



# Tideland Topics

*REAL PEOPLE. REAL POWER.*

A NEWSLETTER FOR THE MEMBER-OWNERS OF TIDELAND ELECTRIC MEMBERSHIP CORPORATION

## LEARN & LIVE: Make sure you don't become a path to ground

On the morning of April 20, Hyde County Emergency Services called Tideland to report that the Whipping Creek Road fire had claimed two power poles and several spans of wire were near ground level. Firefighters needed to make sure power was cut to the area to prevent the possibility of an electrical con-

tact injury. Tideland crews were dispatched to disconnect and isolate that section of line from the energized grid.

This is one reason Tideland works with first responders to provide electric safety education to prevent injuries and fatalities. *(continued on page F)*



Tideland infrastructure fell victim to the Whipping Creek Fire the morning of April 20. Photo by Justin Gibbs, Hyde County Emergency Services



### Enroll in Outage Text Messaging

Hurricane season officially starts June 1. Be sure to enroll in outage text messaging so the co-op can keep you up-to-date during large outages. As a rule outage text messages are sent between the hours of 6 am and 11 pm unless unusual circumstances exist. We currently segregate text messaging groups by distribution substation.

To enroll, text TEMC to short code 85700. You will receive a reply asking that you complete the enrollment process by texting back your Tideland account number. Standard text messaging rates may apply. To opt out of outage notifications, text STOP to short code 85700.



Message to our Member-Owners:

## Rounding Up the Thanks

By Paul Spruill  
General Manager & CEO

### Right-of-Way Maintenance Update

In June, Lucas Tree Service will continue work in the area of the Plymouth sub-station including the Liverman Heights circuit: Hwy. 45 S; White Oak, Garrett Island, and Old Roper roads; Hazel and Ida streets; Hilly Circle and Hilliard Drive.

Mowing crews will be working at Ocracoke then moving to Washington along River, Harvey, Dinahs Landing, and Mill Hole roads.

Please support our tree trimming efforts!

As the June magazine went to press mid-May, Tideland had already made considerable progress in our Operation Round Up campaign.

Members responded in a variety of ways, with several opting for one-time, lump sum donations, some as large as \$200. Others chose to participate in the Operation Round Up Plus program by giving a fixed monthly donation in amounts ranging from \$1 to \$25 a month. We want to thank co-op member Dennis Humenik of Arapahoe for originally suggesting we implement the Operation Round Up Plus option. At current giving levels, every member giving to Operation Round Up Plus is the equivalent of having four members on the traditional round up program.

At press time we had increased enrollment in traditional Operation Round Up giving by 15 percent. The average amount rounded up each month is 50¢ and people seem to really like the idea of having their electric bill rounded off to .00. It definitely makes checkbook calculations easier to perform!

In next month's magazine we'll be able to report to you the name of the winner of the \$1,000 electric bill credit. But I really like to believe that everyone contributing to Operation Round Up is a winner. You're a winner because you care about your community. You're a winner because you helped us keep the lights on for siblings that lost their mother in a tragic accident. You're a winner because you helped us lighten the load of a woman who exhausted her family leave benefits to provide end-of-life care for her terminally ill spouse. You're a winner because you helped a hard-working member who was put out of work for months due to a snake bite. You're a winner because you trust Tideland to wisely identify those in need and then compassionately act on your behalf to help many whose names you'll never know but whose survival you invest in. We often receive thank you cards and letters from those you assist.

Thank you so much for helping us walk the cooperative walk and not just talk the cooperative talk. You are a living testament to "Real People. Real Power."

## NC REPS charge will increase on June 1

History of Tideland's NC REPS Mandate Monthly Charge

Rate Class	2009- 2010	2011-2013	2013-2016	June 1, 2016	Annual Cap
Residential	35¢/month	30¢/month	9¢/month	30¢/month	\$10
Small Commercial	\$1.73/month	\$1.50/month	\$1.15/month	\$1.50/month	\$50
Large Commercial	\$17.30/month	\$15.00/month	\$7.56/month	\$15.00/month	\$500

In 2007, state legislation was passed requiring electric utilities to reduce their carbon footprint through a mix of energy efficiency initiatives and renewable energy projects. To recover compliance costs, Tideland EMC added an NC REPS Mandate fee to monthly electric bills in 2009. Due to significant success of our refrigerator/freezer recycling program in 2009 and a mass mailing to members of energy saving lightbulbs in 2010, Tideland greatly surpassed compliance requirements early on. That resulted in a reduction of the REPS charge twice between the years 2011 and 2013.

As credits for those early measurements retire, we are now poised to begin another round of compliance measures which necessitate increasing the monthly REPS fee on June 1 to 2011 levels. The increased REPS fee will also help recover additional costs related to poultry and swine waste-to-energy production as those technologies mature.

Tideland is currently evaluating new energy efficiency measures with the goal of delivering maximum value to co-op members at the least possible cost.

# Co-op scholarship winners named



**Shakera Davis**  
Mattamuskeet  
Early College HS  
Shakera is the daughter of Anthony and Linda Davis of Scranton. She will double major in peace, war and defense, and chemistry at UNC-Chapel Hill.



**Kendall Allgood**  
Northside High School  
Kendall is the daughter of Joseph Allgood of Washington and the late Linda Allgood. She will major in business at UNC-Charlotte.



**Amber Copeland**  
Manteo High School  
Amber is the daughter of Kevin and Carol Copeland of Manns Harbor. A pre-veterinary student, she will major in biology at Appalachian State.



**Emily Box**  
Northside High School  
Emily is the daughter of Melanie Nehrenberg and Patrick Box of Bath. She will major in nursing at Campbell University.



**Morgan Whitford**  
West Craven High School  
Morgan is the daughter of Kevin and Sherry Whitford of Ernul. She will major in elementary education at Craven Community College.



**Sarah Rhem**  
Northside High School  
Sarah is the daughter of Sue Rhem of Belhaven and the late Michael Rhem. She will major in marine biology and minor in environmental science at UNC-Wilmington.



**Jayzon Spencer**  
Mattamuskeet  
Early College HS  
Jayzon is the son of Marlon and Kristy Mann of Engelhard. He will major in welding technology and minor in graphic design at Pitt Community College.



**Mara Coltrain**  
Northside High School  
Mara is the daughter of Greg and Tiffany Coltrain of Belhaven. She will major in forensic sciences at Appalachian State.

## This month in Tideland history

**June 11, 1935:**  
Pamlico Power & Light became operational, providing electricity to 9 Hyde County customers

**June 29, 1944:**  
First annual meeting of Woodstock EMC

**June 1950:**  
Woodstock EMC moved into new office on the Belhaven waterfront

**June 25, 1965:**  
PP&L sold its Tyrrell County assets to Virginia Power

**June 1, 1969:**  
Bill Bulluck retired as Woodstock's manager

**June 2, 1969:**  
On Glenn Carowan's first day as Woodstock's general manager, lineman Grover Clyde Carter was killed instantly when a pole gave way, pinning him underneath (Carter's granddaughter, Sarah Rhem, is a 2016 scholarship recipient)

**June 29, 1977:**  
Pamlico Power & Light was officially dissolved

**June 23, 1977:**  
NC House Bill 1277 makes "Power Theft" a misdemeanor

**June 29, 1985:**  
Catawaba Nuclear Unit 1, jointly owned by Duke Energy & NC's electric co-ops, comes online

**June 30, 1988:**  
Glenn Carowan retires as Tideland's general manager

*(Winners continue on page F)*

## DOWNED POWER LINE ACCIDENTS INVOLVING FARM MACHINERY

Follow these rules to stay safe around downed power lines.

Always assume that a downed power line is live and extremely dangerous.

**IF YOU'RE INSIDE THE MACHINERY**

**STEP 1**  
If you can **safely drive** out from under the power line or away from the source of electricity, do so. Travel at least the length of three tractors (about 40 ft.) before stopping.

**STEP 2**  
If you **can't drive** the machinery - if you're injured, the machinery is inoperable or there are obstacles - stay where you are until help arrives. Unless there's a secondary emergency - if the machinery is on fire, for example - you're safer where you are.

**IF YOU'RE OUTSIDE THE MACHINERY**

**STEP 1**  
Stay at least **three tractor lengths** (about 40 ft.) away.

**STEP 2**  
Tell persons in the machinery to **stay where they are**.

**STEP 3**  
**Call 911** and ensure no other bystanders move to within 40 ft. of the machinery.

**5**  
Once away from the machinery, never attempt to touch the power line or even touch the machinery.

*Avoid close calls with one call to 811 before you dig*

**ALWAYS CALL BEFORE YOU DIG**



**SIEMPRE LLAMA ANTES DE EXCAVAR**



## STEP 3

If you **absolutely must get out**, don't touch the machinery and the ground at the same time with any part of your body or clothing. Carefully follow the steps below to exit and to move to a safe distance.

1

With the door open, prepare to jump. Stand up, elbows tucked into your stomach and your hands held close to your chest.

2

Jump out and away from the machinery, taking care to land with your feet together and touching. Don't stumble.

3

Hop away, with your feet touching. Don't stop until you're at least three tractor lengths away from machinery (about 40 ft.).

the equipment,  
get back  
the equipment.

40 ft.

4

Call 911 and ensure that no bystanders move to within 40 ft. of machinery.



Safety  
decals &  
visor cards  
available

**Worker DISMISSED** In Case of Emergency!

**Work Equipment Controls to Prevent Injury**

1. Move equipment away from the line if you can do so safely.
2. Stay on mechanical and utility control until you're safe.
3. Move away from the line and working area.
4. Never return until 911 and the local electric utility representative.
5. If the line breaks you still must stay clear until you're notified by the utility representative. Do not touch the line or equipment until you're notified by the utility representative.

**Personal Safety**

- Stay away from the line and equipment if it is working. Never enter to do the work.
- Never climb on or under any equipment, tower, or structure.
- Wear PPE and the safety utility immediately.

**Communication**

Once the individual is free from the electrical source, advise him and including OIE if needed. Get emergency help and call 911 if needed. Get emergency help and call 911 if needed. Get emergency help and call 911 if needed.

To report emergencies, call 911 and the local electric utility representative.

**Tideland EMC**

**WARNING**

**LOOK UP**

DO NOT OPERATE EQUIPMENT WITHIN 10 FEET OF OVERHEAD POWER LINES

**Tideland EMC**

**Trabajador DISMISID** In Case of Emergency!

**Control de Equipo de Trabajo para Prevenir Lesiones**

1. Mueva el equipo lejos de la línea si puede hacerlo de forma segura.
2. Permanezca en el control de equipo mecánico y eléctrico hasta que esté seguro.
3. Alejese del área de trabajo y del equipo.
4. Nunca regrese hasta que se haya notificado a los servicios de emergencia y a los representantes de la utilidad eléctrica local.
5. Si se rompe la línea, aún debe permanecer alejado hasta que sea notificado por el representante de la utilidad eléctrica.

**Seguridad Personal**

- Evite estar cerca de la línea y el equipo si está funcionando.
- Nunca suba o se deslice por debajo de cualquier estructura, torre o estructura.
- Use el PPE y la seguridad eléctrica inmediatamente.

**Comunicación**

Una vez que el individuo está libre de la fuente de energía eléctrica, avise a él y llame al OIE si es necesario. Obtenga ayuda de emergencia y llame al 911 si es necesario. Obtenga ayuda de emergencia y llame al 911 si es necesario.

Para reportar emergencias, llame al 911 y al representante de la utilidad eléctrica local.

**Tideland EMC**

## Don't become a path to ground *(continued from page A)*

REAL PEOPLE.  
REAL POWER.

In recent months, there have been several mishaps on the Tideland system involving vehicles and farm



*On April 11, a lime spreader narrowly missed going into a Hyde County canal when a broken hydraulic line resulted in a loss of steering. (Photo by Andy Midyette)*

equipment. Fortunately, everyone has emerged unscathed. However, one such incident ended in tragedy in South Carolina. On Wednesday, April 6, a 66-year-old farmer was driving a tractor spraying his wheat field in Cherokee County, S.C., when he raised the 45-foot spray boom. The steel boom made contact with a 7,200-volt powerline, which energized the tractor with electricity. The farmer attempted to get off the equipment while holding onto the rails of the tractor's ladder. When his feet

made contact with the ground he was electrocuted and died. Please take a moment to study the infographic

on pages D and E to learn what you should do and not do in the event of an accident involving electric utility equipment. Energized wires aren't like the ones you see in the movies that pop and hiss and jump around when broken. They can become silent killers.

With farming season well underway, it is critically important to be aware of electric utility surroundings and to mentally

practice your response in the event of making contact with power poles and wires. The co-op also has visor cards in Spanish and English if you would like to outfit your vehicle or equipment with one.

To schedule an electric safety demonstration for your business, farm, emergency services organization or school, please contact Tideland EMC safety director Wayne Brackin at 252.943.3046, ext. 4323, or by email at [waynebrackin@tidelandemc.com](mailto:waynebrackin@tidelandemc.com).

## Tideland Topics

[www.tidelandemc.com](http://www.tidelandemc.com)

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### Member Service

252.943.3046  
800.637.1079

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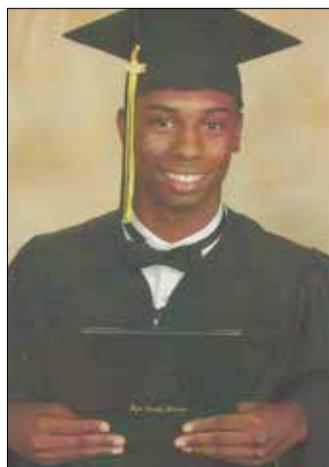
252.944.2400  
800.882.1001

Tideland EMC is an equal  
opportunity provider & employer



TO ENROLL IN OUTAGE TEXT MESSAGING: TEXT TEMC TO SHORT CODE 85700

## Scholarship winners *(continued from page C)*



**Emanuel Boyd**  
Mattamuskeet  
Early College

Emanuel is the son of George and Nancy Merrick of Engelhard. He will major in computer technology and minor in welding at Pitt Community College.



**Josie Winstead**  
Ocracoke School

Josie is the daughter of Heather Pickler and Dale Winstead of Ocracoke. She will attend UNC-Chapel Hill majoring in biology and nutrition with a minor in psychology.