

# THE CURRENT

December 2017

*"Season of Giving"*

TALQUIN  
ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC.  
WATER & WASTEWATER, INC.



**"The Current"**

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"The Current" is the official newsletter of Talquin Electric Cooperative, Inc., published monthly as an informational and educational service to the members of the Cooperative. Periodical postage paid at Tallahassee, Florida.

**SUBSCRIPTION RATE**

Cooperative Member \$1.50 per year.  
Talquin Electric Cooperative, Inc. is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

**EDITORIAL OFFICE**

P.O. Box 1679  
1640 West Jefferson Street  
Quincy, Florida 32353-1679

Tracy Bensley, General Manager  
Blake Flowers, Director of Member Services/Editor

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P.O. Box 1679, Quincy, Florida 32353-1679

**OFFICERS**

Carrie L. Durden  
President  
Cell: 850-567-9751  
P.O. Box 541  
Havana, Florida 32333

William R. VanLandingham  
Vice President  
Cell 850-545-5604 or Home 850-442-6252  
519 Telogia Creek Road  
Quincy, Florida 32351

Joseph Alexander  
Secretary/Treasurer  
Home 850-627-2704  
507 Deerwood Circle  
Quincy, Florida 32352

**TRUSTEES**

Dr. Clifford S. Bristol  
Home 850-643-5350  
15333 N.W. CR 12  
Bristol, Florida 32321

Doug Bruce  
Cell 850-321-7674  
P.O. Box 10855  
Tallahassee, Florida 32302

Sam Fenn  
Home 850-576-5072  
3539 Lakeview Drive  
Tallahassee, Florida 32310

David Miller  
Home 850-926-5869 or Cell 850-567-5405  
227 Buck Miller Road  
Crawfordville, Florida 32327

Carla Pararo  
Home 850-688-6809  
1050 Winfield Forest Dr  
Tallahassee, FL 32317

Dr. David L. Wright  
Home 850-875-2928  
1194 Solomon Dairy Road  
Quincy, FL 32352

The TECI and TWWI Board regularly schedule their workshops on the 1st Monday of each month and meetings on the 3rd Wednesday of each month at the Headquarters' Office in Quincy, FL at 6:30 p.m.

Notice of any changes will be listed on the website.

*"We make a living by what we get, but we make a life by what we give."*  
- Winston Churchill

Without a doubt, Christmas time has become the season of giving. In our busy lives we get focused on what we are each facing, yet sometimes we forget to stop and take a look around. However, during this fantastic time of the year, we are reminded that there are others who may be going through more difficult times. That there are others who are out there suffering and we can do something to help!

A wise woman once said "No matter how rough you think you have it, someone else is having a rougher time than you. So do what you can, every little bit counts."

Giving back isn't just about money. Even though financial donations are a popular form of giving back, the most valuable thing we can give to someone is our time. Take the time to open the door for the person behind you, take out your neighbor's trash, or read a book to a child. These are the things that make someone smile; these are the things that people remember, and this reminds them to do the same. Volunteering - the gift that keeps on giving.

Some people volunteer to make new friends. Others give back because it just makes them feel good. There are many reasons people volunteer, beyond the simple kindness of their hearts. And often, it's a combination of factors that motivates a person to begin - and continue - volunteering.

During this "season of giving," take a moment to reflect on what you have done this year that has inspired someone else to do the same. What are you doing TODAY to help your community to be a better place to live and grow? Find your reason and join us in making a resolution to make our community even better in 2018.



Carrie Durden  
Board President



Tracy Bensley  
General Manager

# Protect Yourself from Charity Scams

Charity scammers use deception to steal money from people who believe they are donating to legitimate causes. They siphon money away from those in need and use it to line their own pockets. Scam artists often play on donors' sympathy and take advantage of their generosity.

Here are a few tips for choosing a worthy charity and giving wisely.

- ❑ Ask questions, such as: "Who is the fundraiser for and who will benefit from the donation?"; "How much of the contribution goes to the charity mentioned in the request"; and "How much of the donation goes toward administrative and fundraising expenses?"
- ❑ Check if the charitable organization is registered with the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (FDACS) by visiting [FloridaConsumerHelp.com](http://FloridaConsumerHelp.com).
- ❑ Never give cash. Contribute by check and make it out to the organization.
- ❑ If you decide to donate online, look for indicators that the website is secure, such as a web address that begins with "https:" (the "s" stands for secure).
- ❑ Be aware that many telephone appeals for funds are made by paid solicitors, not volunteers. The

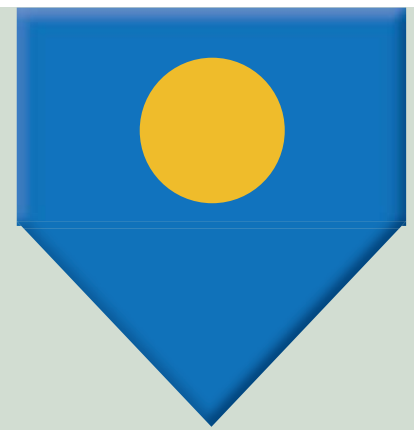
solicitors often work for a for-profit firm hired by the charitable organization. Telemarketing is expensive and may entail substantial fundraising costs.

- ❑ Some organizations have 900 phone numbers. When you call the number, the cost of the call is automatically billed to your phone. Before dialing, make sure you wish to donate the price of the call to that cause.
- ❑ Always obtain and save a printed copy of your donation or a receipt showing the amount of the contribution.
- ❑ Not all organizations soliciting in the name of benevolence are true charities eligible to receive tax-deductible contributions. If this is important to you, ask about the organization's federal and state eligibility for receiving tax-deductible donations. Typically, such donations fall under Internal Revenue Code section 501(c)(3).

Consumers or businesses that need information can contact the FDACS consumer assistance call center, which is staffed with trained analysts who answer questions on almost any topic. The call center can be reached at 1-800-HELP-FLA (435-7352) or 1-800-FL-AYUDA (352-9832) en Español.

*By: Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services*

As of the close of business on December 29, 2017, Talquin will discontinue accepting payments made via American Express (AMEX). Talquin will continue to accept payments via VISA, MasterCard, and Discover cards. For more information, call (850) 627-7651.



## 2017 Employee Recognition

### EMPLOYEES

5 Years	Dane Clemons Daniel Enfield Gary Harsey Jacqueline Noyes Carla Smoker
10 Years	Lisa Burnett Michael Crow Nathaniel Hogan Frank Mozolic John Roberts Kenneth Stocks Billy Whitfield
15 Years	Sheila Fletcher Leon Gramling Clifton McCord Janice Papy Tammie Sanders Matt Sanders Colleen Stanley
20 Years	Eddie Catchman
25 Years	Mike Dykes Melvin Wright
50 Years	Sharon Bentley

**VOLUNTARY MEMBER ENROLLMENT  
TO DONATE TO THE TALQUIN ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (TAP)**

Member Name \_\_\_\_\_

Electric Account Number \_\_\_\_\_

Water Account Number \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_



**Option 1 – Flat Rate:** By signing this form and submitting it to Talquin Electric Cooperative, Inc. (Talquin), I authorize Talquin to add \$\_\_\_\_\_ per month to my bill to be used in connection with the voluntary Talquin Assistance Program (TAP).

**Option 2 – Round Up:** By signing this form and submitting it to Talquin, I authorize Talquin to round-up my monthly utility account(s) each month to the nearest whole dollar amount, with the added sum to be used in connection with the voluntary Talquin Assistance Program (TAP). In the event my monthly account(s) display(s) a credit, then the credit due will be rounded down to the nearest dollar, and the funds retained will be donated to TAP.

I understand that the funds I donate each month will be used by Talquin for charitable purposes which will primarily focus on assisting other Talquin Members who cannot pay their utility bill. I understand that, should the total amount of donations exceed this charitable purpose, the excess donations may be used for such other charitable purposes as are approved by the Board and reported to the Membership.

I understand that participation in TAP is voluntary. I also understand that this is an on-going agreement, and that I must notify Talquin Electric Cooperative if I choose to discontinue my participation in this voluntary program, and that the processing of a termination request may take up to thirty days. I also understand that any donations I make to TAP are non-refundable.

I understand that Talquin may utilize third party agencies (for example, Capital Area Community Action Agency) to handle disbursements of TAP funds to Members. Members who seek assistance under TAP may be referred to these third party agencies for screening, and any person so referred will be screened on the basis of that agency's criteria. Members seeking assistance will not be required to be contributing to TAP.

I understand that contributions to this program are not tax deductible, and that Talquin will not publish the names of Members who contribute; however, overall program statistics and benefits of the program may be reported to the Membership at least annually.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO CONTRIBUTE TO TAP, PLEASE COMPLETE THIS FORM AND RETURN WITH YOUR PAYMENT OR TO ANY TALQUIN MEMBER SERVICES OFFICE. YOU MAY CONTACT US AT ANY TIME TO ENROLL IN THIS PROGRAM.**



## Line Extension Change

Effective December 1, 2017, Talquin will waive the charge for Talquin's portion of the work for members who wish to convert their overhead secondary service to underground secondary service. Members will be responsible for the costs incurred for converting the service from overhead to underground and connecting at the Talquin owned pedestal. The pedestal will be installed by Talquin at the primary pole along our main line.

This change is part of our efforts to continue to improve reliability to our Members as well as reduce their exposure to personal property damage caused by storms.

For more information about this topic, please contact any of our Member Services offices at 850-627-7651.

## Light Out? We Need to Know

If you see an outdoor light that is not working on Talquin Electric Cooperative's system, please contact the Cooperative to report it. When reporting a problem, please provide the information listed below, so that we can make the repair and contact you if necessary.

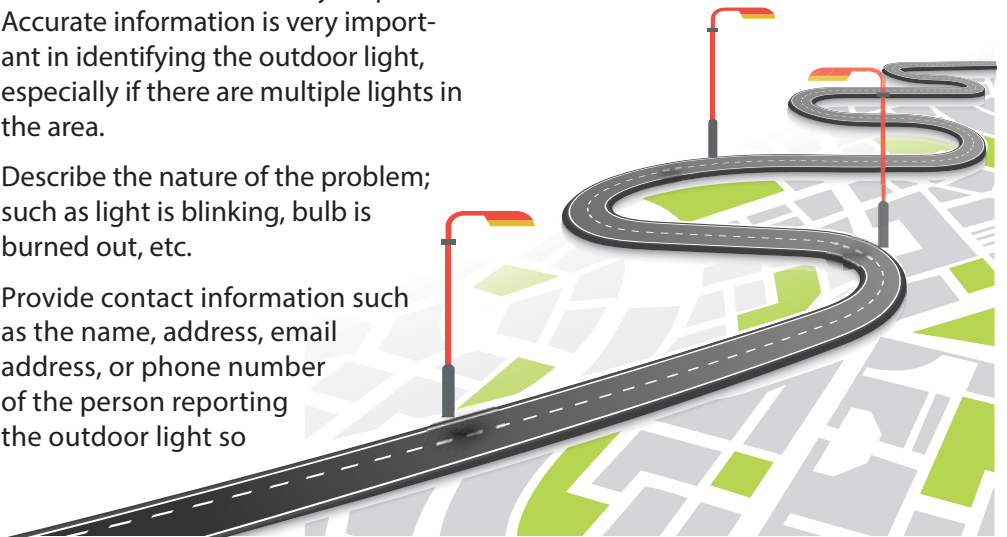
Provide the light number located on the pole and describe the location clearly. Information such as street name, nearest street intersection, or other landmarks are very helpful. Accurate information is very important in identifying the outdoor light, especially if there are multiple lights in the area.

Describe the nature of the problem; such as light is blinking, bulb is burned out, etc.

Provide contact information such as the name, address, email address, or phone number of the person reporting the outdoor light so

that they can be contacted if needed.

Providing as much information as possible will help ensure the proper response for your request. We certainly appreciate your help in this matter. To report an inoperative or malfunctioning outdoor light, contact Talquin Electric Cooperative, Inc. at (850) 627-7651 during normal business hours or visit [www.talquinelectric.com/services/report-an-outage](http://www.talquinelectric.com/services/report-an-outage).



## CAPITAL CREDITS

Each year Talquin's Board of Trustees examines the financial condition of the Cooperative to determine whether a Capital Credit retirement (General Refund Checks) is appropriate and, if so, the amount to be retired. Capital Credits are a reflection of the not-for-profit status of the Cooperative, which is owned by you, the Membership. Any margins (revenues in excess of maintenance and operations expenses) are allocated by Talquin Electric Cooperative to Members as Capital Credits during the year the margins are produced. These credits are later returned to those Members who received service during the year being retired. This year your Board has authorized a Capital Credit retirement of over \$3.1 million (for credits allocated in 1997 and 1998). The Capital Credits retirement will be sent in the form of checks (for amounts that exceed \$10 – amounts less than \$10 will appear as a credit on the respective account) that will be mailed out this month.

The total amount of Capital Credits returned to Talquin Members over the past seventy-seven years is more than \$77 million!

### Electric Tip

Fiber optic trees and decorations are the ultimate in energy efficiency. In most cases, they use a single light bulb located in the base of the unit to light the entire decoration – now that's energy smart and budget smart!

# trading post

## Miscellaneous

**Renovation surplus:** vanity w/ sink, vanity lights, mirror \$25-65; American Tourister luggage & duffel bag \$25-35; Coach hand bag, tan, genuine leather \$99; LL Bean moccasin, brown leather, size 8 \$49; Vacuums: Eureka, Bissell, Dirt Devil \$25-45. 422-1368

**Cemetery Plot:** MeadowWood, Timberlane Rd - Veteran Garden, Block 150, Lot C, Grave 1. \$2,000 OBO. 229-251-5510

**Gifted Hands Companion Services:** 524-1987 or althea@robinson33@gmail.com

**Shop power tools for sale:** joiner/planer, table saw, belt sander, pressure washer, drill press. 933-5337

**Barely used Yamaha P115 keyboard w/stand,** bench, dust cover and light. Paid over \$700 in December 2016. \$500 OBO. 445-4627

**Kohler cast iron bath tub** 60" by 30", with left hand drain. Light blue color. Asking \$100. 850 980 6218

**MISC ITEMS:** Elevating Twin bed, great condition \$300; Couch - beige fabric, cushy, clean \$200; Hammock rocker chair - black fabric, metal frame, great condition \$45; autoharp - 21 chords beautiful wood, new \$160. 228-0412

**La-z-boy recliner** dark brown leather, 5 mo. old \$800. Schwinn recumbent exercise bike \$75. In Quincy 407-324-4075. If no answer, leave message & we'll call back

**Bowflex TreadClimber** in excellent condition. New shock kit. Serviced by local fitness repair tech. Manual included. \$275 OBO. 46 in x 28.5 in x 55.25 in. 402-0394

**Vietnam 550 Para Cord** - (2) 1,000 ft spools sell \$40 ea, cost \$55; **Anchor Rope** nylon 5/8" 20 lb. spool \$70. 770-834-2094

**Salad Master stainless steel cookware:** 14 piece set, Very good condition. \$150. Tallahassee area. 770-363-1333, if interested

**30" LP gas stove** \$50. 893-9786 please leave message

**Proform treadmill** \$100; **club golf cart** w/ charger, in good condition \$2,495. 556-0878

**Like new bedroom furniture:** dresser w/ mirror, night stand, twin bed w/ head & footboard, mattress & box spring. \$350. 514-7402

## Trading Post Guidelines

In order to continue to provide The Trading Post in every issue of *The Current*, we ask Members to adhere to the guidelines listed below when submitting an ad. If an ad does not meet the criteria, it will not be published. There is no cost to place an ad in The Trading Post.

- Members may submit one ad every three months (four times a year)
- Ads must be twenty-five words or less
- Must be typed or printed legibly in ink
- No registered businesses may run an ad
- No changes after ad submission
- Deadlines are the first day of the month preceding the month of publication (For example, December 1<sup>st</sup> is the deadline for the January edition.)
- Members must provide name, phone number, and account number.

**Mail ads to: "The Current", Talquin Electric Cooperative P.O. Box 1679, Quincy, FL 32353-1679 or e-mail to: tradingpost@talquinelectric.com**

## Automotive

**P275/65R18 Goodyear Wrangler Ford Premium Wheels w/tires** (Havana) Used 30,000 miles, raised white letters, lots of tread left, 6 lug, excellent condition. \$550 OBO. 408-4989

**2009 BMW G650 GS Motorcycle:** 70 mpg, fully loaded, hard cases, tall windshield, ABS brakes, have all maintenance records \$3,000 firm. 402-0484

**2017 Thor Compass B Class RV,** 23 ft. Ford Chassis, Diesel, like new. 1 owner. \$65,000. 544-2288

**2005 Coachmen 27DS Capri Ruby edition.** Great shape, loaded, everything works perfect. \$5,000. 877-7794, leave message.

**6x12 concession trailer** \$1,300 OBO, If you're interested call or text 661-4611

## Real Estate

**Doublewide Mobile Home -Near Lake Talquin:** 3BD/2 BA, Split Plan, cathedral ceiling; open kitchen -well maintained, 2 screened decks; 1/3 acre lot - \$79,900. 627-8755

**Land 4 Sale - Hosford** area 6 ac track, also 2 ac track w/ electric, water & sewer. May do some owner financing. 379-3965

**For Rent - 3B/1 1/2 B SWMH,** HUD accepted, St. John Community. 544-8772

**Old Town, FL - Forest Park MH** w/ built on's. 3B/2B, paved streets, 8 Blks off Suwannee River. Need repairs. \$25k. 273-9303

**Five heavily wooded acres in Crawfordville, FL,** 5 miles from courthouse, next to end of Tupelo Ridge subdivision. \$30k. 274-4734

## Farm/Garden

**Antique (mid-Century) all-steel one-horse or small animal trailer.** New hitch, recent paint, good condition with rubber mats on floor. \$650 firm. 273-1442

**3 Sweet Donkeys:** Momma & her baby, Buttercup (6) and Jasper (8 & gelded). Must all stay together. \$175 OBO. 877-7096

**Fowl & Honey:** Button/Bobwhite/Coturnix Quail, Turkey, Duck, Guinea Keets & Chicken chicks, Cane Syrup and Honey for sale. Call/Text 745-4048 or visit LostCreekHollow on FB

## Marine

**Aluminum jon boat** 14', 2sets of oars. \$100 OBO 877-4817

## Wanted

**Dried Gourds:** Would like to purchase all types of dried gourds. 556-5931

## FREE

**HORSE PUCKY!** Free horse manure. Some fresh, some fermented. Pick up now and compost for spring planting. Call 875-3722 for directions to the farm which is located north of Havana



## SAFETY TIP

Use battery-operated candles in place of traditional candles whenever possible. Almost half of home decoration fires are caused by traditional candles, according to the National Fire Protection Association.



## Single Crust **Apple Pie**

Buy two pre-made pie crusts from the dairy section. Freeze or refrigerate the second crust. You will need a round 2 qt. baking dish – Pyrex or CorningWare.

Cut up 8 to 10 cooking apples (small to medium) peeled, cored, and cut into thumb size pieces in bowl.

Add to bowl:

**1 cup raisins**

**½ cup dried cranberries**

**¼ cup flour**

**⅔ to 1 cup sugar**

**1 teaspoon cinnamon**

**½ teaspoon nutmeg**

**¼ teaspoon ground cloves**

**Optional – several shakes of dried lemon or orange peel**

Stir and fold all ingredients together in an oven safe bowl. Dot fruit mixture with 1/3 stick of butter or oleo cut up. Place pre-made pastry crust over top of fruit. Fold and crimp. Slash top of crust a few times. Cook pie 45 minutes at 350 degrees.

*Submitted by Lyn Grant, Talquin Member*



## Water Tip

The amount of water wasted while you let it run until it's cool can really add up. To have nice cool water for your holiday meals, fill a pitcher with water a few hours before and store it in the fridge until dinner time.



## Watts Happening

### Leon County Senior Outreach:

Explore “Lunch and Learn” to stay connected.

No reservations needed to join the fun. Each event is from 10:30 am – 12:30 pm. Featuring a delicious catered lunch for \$6 per plate. Call 891-4065 for more information.

**December 19** Fort Braden Community Center

**December 21** Lake Jackson Community Center

NO LUNCH AND LEARNS IN JANUARY

**Big Kahuna Paddle Challenge:** Florida Disabled Outdoors Association's 2<sup>nd</sup> annual event to help raise awareness and funds to help people of all abilities learn to participate in physical activity through SportsAbility. This event enhances the lives of people with disabilities by promoting active living. To sign up today or for more details: [www.fdoa.org/canoe](http://www.fdoa.org/canoe), 850-201-2944 or email [info@fdoa.org](mailto:info@fdoa.org)

**Sunday, March 4** (2:00 pm – 4:00 pm)  
Maclay Gardens - Tallahassee

*Merry Christmas!*



"THE CURRENT"  
 TALQUIN ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC.  
 P.O. BOX 1679  
 QUINCY, FL 32353-1679

PERIODICAL

**TALQUIN ELECTRIC  
 COOPERATIVE, INC.**  
**Office Locations**

**Headquarters**

1640 W. Jefferson Street  
 Quincy, Florida 32351  
 (850) 627-7651

**Quincy Member Services Office**

1607 W. Jefferson Street  
 Quincy, Florida 32351  
 (850) 627-9666

**Wakulla Member Services Office**

681 Wakulla Arran Rd.  
 Crawfordville, Florida 32327  
 (850) 926-7422

**Hosford Member Services Office**

20557 NE Cooperative Way  
 Hosford, Florida 32334  
 (850) 379-8679

**Lake Jackson Member Services Office**

4808 Portal Drive  
 Tallahassee, Florida 32303  
 (850) 562-0125

**Bradfordville Member Services Office**

6724 Thomasville Road  
 Tallahassee, Florida 32312  
 (850) 893-6853

**Service Interruptions (Outages)  
 Should Be Reported To**

1-888-802-1832  
 (live operator)

1-866-899-4832  
 (automated systems)

Visit us and report and view  
 outages on the Web at  
[www.talquinelectric.com](http://www.talquinelectric.com)

Sign up for text outage notification  
 at [www.talquinelectric.com](http://www.talquinelectric.com) to  
 report your outage quickly and to  
 receive outage information.



#TECares #MyTalquin #CoopNation #MyCoop