words, the

more electricity you use, the greater your return.

Beltrami Electric's first capital credits were allocated in 1960. To date, these allocated margins have been repaid through 1987 on a first-in, first-out basis, with the exception of estate retirements. Capital credits are paid to estates on a present value basis to ease the closing of the estate. The decision to retire 2.2 percent of all other years means more members will receive a check.

## Across the MANAGER'S DESK

*(continued from page 2)*

ity needs, but I'm glad we don't need to meet investors' return on investment as well. Much of our rates are made up of largely non-controllable expenses including wholesale power costs, depreciation and interest. However, where we have the ability we will control operating expenses. That will keep your rates in balance.

## Capital credits to be retired to more members

As many of you may have come to expect this time of year, a capital credit distribution will be made in December. The difference this time is that more members than ever before will receive a check mid-December or a credit on this month's bill. The remainder of 1987's allocation will be retired. In addition, 2.2 percent of the remaining unretired allocation will be returned if you have at least \$150 of allocated capital credits. With this combination of distribution methods, more than twice as many members will receive a distribution of capital credits. One of the great advantages of cooperative membership is that margins are returned to members. Your board of directors selected to allow newer members as well as long-term members to share in this benefit.

It is our goal to live the cooperative

Your cooperative will continue to use the capital credit allocation process to provide the capital necessary for efficient operations and to reduce the dependence on borrowed capital. This plan saves the cooperative money, while rewarding members for their patronage.

If you have questions concerning your capital credit allocation, please contact Beltrami Electric's customer service department.

spirit of providing great service at fair and reasonable rates. What is left over at the end of the year is allocated in the form of capital credits and returned as margins as the cooperative is financially able to do so.

## November load management

We've received several calls wondering why there was load management during the warm weather we experienced in November. I'd like to remind members using the off-peak rate that weather is just one component that factors into the need for load management. In this case, several plants in the region were off-line for maintenance, which decreased capacity and increased the market price for energy. When system demand exceeds capacity, load management will occur if reasonably priced energy cannot be purchased on the market. We can assure you that Minnkota purchases energy on the market to serve off-peak loads when cost effective. They do not use load management to sell power on the open market.

As I sit at my desk on an unusually warm November day, it's hard to imagine the holidays are just around the corner. I may be the first to wish each of you a Merry Christmas and hope you can celebrate the season with family and friends.



# Sample Bill Comparison

Residential (Single-phase accounts 25 kva and less)				
kwh	Current	New		Monthly difference
300	\$37.85	\$41.60		\$3.75
500	\$52.75	\$58.00		\$5.25
1,000	\$82.00	\$90.00		\$8.00
1,500	\$111.25	\$122.00		\$10.75
2,000	\$140.50	\$154.00		\$13.50

Annual (Annual single-phase accounts 25 kva and less)				
kwh	Current	New	Annual difference	Monthly difference
1,800	\$320.10	\$351.60	\$31.50	\$2.63
5,000	\$558.50	\$614.00	\$55.50	\$4.63
7,500	\$744.75	\$819.00	\$74.25	\$6.19
10,000	\$931.00	\$1,006.00	\$75.00	\$6.25

Off-peak (October - May)				
kwh	Current	New		Monthly difference
500	\$19.10	\$21.50		\$2.40
1,000	\$36.60	\$41.00		\$4.40
1,500	\$54.10	\$60.50		\$6.40
2,000	\$71.60	\$80.00		\$8.40

Off-peak (June - September, 12 months for single-phase annual accounts)				
kwh	Current	New		Monthly difference
300	\$12.10	\$16.10		\$4.00
500	\$19.10	\$25.50		\$6.40
800	\$29.60	\$39.60		\$10.00
1,000	\$36.60	\$49.00		\$12.40

## Zentek earns CCD designation



Beltrami Electric director Frank Zentek was recognized at the NRECA Region VI meeting Oct. 25 in Fargo, N.D., for completing his Credentialed Cooperative Director coursework. NRECA CEO Glenn English, left, and NRECA board president Ron Bergh, right, presented Zentek with a certificate of achievement.



## It's time to trim the mitten tree!

With the holiday season approaching, it's time to trim your cooperative's mitten tree! The co-op will accept donations of new and homemade mittens, gloves, hats or scarves for distribution to area Head Start programs. If you'd like to help keep youngsters warm this winter, mark your calendars for Dec. 1, because that's when Beltrami Electric will begin trimming the mitten tree! Donations will be accepted from Dec. 1 through Dec. 12.

# Northern Lights CLASSIFIEDS

## For Sale:

Free to good home, lop-eared rabbit, black, w/cage, 2 food bowls, water bottle, indoors, loves attention, very friendly 647-8179 lv. msg.

New Marvin Integrity window, dbl. hung RO 42 3/4"x60 3/8", pebble gray \$200; Marvin clad Ultimate French out-swing ext. door w/transom window RO 73 5/8"Wx100 1/2"H, transom window may be removed, pebble gray \$1,200 444-5838

Portable air compressor, 4 hp., 220V \$125; window AC \$100; old bench vise \$25; ice auger caddy \$200; 2 350 Chevy engines, 1 block newly bored \$400 586-2530

Older Chevy plow truck; '87 Toyota 4-Runner; toilets & sinks 766-9399

Antique oak buffet \$600; Hewitt 1,800 lb. boatlift \$750 335-6525

'92 Chrysler Imperial 108K, fully loaded, good cond. 243-2670

1/2 sz. violin \$80; 3/4 sz. violin \$120 both good cond. 751-9397

Vertical blinds for patio door, light beige \$80 444-3267

'85 8 hp. Honda HS-80 snow blower, used very little \$375 224-2283

Honda CR480 dirt bike \$1,000; Massey Ferguson riding lawnmower \$200 835-8011

'00 generator, 50kw surge, 25kw continuous, used 2 hrs., PTO, pd. \$4,700 make offer; '92 Boulder motor home, low mi., good cond., mod. 34J Chevy 454 FI engine, attachable patio room, solar panels, book \$22,000, sell for \$17,000 as is 647-8914

Colt Python .357 Magnum, 4" nickel, exc. cond. \$700 368-2979

'71 Plym. Fury III, 58K, 360 motor runs good, tranny good, 2 dr. hard top, very little rust, classic 751-2874

'68 Larson boat & cover w/80 hp. Merc., Spartan trlr. 444-4897

Corner computer desk, great shape \$40 854-7396

Dog training/no bark collar, new \$50 586-2009

Army camo jungle shirts, sz. S, M, like new \$4 ea.; fish house on wheels, 6x12, nice \$2,850 647-8130

8-mos.-old chinchilla \$60 243-3000

Free black topper originally fitted for '95 Chevy S10 586-2880

Fish house, hunting quarters, utility trlr., 14 1/2', 3,500 lb. axle, never used on lake, must see \$9,000 obo 243-2200

'95 Pontiac Firebird, 3.4L V6, AT, tilt, cruise, PW, PL, PS, AC, remote start, CD, T-tops, good cond., 128K, \$3,500 obo; HP Photosmart 325 printer, sealed in box \$70 444-8864

4x6 portable fish house, gas auger, sled \$100; '00 Kawasaki 300 Prairie, windshield, wife's machine, exc. cond. \$2,200 333-0901

PU box cover, roll-up Truxedo brand, fits Dodge w/8" box, like new 751-3127

'96 Ford conv. van, mint cond., mauve, Flexsteel seats, luxury interior, dependable travel vehicle, must see to appreciate \$5,900 obo 751-9357

'96 Polaris XLT, reverse, cover, stored inside, well maintained \$1,200 obo 335-9869

Collector Dayton-Hudson '99 Christmas Ms. Bear, wonderful Christmas gift, never used, non-smoking home \$100; 3 natural stain bar stools, very good cond. \$10 ea. 751-0980

Free female black cat to good home 759-7738

4 10' feed bunks; 1 14' wood bunk; Minn. manure spreader, 160 bu.; till-bed machinery trlr., 12'x6' bed 647-8347

'75 20' NuWa motor home, GMC chassis, 350 engine, 350 tranny \$3,500 obo 556-8008

Nearly new Coleman fuel oil down draft furnace, suitable for MH, pd. \$1,100, sell for \$500, 400 gal. of fuel run through it 755-1933

'52 Int'l. PU; 1-man ice fishing trap 751-1336

'98 VW Beetle, red, straight shift, almost new \$5,000 224-2287

'00 Dodge Intrepid, 2.7L, 30+ mpg, new tires, 78K, immaculate cond. 444-7796

500 Polaris Deluxe, 2-up, elec. start, rev., 100 mi., re-built engine, exc. cond. \$1,750 obo 556-8160

6x8 folding Clam fish house \$250 586-2362

'97 Town & Country van, very clean, good cond. 835-4704

New ladder rack, tube steel \$200 obo; '88 Ford Escort Pony, 35 mpg., needs fuel pump \$400 obo 224-2891

Antique Kalamazoo cast iron wood stove, works great \$595 224-2640

'04 Tuffy Osprey 1760 tiller w/'04 Yamaha 75 4-stroke, Wave Wackers, Lowrance depth finder/GPS, Minnkota 70 lb. 3X trolling motor, Shorelander trlr. w/guides, like new \$16,900; Hewitt 1,800 lb. boatlift \$750 335-6525

'85 Chevy Suburban 4WD, 350 AT, runs good \$1,200 obo 586-2292 eve.

Washer/dryer set, great cond. \$300 444-9151

'98 Arctic Cat; '95 Arctic Cat w/extras \$3,500, snow blower, 27", 7 hp. \$350; computer desk; lp. garage htr., like new; 9x7 alum., white raised panel garage doors 444-6370

MH tires, \$30 ea.; '95 14x70 MH, 3BR, all appl., storage shed, financing avail. \$16,000; Compaq computer, printer, speakers, fax machine 444-6632

'97 16x80 MH, 3BR, 2BA, appl., skylights, new carpet, shed \$34,000 612-605-8352

'00 Marshfield 14x70, 2BR, 1BA, all appl., C/A, exc. cond., to be moved \$24,000 obo 492-4201

Burris Landmark spotting scope 15x45x60mm, long eye relief, fully multicoated optics w/nylon carrying case, like new \$100 224-2195

Jacobsen heavy-duty 2-stage snow blower, Tecumseh 8 hp. engine, chains, very good cond. \$275 547-3128

Brown Frankoma dishes, plates, mugs, serving and decorative pieces 586-2558

Stainless steel fridge, dishwasher; patio doors 586-2606

Portable dishwasher, hardly used \$75 obo 444-5609

King sz. mattress & box springs, top of line, exc. cond., you transport 751-9212

Turbo Cooker Plus w/base, dome cover, steam rack, spring-form baking pan, cooking guide, VHS, recipe cards, NIB \$25 766-1289

14x70 MH, best offer by 12/1/06 224-3329

Stewing hens \$150 ea.; Guineas \$5 ea.; ducks \$10 ea. 586-2860

'89 conv. van, exc. cond., Vandura 2500, AC, TV, full-sz. bed, captain chairs, 114K \$3,500 would consider trade for pick-up 224-2408

Floral sofa, matching wing-backed chair, 2 matching pillows, exc. cond., all for \$475; sm. maple drop-leaf table w/2 chairs \$35 755-1581

'77 Arctic Cat Panther, elec. start, good runner \$500; '77 Arctic Cat Jag \$400 or both for \$800 586-2839

42" glass dining room table \$50; oak nightstand \$25; drop-leaf writing desk \$75 835-7484

2 lg. wooden deer/bird feeders, 36Wx21Hx31D, attached to metal poles \$15 ea. 444-9227

Riding lawnmower, Wizard - Sears, 14 hp., 42" deck w/2-stage snow blower, chains, runs good \$600; wood lathe, knives, needs motor \$50 333-0757

Baldwin Player piano, exterior refinished to beautiful light wood color, ivory good, re-piped, bellows need work \$1,000 835-4770

Western 6 1/2' Unimount angling snowplow, good operating shape, w/proper mount will fit many sm. trucks, has mount for Toyota \$500 firm; lg. metal office desk, wood grain top, 7 drawers \$100 547-1744

'60 Ford Thunderbird, good shape, original, runs \$7,000 firm 835-7563

Pine dining room table w/4 chairs; John Deere snow blower attachment; Yard King snow blower 751-7134 or 333-0969

2-pc. leather snowmobile suit, lg. coat, XL bibs, never worn \$500 368-2979

AKC reg. English springer spaniel pups, B&W, L&W, M&F, champion bloodlines, beautiful companions \$250-\$350 759-0321

Nordic Track Elite w/digital workout computer, walnut finish, never used \$100 obo 755-1951

Propane gas stove, ideal for hunting shack or cabin \$25 751-4775

Split poplar \$40 PU load, \$30 you load your PU 224-2769

8N Ford tractor, new paint & tires, exc. running cond. \$3,800; snow blade \$300; buzz saw \$200 507-289-2904 or 507-259-5117

Detroitier MH, new furnace, doors, windows, siding, entryway, storage shed, central AC, taxes pd. until Dec. '06, must sell now, price lowered to \$11,000 obo 766-3635

Smith & Wesson 12 ga., 3" shotgun, 30" brl., vented br. Am. walnut \$175; H&R .243 single shot, never fired, NIB \$200 701-772-7317

Savage 300 WSM, bolt, like new \$350; Santa Fe field grade Mauser, Mod. 12012, bolt, 30-06 \$250 751-5667

2 homemade dark house spears; homemade decoys 586-2816 eve.

'82 GMC 1/2 ton PU, 305 V8, 4WD, AT, Western power angle snowplow \$950 835-4146 eve. 760-4230 days

Hutch 54"Wx6"H, matching table 42" w/3 12" leaves, French Provincial '60s \$325 751-2935

'96 Dodge Dakota, 3.9 V6, AT, AC, CD, ext. cab \$2,800 751-3832

Full-sz. bed frame, spring, mattress, clean, good shape \$125 444-4325

14 8' fluorescent light fixtures w/bulbs, exc. cond. \$20 ea. obo 759-9713 lv. msg.

4-drawer dresser; 8-drawer dresser w/mirror; qn. wood bookcase headboard; full-sz. mattress set; qn. bed frame; 2 black nightstands; Singer Stylist 533 sewing machine w/wood cabinet 586-2618 eve.

Tandem kayak, Old Towne Loon 138T, yellow, incl. 2 paddles, barely used \$375 701-746-8437

'74 Arctic Cat Cheetah 340 w/matching Cat-Cutter sled, both very good cond., machine runs great \$1,200; Roland elec. piano HP-450, full-sz. keyboard \$275 467-3338

8 hp. Craftsman snow blower, chains, elec. start, used 2 seasons, exc. cond. \$500 obo 586-3226 or 556-0039

12" stationary wood planer w/5 hp. elec. 220V motor, 2 sets of blades, some molding blades 281-3646

60-gal. water htr.; 7x9 garage door w/opener; 250-gal fuel oil tank w/30gal.; saw rig stand arbor & blades 547-1800 after 5 p.m.

'86 Chevy Celebrity, 1 owner, super low mi., fresh tune-up, new tires, brakes ft., mint cond. \$2,000 obo 444-94222 lv. msg.

## Wanted:

Van trlr. or van body, storage containers 556-1011

Not rusty fenders for '93 Chevy S10, red or black preferred 444-4897

9' of kitchen cabinets, give or take a couple inches 243-2200

Sm. 12' boat or duck boat with or without trlr. 333-1314

2 hydraulic cylinders, 2"x23", closed w/12" stroke 751-4125

Old coins, currency, collections 586-3200

Wood stove, cedar shakes, sm. outboard motor 467-3442

4-place snowmobile trlr. 751-5665

Steel boat dock 651-459-5709

'72 and older Arctic Cat sleds, running or junk 759-2748

Old boat trlr. 243-2836

Plastic molded kayak; 12v trolling motor 333-0547

Good-quality horse hay, sm. sq. bales, reasonable, Bemidji area 759-0321

Used earth wood stove or airtight wood stove 751-2324

Beltrami Electric will be closed  
Monday, Dec. 25, for Christmas and  
Monday, Jan. 1, for New Year's.

# Corner Cupboard: Salted peanut chews

## Ingredients:

1½ cups all-purpose flour	2 cups peanut butter flavored baking chips
½ cup packed brown sugar	⅔ cup corn syrup
¾ cup butter or margarine, softened, divided	2 tsp. vanilla extract
3 cups miniature marshmallows	2 cups crisp rice cereal
	2 cups salted peanuts

## Directions:

In a mixing bowl, combine flour, brown sugar and ½ cup butter; mix well. Press into an ungreased 13x9x2-inch baking pan. Bake at 350 degrees F for 12 to 15 minutes or until lightly browned. Sprinkle marshmallows over top and return to the oven for three to five minutes or until marshmallows begin to melt; set aside. In a large saucepan, cook and stir peanut butter chips, corn syrup, vanilla and remaining butter until chips are melted and smooth. Remove from the heat and stir in cereal and peanuts. Pour over prepared crust, spreading to cover. Cool before cutting into bars. Makes 24 servings

## Play it safe this holiday season

With the holiday season upon us, the Electrical Safety Foundation International offers the following safety tips:

- Ensure all holiday lighting and extension cords are in good repair, with no fraying, cracking or cuts, and are certified by an independent testing lab such as UL, CSA or ETL. Follow the rating for indoor or outdoor use.
- Never connect more than three strands of decorative lights together. Make sure all connections are tight and protected from inclement weather, including the outlet. Unplug the lights from the outlet when not in use.
- Make sure spotlights used to highlight decorations are well-ventilated, protected from weather and are a safe distance from anything flammable, such as shrubs and bushes, dry leaves or fabric decorations.
- Keep power and extension cords out of pathways.
- Never coil power cords or extension cords while in use. Never tuck them under rugs, carpets or curtains. They may overheat, causing a fire hazard.

Electrical Safety Foundation International <http://www.esfi.org>



## Statement of Operations Year-to-date: September 2006

	September 2006	September 2005
Operating Revenue	\$ 21,699,460	\$ 21,041,810
Cost of Purchased Power	\$ 12,886,670	\$ 12,342,195
Other Operating Expenses	\$ 8,723,617	\$ 7,604,203
Total Cost	\$ 21,610,287	\$ 19,946,398
Operating Margin	\$ 89,173	\$ 1,095,412
Interest Income	\$ 213,160	\$ 152,094
Other Margins	\$ 437,536	\$ 203,661
Total Margins	\$ 739,869	\$ 1,451,167
Kwh Purchased	355,344,375	347,665,964
Kwh Sold	339,613,487	331,656,636
Meters Billed	19,312	18,856

# Board Meeting Highlights

Beltrami Electric's board of directors conducted its monthly meeting Oct. 31, 2006. All directors were present except for Lea Perkins. Also present were general manager Lynette Nieuwsma, Sid Sletten and Kay Olson.

### The following reports were given:

- The manager made her monthly report, including discussion on customer growth, new service and the capital credit retirement.
- Sid Sletten presented the September financial report and work order inventories. He also reviewed 2006 actual expenses as compared to third quarter budgeted figures and year-end projections.
- Andy Freeman reported on line services, including the number of services built this year.
- Becky Trefz reported on engineering services, including an explanation of easements acquired.
- Lyle Robinson reported on the Minnkota board meetings.
- Jack Swenson, Frank Zentek, Arnold Christianson, Lyle Robinson and the manager reported on the NRECA Region VI meeting in Fargo, N.D.
- Jack Swenson reported on the NRECA resolutions committee meeting.
- Frank Zentek reported on the CFC delegate meeting.
- Arnold Christianson reported on the NRECA delegate meeting.
- Doug Larson from Power System Engineering Inc. presented the cost of service study/rate study.

### Also discussed were:

- Minnesota Rural Electric Association dues.
- Strategic planning and board requests for the 2007 work plan and budget.
- The annual audit.
- An alternative fire station in the Bemidji area.

### The following actions were taken:

- A contract with Bill Sample was approved.
- The cost of service study/rate study and proposed rate changes were approved with an effective date of Jan. 1, 2007.
- A capital credit retirement consisting of the remaining balance of the 1987 capital credits and 2.2 percent of the total remaining equity plus settlement of estates in 2006 was approved.
- BEC Policy #401 regarding employee pension & insurance benefits was revised.
- BEC Policy #420 regarding job sharing was revised.

The December board meeting will be held Wednesday, Dec. 27.



# Earl Henry Larson

*Aug. 23, 1918 - Oct. 25, 2006*

**F**ormer Beltrami Electric general manager Earl Larson, 88, of Bemidji, died on Wednesday, Oct. 25, 2006, at Havenwood Care Center in Bemidji. Larson was hired at Beltrami Electric in 1946 after serving in the military from 1942-45. He became Beltrami Electric's second general manager in July 1947, a position he held until his retirement on June 1, 1982.

Earl was active in the community serving on numerous boards and committees. He was chair of the Area Redevelopment Administration and was a member of the communications committee of the Minnesota Rural Electric Association. He was appointed by the county board to review all applications for financial assistance for business firms. He served on the Bemidji Development Corporation that was instrumental in purchasing the land for the industrial park. He was active in many community organizations, including the Red Cross, Elks Club, Lions International, and the First Lutheran Church. Most importantly, his dedication to the cooperative and to economic development in the area was a catalyst to rural electrification and to making the area a better place to live and work.

He is survived by his wife, Dorothy, of Bemidji; daughter, Betty (Verdell) Vang of Minot, N.D.; son, Jon Larson of Bemidji; six grandchildren and five great-grandchildren; sister, Hazel Peterson of Clearbrook; brothers, Russell (Arlys) Larson of Bemidji and Loris (Gladys) Larson of Hopkins, Minn.; a brother-in-law of Minneapolis, Minn.; and several nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents; son, Steven Larson; brother, Roy Larson; and sisters, Esther Lundeen and Grace Hetland.



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