

Tideland Topics

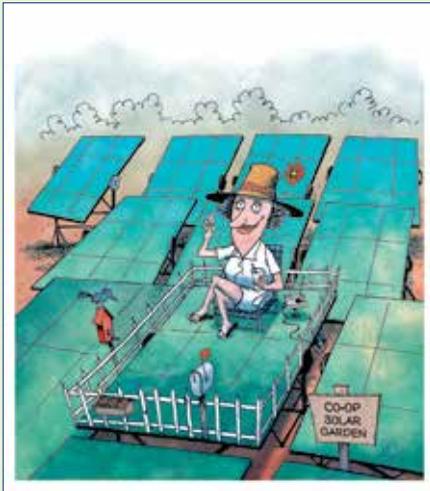
REAL PEOPLE. REAL POWER.

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

PREPAY RAYS: Co-op offering solar garden output to interested members

As the January magazine went to press, Tideland EMC was awaiting the arrival of installation crews to construct the co-op's first community solar project.

We're referring to our project as a solar garden because, unlike the large solar farms popping up in Beaufort, Craven and Washington counties, our total project footprint is just over half an acre.



The Tideland installation, which is adjacent to the co-op's Five Points substation on Highway 32 in Pinetown, consists of 25 panels with a rated output totaling 100 kilowatts (kW). Members who wish to participate in the

green energy revolution but find a residential solar rooftop installation cost prohibitive are invited to participate in our project by purchasing the output from one

or more panels in this inaugural project. In the event co-op members commit to purchasing all the solar production from this project, we will consider a second 100 kW installation on the property.

To learn more about Tideland's

community solar garden, visit our website www.tidelandemc.com or send an email to gogreen@tidelandemc.com. You may also call marketing manager Heidi Smith at 252.944.2410.

Charles Slade named new director



Charles Slade

The Tideland EMC board appointed Charles Slade to fill the unexpired term of recently retired director Jimmy Burbage, representing membership district four.

Slade, a Beaufort County native, graduated from John A. Wilkinson High School and attended Wake Community College. A welder by trade, he previously worked for Flanders Filters and Carver Machine Works. For a period of time he also farmed tobacco, soybeans and corn.

In 1999, Slade went into business for himself and is the owner-operator of Tig Welding Specialist located in Washington. His company specializes in titanium, stainless steel, Inconel and aluminum welding as well as CNC machining, milling and surface grinding for various industries. He and his

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Message to our Member-Owners: State of the App

By Paul Spruill
General Manager & CEO

Right-of-Way Maintenance Update

In January, our contractors, Lucas Tree Experts, will be trimming trees in Pantego.

Mowing crews will be working in Sidney, Pamlico Beach and Pantego.

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

On November 13, Tideland EMC inked another milestone in our co-op's history with the launch of secure member account mobile apps. That day we notified nearly 5,000 members via an email blast about the app availability.

Before the day was out more than 160 members had downloaded the mobile apps. By the first week in December the total number of downloads had reached 222 between Google Play and the iOS Store.

While we've learned that constant change is increasingly the norm in today's technology driven world, even those who worked to launch mobile member service were surprised how popular it proved to be right out of the gate.

To find the free download simply search the Apple or Google Play stores for "MY

TIDELAND." To securely access your Tideland account you use the same login credentials as you would for the online member portal. If you have any difficulty with your credentials, call our 24 Member Service Center at 1.800.637.1079 and a call center representative will be glad to help you navigate login.

The MY TIDELAND mobile app allows you to securely do anything you would normally do through the member portal.

- Check your account balance
- Make secure payments
- View kWh use (both daily & monthly)
- Manage alerts and reminders



So come on get "app-y" by downloading MY TIDELAND today!



Tideland College Scholarships

Eligible: Graduating high school seniors served by Tideland

Eight \$1,000 non-renewable scholarships for students attending college or community college

Deadline To Apply: March 20, 2015



Youth Tour to Washington, DC

Dates: June 13-19, 2015

Eligible: Rising high school juniors and seniors served by Tideland

All-expense-paid trip to learn about co-ops as well as our nation's history and governance

Deadline To Apply: March 13, 2015



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, 2015

For details & application forms, visit www.tidelandemc.com



CONGRATULATIONS TO THIS YEAR'S BRIGHT IDEAS CLASSROOM GRANT AWARD WINNERS!

Tami Wagaman
Northside High School
"What Impact Do We Have?"
Earth and environmental sciences honors students will conduct research related to water and soil quality, weather, acid rain and landfill management practices.

Maureen Predergast
Pamlico County
Middle School
"Reducing Our Environmental Impact"
Students will study individual behavior and how it impacts energy use and landfill waste.

Sugan Leggett-Baker
Washington High School
"Flipping for Engagement!"
Students will create visual journals and instructional videos to document lab processes, study how habitat loss impacts biodiversity, and explore the effects of air pollution.

Joy McCracken, Judy Cleary, Lindsay Elks and Julie Billups
SW Snowden Elementary School
"Fish for Thought"
With the help of local commercial fishermen, students will populate, care for, study and document the life forms for a salt water aquarium.

Alison Bennett
Pamlico County High School
"Real Science is Scarier than Fiction"
Funds will be used to expand the science reading collection by 162 books.

Mary Jo Masters and Debra Lewis
Arapahoe Charter School
"I See You: Drones in Today's World"
Funds will be used to purchase a quadcopter drone with Wi-Fi video capabilities.



Emily Harper and Sara Forgione
Arapahoe Charter
"iNaturalist"
Students will study the NC state tree, the Long Leaf Pine, which has begun to disappear from the state and national landscape.

James Wood
Chocowinity Middle School
"A Habit for a Lifetime"
Students will engage in a study of Sean Covey's "Seven Habits of Highly Effective Teens"

Lisa Baker and Anna Ramey
Chocowinity Middle School

"The Art of the Book"
Students will study award-winning book illustrations and then create their own illustrations using block printing.

Tideland EMC awarded a total of \$13,698 during this year's round of Bright Ideas grant funding. The co-op will begin accepting applications for the 2015-16 classroom year on April 1, 2015. To apply, visit www.ncbrightideas.org or contact program coordinator Heidi Smith at 252.944.2410 or by email: heidismith@tidelandemc.com.



1. Enroll in high-use energy alerts

Catch potential problems before they catch up with you. Available from the co-op as text and/or email alerts.

2. Check with the co-op about available rebates before replacing HVAC or water heating equipment

3. Commit to cold water clothes washing

You'll cut laundry costs up to 90%

4. Keep your winter thermostat at or below 68°

Every degree higher increases heating costs 3-5%

5. Boost your existing water heater efficiency with an insulating jacket

The co-op sells insulating kits for \$14.99

YOUR **ODDS** OF **PREDICTING** NEXT MONTH'S **ELECTRIC BILL**



**ARE ONLY *SLIGHTLY* BETTER
THAN PICKING THE *WINNING*
LOTTERY NUMBERS.**

INTRODUCING:

FLEXPAY

A Prepaid Energy Solution From Tideland EMC

Thanks to advanced metering and improved communication technologies, Tideland members can now utilize pay-as-you-go metering. **No credit checks. No security deposits. No late fees. No service interruption fees. Oh, and best of all, no more monthly bills!** Furthermore, studies show when you know how, when and where you use energy the more likely you are to **reduce discretionary energy consumption by 7-12% annually.**

Now that's not to say FlexPay is for everyone. **Participants must be able to receive account information via text or email** so the co-op can help you manage your account to ensure no surprises.



A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 
Tideland EMC
Real People. Real Power.

For more information, visit
TidelandEMC.com or call
Toll Free: 800.637.1079

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www.tidelandemc.com

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Tideland EMC is an equal
opportunity provider & employer



Slade joins board

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wife Sheila, a registered nurse, also own Peachtree Campground located in the Sidney community.

Slade served as a long-time co-op director for TriCounty Telecom where, during his 12-year tenure, he served as vice president of the board. He also served on the Beaufort-Hyde Farm Service Agents committee for 10 years. Slade attends Holy Grove Church where he serves as a trustee and financial officer.

The Slades have three children: Adaryll, Bradley and Caroline.