



# Tideland Topics

## REAL PEOPLE. REAL POWER.

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

### RECORD BREAKING: Polar plunge brings unprecedented energy use

Between January 1 and January 7, new low-temperature records were set in Tideland territory on all but one day. That led to a new electric system record when Tideland's demand peaked at 120.2 megawatts the morning of Sunday, January 7, as temperatures fell to 5°F. The previous record of 115.9 megawatts had held since February 20, 2015. Likewise, kilowatt-hour sales

avert historically high electric bills. Of further concern is the fact that the polar plunge occurred so early in the heating season. Many members will have exhausted home heating assistance funds long before spring arrives.

If winter electric bills create a hardship for you, please don't wait until disconnect day to reach out to us. In some cases we can offer

Monthly kWh Sales vs. First 7 Days in January 2018			
	Jan	Feb	Jan 1-7, 2018
2017	32.58 million	27.7 million	11.4 million
2016	26.02 million	34.8 million	
2015	32.1 million	34.4 million	

soared, surpassing any other seven-day period in Tideland history, with co-op members using 11.4 million kilowatt hours.

As the magazine went to press on January 10, a warming trend was finally underway, but it may not have been soon enough to

payment arrangements. Others we can convert to FlexPay. What we want to avoid at all costs are non-payment disconnects and the requisite fees that must be paid to reestablish service. We're here 24-hours a day so don't hesitate to call us at 1-800-637-1079.



*Don't sweat it. Levelize it.*

Avoid the highs and lows of seasonal electric bill fluctuations by enrolling in levelized billing. Payments will be based on a rolling average so monthly bills fluctuate no more than a few dollars in either direction. Your electric bill must be current and remain current to be enrolled in the program.

#### Sample Levelized Payment Plan

Actual	Levelized
\$189.26	\$139.02
\$175.10	\$135.26
\$198.97	\$126.10
\$109.37	\$118.97
\$93.58	\$118.37
\$97.89	\$121.58
\$115.39	\$122.89
\$116.99	\$123.39
\$119.68	\$122.99
\$97.35	\$116.68
\$111.54	\$125.35
\$141.38	\$126.54
\$184.37	\$126.38
\$129.98	\$127.37

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## Right-of-Way Maintenance Update

In February, Lucas Tree Experts will be finishing trimming out the Blounts Creek circuit before moving on to the Lowland circuit along Hwy. 306, Rowe Rd and Idalia Rd. One Lucas crew will also continue to work at Ocracoke.

Mowing crews will in Pamlico County mowing along Straight, Kershaw and Janerio roads.

Please lend your full support to our tree trimming efforts. Trees are the number one cause of outages.

## Message to our Member-Owners: There is some good news

**By Paul Spruill**  
General Manager & CEO

It may get lost in translation, but the co-op was able to provide some measure of relief for members in January as it pertained to the wholesale power cost adjustment (WPCA). And the news is likely to improve in February and March.

As you may recall, the co-op experienced an unprecedented 52-month streak of WPCA credits that helped lower bills. That changed in April 2017 when we had to implement WPCA charges. Conservatively, we believed those charges would remain in affect 18 to 24 months. From June to November 2017 we billed an extra three-fourths of a cent per kilowatt hour (kWh). Then it dropped to half a cent per kWh in December, followed by an additional 50% reduction in January to just 0.25¢. At press time we anticipated another 50% reduction in the WPCA for February, which would bring it to a factor of 0.125¢ per kWh. And if our prognosticating is better than your average groundhog, we believe we may celebrate spring's arrival with a zeroed out WPCA.

When the general trajectory of your electric bill is up due to arctic weather, a decrease in the WPCA may seem like

cold comfort. But in the first seven days of January, when we sold 11.4 million kWh, the WPCA decline since its peak in November saved members \$56,886.

For the individual member that's a savings of \$5.00 for every 1,000 kilowatt hours billed in January.

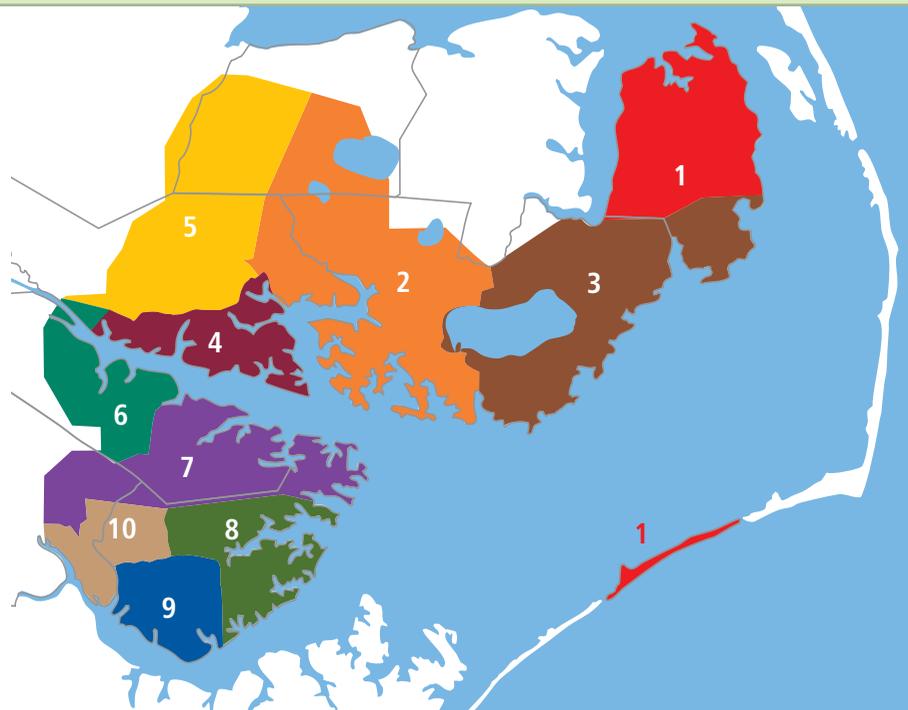
That being said, our most lucrative energy-savings opportunities are always rooted in energy efficiency and conservation and we're here to help you with that. The online member portal is chock full of information specific to your account and how your household uses energy. And signing up for our free high energy use text or email alerts is the best insurance policy you have against a runaway bill.

We have HVAC and water heater rebates as well as incentives for new Energy Star manufactured homes. Credit worthy members may also qualify for a 5% interest loan to finance energy improvements. Visit [www.tidelandemc.com](http://www.tidelandemc.com) to learn more or give us a call at 1-800-637-1079.

## Director district map

Tideland EMC members are represented by directors from 10 geographical districts as depicted in the map to the right. Directors are elected to a three-year term of service on a rotating basis.

A more detailed map of the director districts including a description of all district boundaries can be found on the co-op's website: [www.tidelandemc.com/news-info/about-the-co-op/annual-meeting](http://www.tidelandemc.com/news-info/about-the-co-op/annual-meeting).



# Director nominations underway

It is once again time to nominate candidates for Tideland's annual director elections. The nominating committee will meet in Pantego on Wednesday, February 7, 2018, to consider candidates for districts 4, 5, 6 and 8, currently represented by Charles Slade, Paul Sasnett, Wayne Sawyer and Clifton Paul, respectively. Interested candidates should contact a member of the nominating committee prior to the meeting. The committee's nominees will be posted at all Tideland offices on February 8, 2018.

Nominations can also be made by submitting a petition signed by 50 co-op members no later than February 19, 2018. The last day to introduce new business via petition is April 10, 2018. The annual meeting of members will be held at Beaufort County Community College on Thursday, May 10, 2018.

## DIRECTOR QUALIFICATIONS

The following guidelines are excerpted from Board Policy No. 302 and Bylaw 4.02 to ensure quality representation.

### Legal & Personal Requirements

1. A Tideland member & bonafide resident of the directorial district.
2. A member no less than 2 years on the date of election.
3. Willing to promote & protect the co-op's interests.
4. Able to impartially represent the entire co-op membership.

5. Willing to regularly attend board meetings.
6. May not be a close relative of an existing director or employee.
7. Is not employed by or financially interested in a competing enterprise.
8. Was not previously employed by TEMC, any other utility/energy company, or any entity which substantially rendered services to a utility/energy company.

### Aspects of Service

1. Put forth the effort to understand the co-op and provide sound judgement to reach decisions.
2. Respect official decisions made by a majority of the board.
3. Objectively evaluate questions and problems facing TEMC.

### Points to Consider

1. Has the member demonstrated sound business judgement?
2. Has the member shown a capacity for leadership & a reputation for honesty & integrity?
3. Has the member shown a capacity for working well with others?
4. What problems might hinder the nominee's success?

For more information or to determine which district you reside in, call annual meeting coordinator Myra Beasley at 252-943-3046, ext. 1125, or 1-800-637-1079.

## 2018 Nominating Committee

### District 1:

Vincent O'Neal  
PO Box 74  
Ocracoke, NC 27960

### District 2:

Louie Hubers  
7533 NC Hwy 45 N  
Belhaven, NC 27810

### District 3:

Brandon Marshall  
33239 US Hwy 264  
Engelhard, NC 27824

### District 4:

Kenneth E. Windley  
29 Fantasy Island Rd.  
Belhaven, NC 27810

### District 5:

Horace Waters  
8098 Slatestone Rd  
Washington, NC 27889

### District 6:

Walter D. Martin  
275 Whitehurst Rd.  
Blounts Creek, NC 27814

### District 7:

Harry Nesbit  
409 Bergin Rd.  
Aurora, NC 27806

### District 8:

Vincent Sevenski  
325 Harper Rd  
Bayboro, NC 28515

### District 9:

Buck H. Jones  
35 Roland Rd  
Arapahoe, NC 28510

### District 10:

John Mitchell  
1209 Santa Lucia Dr  
New Bern, NC 28560

[Credentials & Election Committee roster next page](#)

## EASY WAYS TO REDUCE WINTER BILLS

### 1.

Close dampers when your fireplace isn't in use

Consider the purchase of a chimney balloon to get a more airtight seal

### 2.

Close crawlspace vents during winter

### 3.

Remove window air conditioning units so you can securely close windows to reduce drafts

### 4.

Keep your winter thermostat at or below 68°

Every degree higher increases heating costs 3-5%

### 5.

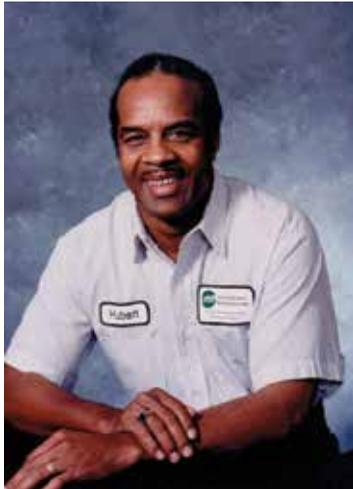
Change your HVAC system filters monthly and avoid the use of pleated filters unless your HVAC system is specifically designed for high filtration products

# Tideland remembers Hubert Collins

REAL PEOPLE.  
REAL POWER.

Fifty years. That's how long Hubert Collins worked for Tideland EMC. It's a record not likely to be achieved ever again.

Hubert began his career at Tideland on June 1, 1966, even before there was a Tideland. The Grantsboro based co-op in those days was called Pamlico-Beaufort EMC. He worked side-by-side at the co-op with twin brother Herbert, better known as



Hubert Collins

“Bob.” After 39 years, Hubert retired from Tideland on January 1, 2005. Six months later when we were in need of part-time help he returned and stayed on another 11 years.

On Sunday, December 10, Hubert lost his brief-yet-valiant battle against cancer.

Our thoughts and prayers continue to be with his wife Ann and the entire Collins family.

## 2018 Credentials & Election Committee

### District 2:

Johnny Joyner  
Scranton

### District 6:

C. Travis Martin  
Blounts Creek

### District 9:

E. Douglas Cahoon  
Bayboro

### District 4:

Steven Poole  
Belhaven

### District 7:

Darrell B. Cayton  
Aurora

### District 5:

Ernie Everett  
Pinetown

### District 8:

Mike Spencer  
Bayboro

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

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Paul Sasnett, President  
J. Douglas Brinson, Vice President  
Clifton Paul, Secretary  
David Ipock, Treasurer  
Rudy Austin, Mark Carawan,  
Garry Jordan, Dawson Pugh,  
Wayne Sawyer & Charles Slade

### GENERAL MANAGER & CEO

Paul Spruill

### EDITOR

Heidi Jernigan Smith

### Member Service

252.943.3046  
800.637.1079

### 24 Hour Outage Reporting & Automated Services

252.944.2400  
800.882.1001

Tideland EMC is an equal  
opportunity provider & employer



NEED A NEW HEATING SYSTEM? CHECK OUT TIDELAND'S VARIOUS  
HVAC REBATE PROGRAMS AT [WWW.TIDELANDEMC.COM](http://WWW.TIDELANDEMC.COM) BEFORE YOU BUY



### Tideland College Scholarships

**Eligible:** Graduating high school seniors served by Tideland  
**Eight** \$1,000 non-renewable scholarship for students attending college or community college  
**Deadline To Apply:** March 9, 2018



### UNC & NC State Summer Basketball Camps

**Camp Dates:** to be determined  
**Eligible:** Rising sixth, seventh and eighth grades served by Tideland  
**All-expense-paid trip:** Girls attend NC State Camp. Boys attend UNC Roy Williams Camp  
**Deadline To Apply:** March 31, 2018

## Levelize

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Instead of paying bills ranging from \$93.58 to \$198.97 (a spread of \$105.39), this example shows that the member's monthly payments ranged from \$116.68 to \$139.02 (a spread of only \$22.34).

To enroll call 800-637-1079 or send an email to [mailroom@tidelandemc.com](mailto:mailroom@tidelandemc.com) Please include your account name and number.