

Tideland Topics

Real People. Real Power.

Membership Matters

At press time last month, we did not yet have the final number on the general retirement of capital credits to members. The total refund, issued in December, came to \$800,000. Those funds represent 100% of the remaining margins from 1995 and 41.1% of 1996 margins.

Any active or former member of the cooperative with a refund of \$50

or more was issued a check mailed to the last known address on file. All other active members who had service with the cooperative during 1995 and/or 1996 were issued a line item credit on their December 2024 electric account.

We make every attempt to locate former members when a capital credit check is returned to us by the post office. After a sufficient amount of time has passed, those funds are forwarded to the NC Treasurer's office where they can be claimed by the owner by searching online at nccash.com.

If a member has passed away, we encourage the estate to file for the decedent's capital credits by filing the appropriate forms found on our website under the billing tab. Capital credit refunds to estates during fiscal year 2024 exceeded \$561,000, bringing the total year-end refunds to more than \$1.3 million.

To learn more about the importance of member margins to keeping electric rates low and how those margins are eventually returned to members through capital credit distributions, see our infographic on page 18.

Membership



A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative

Tideland EMC

Real People. Real Power.

2024 EDUCATION GRANT

WINNERS

BRIGHT IDEAS EDUCATION GRANTS

For 30 years, North Carolina's electric co-ops have helped light up learning in K-12 classrooms statewide through the Bright Ideas education grant program. Approximately 600 grants are awarded annually by our state's electric co-ops for projects to improve classroom instruction and utilize innovative teaching methods.



MEET OUR WINNERS

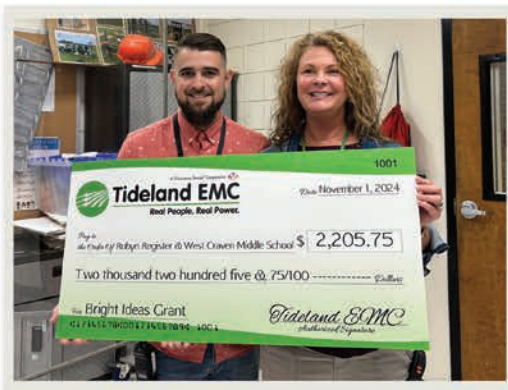


Hillel Davis

Chocowinity Middle School
"Chocowinity Robotics Team"
\$2,134.75

If only we could bottle the energy teacher Hillel Davis exudes in his classroom! As soon as we entered the classroom to surprise Mr. Davis with his Bright Ideas award, his students erupted in applause for a teacher they obviously greatly respect and admire. The grant funding will fund the school's first robotics and coding STEM initiative. Robotics requires competency in the basic disciplines of math, engineering and science.

In addition to reaching students in media center classes, the project materials will also be utilized in CMS' after-school Lego Robotics Club. Students will be able to collaborate with others across the school district through workshops and competitions as well as the opportunity to compete statewide and nationally.



Robyn Register & Stephen Nyberg

West Craven Middle School
"Planting the Future Brick by Brick"
\$2,205.75

This design-build project will take learning from planning to practice to permanency on the school campus. Students working in teams of five will design personalized planters and raised flowerbeds with seating using Legos. They will then do a construction test run using recyclable construction tools and materials. Finally, after critiquing and perfecting their designs, they will construct permanent projects that will serve to beautify the campus in perpetuity.



Kimberly Lipford

Fred A. Anderson Elementary
"Science Labs in Elementary"
\$1,295.95

Kimberly Lipford's grant will be used to purchase science kits focusing on matter and energy, ecosystems, and force and motion. Eighty fifth graders will benefit annually from the recurring use of these classroom materials.

Karen Teklinsky

Ocracoke School

"A Portal for Future Innovators"

\$2,007.56

This project will allow students to further explore topics in engineering, technology, Earth science, chemistry, geology, and anatomy beyond the classroom setting with the establishment of a Science Club. Participants will build towers, helicopters, windmills and other mechanical devices. They will solve crimes, create chemical potions, identify fossils and plants, position mirrors to direct laser beams and explore robotics.

By providing a "portal" to various science disciplines, Teklinsky hopes students will find a branch of science that they feel most passionate about to pave the way for future innovators of science. By encouraging active, hands-on participation, she hopes to foster creativity, inquisitiveness, and the desire to learn more about the world we live in and a lifelong passion for investigating and learning.



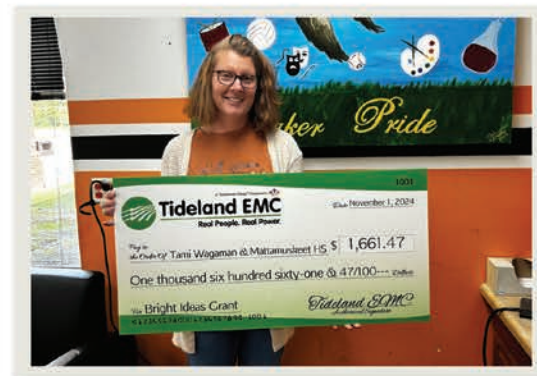
Tami Wagaman

Mattamuskeet High School

"Learning Science with Robotics"

\$1,661.47

Congratulations to Tideland's winningest Bright Ideas grant writer, Tami Wagaman! Materials purchased will complete 5 different robots with each emphasizing a unique scientific concept. We can't wait to see what emerges from her Mattamuskeet classroom as she continues to expand the school's science curriculum.



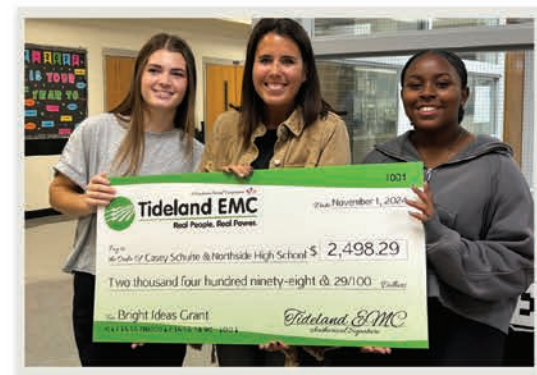
Casey Lewis Schulte, Dawn Johnson and Ronald Crider

Northside High School

"Fueling Innovation & Launching Students into Science"

\$2,498.29

Teacher Casey Schulte understands how important hands-on activities are for student engagement and curriculum retention. This funding will allow Schulte and team members Dawn Johnson and Ronald Crider to expand their science department to include robotics, flight kits, soil and photosynthesis investigations and more.



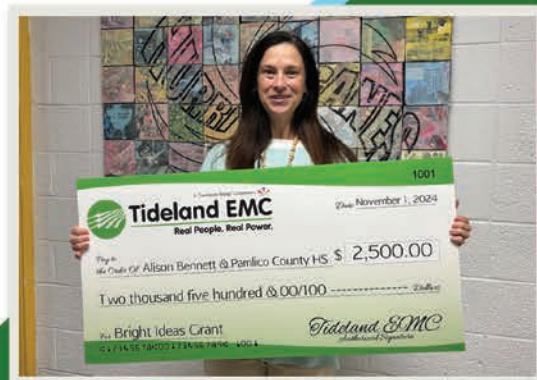
Alison Bennett

Pamlico County High School

"STEAM Rolling Into Robotics"

\$2,500.00

Alison Bennett's students will use Sphero Bolt coding robots and experimental design to solve real world science problems. Solving these problems will require students to plan, build and test structures such as rescue boats, bridges, catapults, Mars rovers and rockets. They will even use the robots to rescue sea turtles and follow the flow of energy through an ecosystem. In addition to practicing experimental design, students will learn how to code the robot spheres to make them move, speak, create light shows, and create celestial orbits.



How CAPITAL CREDITS work

Tideland Electric Membership Corporation is a not-for-profit member-owned cooperative. Tideland members share in the ownership, construction, maintenance and prosperity of the co-op.



When a person establishes service with us, they become a member and are eligible for capital credits.



Capital credits represent a member's share of the cooperative's margins during the time they have membership.



At the end of each year, any funds (margins) remaining after expenses have been paid are allocated, based on percentage of electricity used, to the member's account.

The allocated funds are used as operating capital for system improvements and maintenance.



ALLOCATION

An allocation is made annually for each member, based on the amount of electricity purchased. An allocation is the member's share of the net margins. The co-op sets this money aside to be used as operating capital for improvements & maintenance over a period of years thus reducing co-op borrowing costs.

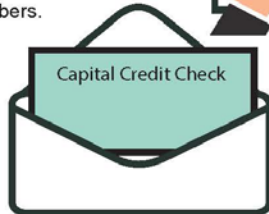


Annually, the board of directors evaluates Tideland's financial condition to determine if we can retire capital credits and if so, what dollar amount. Part of that equation is the amount of capital credits already refunded year-to-date to the estates of deceased members.



When the board elects to retire capital credits, we calculate the amount to pay each member based on a percentage of the member's allocation for the year of service being retired.

Checks are mailed to members due a retirement of \$50 or more. For amounts less than \$50 or in the case of a delinquent account, the credit is applied to the member's December electric bill. Qualifying FlexPay members receive their refund as an immediate credit.



Capital credits represent an important cooperative principle: MEMBER ECONOMIC PARTICIPATION along with the return of local dollars to our hometown communities.

RETIREMENT

A retirement is the amount a member receives back as a refund. It is a portion of the total allocation. When capital is no longer needed for operating expenses, it is retired. The amount paid is decided annually by Tideland's board of directors based on the financial needs of the cooperative.

Rebate deadlines

This is our final reminder: please complete and submit any rebate forms for qualified purchases and installations made during 2024. Rebates are available for high efficiency heat pumps, heat pump water heaters and Energy Star manufactured homes.

Rebate forms and program guidelines can be found online at tidelandemc.com



Tideland Topics

www.tidelandemc.com

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Text OUT to short code 85700 to report outages via text

Download our mobile app

Search "My Tideland"



Tideland EMC is an equal opportunity provider, employer and lender

Rights-of-way maintenance schedule

Tideland has hired Gun-nison Tree to trim trees in our right of way. During January, they will complete trimming on the Dawson Creek circuit then move to the Rosebay and Dowry Creek circuits.

Lee Electric will continue pole replacements in our Pantego and Engelhard districts.