

# CURRENT CONNECTION

## Nisswa's Black Bear 4-H Club Wins Commitment to Community Award >>>

The Black Bear 4-H Club was recently awarded the Crow Wing Power Touchstone Energy Commitment to Community Award for its dedication to serving the Nisswa area. The club is celebrating its 22nd year of helping area youth learn and grow through project and service-based education. Currently there are 17 members in grades K-12.



for Black Bear 4-H.

While many people think of 4-H as an agriculture-heavy organization, members of the Black Bear club have worked on hands-on projects related to topics such as arts and crafts, photography, gardening and, more recently, robotics and STEM studies.

"We've seen the difference that being involved in 4-H makes in the lives of our young people," said Cindy Terwilliger, organizational leader

Many of the club's service-learning projects have been in place for years and are ongoing. Ongoing projects in the 2019-2020 year included the Heritage Garden and Pioneer Village project, Fall Festival, City of Lights Festival, Clothes for Kids in Haiti, and clean up and flower planting at the Nisswa Chamber of Commerce building. New for the club in 2020 were the Hills Crossing Senior Living Facility and making thank you bags as gifts for local fire departments.

Terwilliger said, "These 4-H members will grow up to be vital members of their community...as they already are. The Community is very proud of them."



>> This year, the 4-H club gathered and made 96 Christmas stockings to distribute. The club bought supplies to stuff 56 and donated 20 to Veterans and 36 to the Sharing Bread Soup Kitchen. The remaining 40 stockings were donated to the Women's Center to be stuffed with gifts donated by the Eagles 4-H Club.

"We want to teach our youth to be confident in their abilities, and to be able to learn," said Terwilliger. "Leadership is one of the main areas we focus on."

She added, the benefits gained from participating in 4-H wouldn't be possible without the support of parents. She said "Our club is so blessed with great parent participation. Our parents make it possible to offer club members fun activities and learning opportunities. Active families are the reason the 4-H program will continue into the future."



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The club was awarded \$500 and a plaque and will be entered in a Statewide contest.

>> Accepting the award are Black Bear 4-H Club officers Andy Hinz- Treasurer; Braden Capelle-Secretary; Ben Hinz-President and Tori Dullum- Vice President

## Attention High School Seniors Apply for a College Scholarship

Crow Wing Power has several scholarship programs available for students wanting to advance their studies beyond high school. Scholarship funding to area high schools is available through unclaimed capital credits. We have an on-line random drawing scholarship program through Operation Round Up and there is a separate program for students attending lineworker schools in Minnesota.

- In 2020, \$77,000 in scholarships were awarded as follows:
- 42 seniors from 11 area high schools received \$1,500 each;
  - 3 seniors from area high schools received \$1,000 each (on-line drawing); and
  - 11 students attending lineworker school received \$1,000 each.

If you're a high school senior and a member of Crow Wing Power, we offer several ways to apply for a college scholarship. Check with your high school counselor regarding the criteria or go online to [cwpower.com/scholarships](http://cwpower.com/scholarships). Deadlines are typically the end of March.



# A WORD FROM YOUR CEO

Let's Connect. >>>

When we say that we live in a “connected” world, most of us think about technology, like our smart phones, virtual groups, email and gadgets. But when you’re a member of an electric co-op, there’s so much more to being part of our connected co-op community.

As a member of Crow Wing Power, you help to power good in our local community through initiatives like Operation Round Up, food and toy drives and other collaborative efforts we work with that help the most vulnerable in our community.

You power our success, and when Crow Wing Power does well, the community thrives because we’re all connected.

We greatly value our connection to you, the members we serve, and we’d like to help you maximize the value you get from us. Crow Wing Power offers a variety of programs. For example, we can help you save money on your energy bill by calling our member service representatives and getting rebates on many appliances and heating/cooling systems. When you download our SmartHub app, you can monitor and manage your home energy use, pay your bill online and choose to go paperless, helping the Cooperative save time and money.

Choose to follow Crow Wing Power on social media. You can stay up to date on power restoration efforts, tree trimming, Director elections, capital credits, giveaways and more. Be in the know on current service opportunities like college scholarships we offer.

Crow Wing Power relies on contact information to help ensure that we can connect with you to provide the highest level of service that you expect and deserve.

Updated contact information can speed up the power restoration process during an outage. That’s because when you call to report an outage, our automated system recognizes your phone number and matches it with your account location. Accurate information helps our outage-management system predict the location and the possible cause of an outage, making it easier for Crow Wing Power crews to restore power.

We hope you will connect with us whenever and wherever you can—whether that means attending our annual meeting, providing feedback on a recent visit or call with our employees, following our Facebook page, or simply downloading our SmartHub app to manage your electric use.

To update your contact information or to connect with us about co-op products and services, call 218-829-2827 or log into your personal online SmartHub account.

We look forward to connecting with you!

I’ll keep you informed,

Bruce L. Kraemer, CEO

## Board Meeting Highlights

Crow Wing Power’s Board of Directors conducted its regular monthly meeting Thursday, December 17, 2020. A quorum of directors was present.

President Bob Kangas opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

The following reports were given:

- CEO report
- Finance Committee report

The following actions were taken:

The Board approved:

- December Consent Agenda.
- Minutes of the November 19, 2020 regular board meeting.
- 2021 CWP Operating Budget
- 2021 Annual Meeting to be scheduled for August (date to be determined)
- Director expense reports for November 2020.

Members can review detailed minutes at [cwpower.com/board-and-meetings](http://cwpower.com/board-and-meetings) or by logging into their SmartHub account. Log in is located on the homepage of our website. January minutes will be published after approval in February. The next board meeting is February 18, 2021.

## Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month

**Use wool or rubber dryer balls in the clothes dryer to reduce drying time and static.**

Wool dryer balls can also absorb extra moisture. These are an efficient alternative to dryer sheets, which can create buildup on the dryer’s filter and reduce air circulation. If you prefer dryer sheets, scrub the filter once a month to remove buildup.

Source: [www.nrel.gov](http://www.nrel.gov)



# Go Paperless! *and maybe win some free electricity!*



Go to [cwwpower.com](http://cwwpower.com) and click on the **Go Paperless!** Contest. Join thousands of members that receive their power bill electronically (no paper). Enter for your chance to win one of six \$100 bill credits.

## Legal Notice: Statement of Nondiscrimination >>>

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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 [http://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint\\_filing\\_cust.html](http://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint_filing_cust.html) 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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Includes 2 door sensors,  
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# BUSINESS SPOTLIGHT



## TAKE DOWN GYM

171 State Hwy. 371, Brainerd, MN 56401 | 218.454-1770 | www.takedowngym.com

**ABOUT:** Simply put, we are fitness for EveryBODY. We teach over 150 fitness classes from high performance athletes to senior classes. We have a state of the art yoga studio and state of the art cycle studio, turf space for indoor sports, and basketball and pickle ball courts. We offer both membership and drop-in options. We believe in your health no matter what.

**WE WANT YOU TO KNOW:** Safety of our members has always been a top priority. There's no need to worry in our state of the art facility. We have plenty of space and we have teamed up with Airius Pure Air & Purification system. With tons of options, we truly believe we are the fitness center for you.

**COOPERATIVE MEMBER DISCOUNT:** Show your Co-op Connection Card and receive 100% off enrollment fee (\$95 value).

*Crow Wing Power's Co-op Connections is powering businesses and providing you with discounts. With over 115 local businesses, visit [cwpower.com](http://cwpower.com) to explore all the ways to save. We welcome new businesses to participate.*



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A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative   
The power of human connections

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Editor: Char Kinzer

Board meetings are held the third  
Thursday of each month beginning at  
9:30 a.m.

### Directors. Here to Help!

Following is a list of directors and their telephone numbers:

Bob Kangas .....218-587-4453  
Paul Koering.....218-851-9954  
Ric Larson .....218-546-5781  
Gordon Martin.....218-746-3971  
Bryan McCulloch.....218-820-9708  
Doris Mezzenga .....218-692-1004  
LuAnn Nelson .....612-400-4627  
Gert Roggenkamp .....218-562-4566  
Dwight Thiesse.....218-831-8605

## Win \$25 off your electric bill >>>

Complete the word find puzzle below, clip and send entire coupon back to us by March 15. We've sized it to fit in your billing payment, so you can save a stamp. If you'd rather, you can send it separately to Crow Wing Power, PO Box 507, Brainerd, MN 56401. Attn: Puzzle or scan and email to [info@cwpower.com](mailto:info@cwpower.com). The winning entry will be drawn on March 15.

*Our winner for the last puzzle: David Graning, Becker, MN*

M O D N A R M S S F P E C V L  
C D Y Q G V P S I S H L O V V  
O Q J F U F E I T X S F N D E  
I G Z Z D L W O O L P I T G U  
K A F E R H C F V Z I J A U H  
S E V E N T E E N D H P C N F  
I H P Z B P E V Z D S T T J S  
F A O Q X R F X D L R K Z I N  
P F N B Y L U O A G A I G B R  
P R Y N O T K A E D L X H Y E  
C P G W Z B W K R G O X W T W  
T T E E E A A T U Y H N K N O  
C R X Q Z T L A D H C I D O P  
V T F T G R Z A Z B S O P S R  
E F M T H G P F T R E T G V V

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_  
State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Acct number \_\_\_\_\_

- Contest to promote \_\_\_\_\_.
- Last year we awarded \$77,000 in \_\_\_\_\_.
- Black Bear 4-H takes care of \_\_\_\_\_ planting for Nisswa Chamber.
- This month's Business Spotlight is \_\_\_\_\_ Down Gym
- Board meetings are held the \_\_\_\_\_ Thursday monthly.
- Crow Wing Power offers an on-line \_\_\_\_\_ drawing for three scholarships.
- There are \_\_\_\_\_ members in the 4-H Club.
- This month's dryer tip is to use \_\_\_\_\_ or rubber dryer balls.
- If you enter the paperless contest, you could win one of \_\_\_\_\_ \$100 bill credits.
- Crow Wing Power relies on \_\_\_\_\_ information to ensure that we can connect with you.
- January board minutes will be published after approval in \_\_\_\_\_.
- Updated contact information can speed up \_\_\_\_\_ restoration.

### December Puzzle Answers:

Y R S E D E F N N A R F G R Q  
O R I E A D Y C N E U Q E R F  
C H A C K Z L U B W J S M T V  
T I A I Q A D G B J E N H O Z  
O G A S C T L M Y T J R S D W  
B J R S Y U W J A E O H Y B E  
E T V Y B K D B K U U I T M T  
R L S I J G E I G S G A L F E  
I E J B N R S H F O Q Q A M L  
A D A P T E R M W Y U L D I P  
T P V Z U O G T U C A M M U M  
O F M L W S A A E T E Q C P O  
V O N C H Y X V R A R O A Z C  
Z K E J F S U P Z E N E W T P  
F M E X N Y V A K H A X F T J

Adapter, Complete, Fiduciary, Flags, Frequency, Heat, Lakes, LED, October, Rebates, RIC, Through, Two, Vinegar, Von