

A&N Electric Cooperative Director Nominees



Christopher Duer Bott

Christopher (Chris) Duer Bott was appointed to the A&N Electric Cooperative Board on March 27, effective date April 1, 2008, to begin his duties as ANEC's new director to serve the

Delmarva Power district members as a Class A-I/B-I Director Residing in the Delmarva District at Large.

Currently, he holds the position of vice-chairman of the board. He has completed the Credentialed Cooperative Director Program through the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association and is working on his Board Leadership Certificate.

Bott, a graduate of the University of Virginia, received a Bachelor of Arts degree in economics. He then went on to earn a Bachelor of Science degree in pharmacy from Virginia Commonwealth University/ Medical College of Virginia.

He now is a co-owner of H&H Pharmacy on Chincoteague Island, Virginia, and in Oak Hall, Virginia. He is a member of Christ United Methodist Church on Chincoteague Island. Bott serves on the

Board of Directors for the Chincoteague Island Chamber of Commerce and Eastern Shore of Virginia Community Foundation. He actively works with the Chincoteague Island Boy Scout Troop 323.

He resides on Chincoteague Island with his wife Christy and their three sons.



Ralph W. Dodd

Born in Nassawadox in 1957 to Ray and Elise Dodd, Ralph and his brother, Vaughan, were raised in Cape Charles. He attended Cape Charles High School through the ninth grade

and graduated from Broadwater Academy in 1976. He continued his education at Hampden-Sydney College receiving a B.A. degree in managerial economics in 1980. Dodd has lived in or near Eastville for 37 years.

He married Lit Willis in 1981 and has been actively farming since 1982. Dodd has been licensed in real estate for more than 30 years. His first 14 years, he was affiliated with a Virginia Beach commercial office and opened his own office on the Eastern Shore in 2001. Their daughter, Elizabeth, lives near Eastville and is the executive director of the Northampton County Chamber of Commerce. She and Will Russell were married last year.

Dodd served as the president of the Northampton County Farm Bureau for 10 years and continues to be an active board member. He is currently active in the Northampton County Chamber of Commerce and a member of the Cape Charles Rotary. He and his family are members of Christ Episcopal Church.

He has volunteered as a varsity and JV basketball coach at Broadwater Academy for 16 years. Dodd enjoys hunting, fishing and spending time on the boat.

A&N ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE

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A&N Electric Cooperative is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

Report of the Nominating Committee of A&N Electric Cooperative

We, the Members of the Nominating Committee, appointed by the Board of Directors of A&N Electric Cooperative, after due consideration, do hereby nominate the following members for Directors to be elected at the Annual Meeting of Members to be held on August 23, 2018:

Christopher D. Bott
E. Garrison Drummond
Ralph W. Dodd
Penney P. Holland

Residing in District 1
Residing in District 2
Residing in District 4
Residing in District 4

Given under our hands this 23rd day of May, 2018.

Michelle Marsh
Steve Sturgis
Bruce Freeman

Bill Sterling, Jr.
Phillip R. Custis
Joseph Thornton

Members of the Nominating Committee of A&N Electric Cooperative



E. Garrison Drummond

E. Garrison Drummond, the current Class 1 Director residing and serving in District 2, was first appointed on April 25, 2002, to fill the unexpired term of

Frank W. Blake.

He currently serves on the Finance and Products & Services committees and serves as a director on the Virginia, Maryland & Delaware Association of Electric Cooperatives' Education Scholarship Foundation board and Old Dominion Electric Cooperative board. He has attended state, regional and national meetings and has completed NRECA's Electric Cooperative Directors' Institute and has attained the Director Gold credential that recognizes ongoing commitment to advancing his knowledge and performing his fiduciary duty to the best of his ability.

Drummond was born and raised in Eastville, Virginia, and is a graduate of Northampton High School. After graduating from Shenandoah Conservatory of Music, he was employed as a band director in the Northampton County School System.

Drummond, now retired, owned Drummond Insurance Agency, Inc., representing State Farm Insurance in

Nelsonia. He is a retired U.S. Air Force Reserve pilot and a former pilot at NASA Wallops Flight Facility.

He is a member of Central Lodge #300 AF & AM, Jewel Royal Arch Chapter & Malta Commandary, Eastern Shore Shrine Club, Grace United Methodist Church, Eastern Shore Christian Businessman's Association, past president of SeaBay-Metompkin Ruritan Club, past president of Parksley Lions Club, former member of the Accomack County Airport Commission, former member of the Accomack County Planning Commission, former member of the Eastern Shore Chamber of Commerce, former board member of Broadwater Academy and member of the Society for the Preservation of the Metompkin District Cemeteries.

Drummond and his wife Dana reside near Parksley.



Penney P. Holland

Penney P. Holland, a resident of Franktown, Virginia, was selected as District 4 Director by the A&N Electric Cooperative Board to fill the unexpired term of the late James G.

Collins, Jr. Holland has worked with Virginia Tech since 2014 at the Agricultural Research Center and the

Virginia Cooperative Extension office in Northampton County as the unit administrative assistant. Prior to her employment with Virginia Tech, Holland held positions at Broadwater Academy.

She has lived on the Eastern Shore for her entire life besides her college years at Mary Baldwin College and Christopher Newport University. Holland grew up in Cape Charles, Virginia, and attended Cape Charles School; upon the school's closing in 1987, she then transferred to Broadwater Academy.

Penney has been married for 25 years to Jeff Holland and they have two sons: Logan, 23, who is employed at Duncan Farms in New Church, Virginia, and Ben, 22, a graduate student at Virginia Tech.

Holland believes strongly in giving back to the community and is a board member of Eastern Shore Habitat for Humanity and attends Franktown United Methodist Church. She is the former treasurer of Riverside Shore Memorial Hospital Auxiliary. Holland looks forward to working with the A&N Electric Cooperative Board and staff to guide the Cooperative to continue to be successfully sustainable in providing integral power to Eastern Shore homes and businesses while safeguarding the excellent maintenance of its infrastructure.

Cooperative's Annual Meeting is Thursday, Aug. 23

The A&N Electric Cooperative Annual Business Meeting will be held on Thursday, Aug. 23, at Nandua High School's Auditorium. The meeting will begin at 7 p.m.

A&N Electric is a member-owned electric distribution cooperative and its membership elects a Board of Directors.

As a member-owner of the Cooperative, each person receiving electric service is urged to take an active part in its business by voting for its Board of Directors.

Those members electing to vote by mail-in proxy will be entered into a chance to win one of four \$100 credits to count towards an upcoming electric bill. Members who would like to vote by proxy are encouraged to fill out the form accompanying their electric bill and return it to A&N Electric Cooperative prior to the annual meeting.

Those members electing to vote in person should attend the annual business meeting and arrive prior to 7 p.m. A&N Electric Cooperative staff will be present at Nandua High School at 5:30 p.m. to welcome members and to begin the process of voter registration. Voter registration ends promptly at 6:55 p.m.



Want to be eligible for one of four \$100 A&N Electric Cooperative bill credits?

It's easy. All you have to do is take part in the Cooperative's upcoming Director Election.

Step 1 – Look for a voting proxy accompanying your upcoming electric bill.

Step 2 – Complete the form.

Step 3 – Mail the proxy back to A&N Electric Cooperative or drop it off at our Tasley office.

Step 4 – You're entered for a chance to win one of four \$100 bill credits.

Winners will be contacted about their bill credit after the Cooperative's Annual Meeting in August.

Boys and Girls Club expanding its reach into Accomack County

Story and photos by Bill Sterling

The Boys & Girls Club of the Eastern Shore is expanding its reach into Accomack County. Beginning in September, this positive, safe and fun place for kids, will meet at Mary N. Smith Cultural Enrichment Center in Accomack in addition to its club setting in Exmore.

“We are excited about the opportunity of partnering with Mary N. Smith to provide a location for Boys & Girls Club members in Accomack County,” says Bill Payne, president of the Boys & Girls Club, Eastern Shore Unit. “We’ve always served Accomack County residents, but with transportation being an issue for so many of our members, this new location will enable more youth to join our club.”

The mission of the Boys & Girls Club is important to our society today: “To enable all young people, especially those who need us most, to reach their full potential as productive, caring, responsible citizens.”

Beginning in 2005, when the club first met in a rented building in Exmore, the Boys & Girls Club has been changing lives by teaching youth to make decisions that lead to academic success, a healthy lifestyle and making good life choices.

Kathy Custis has been the executive director for the club since its formation.

“Kathy is our club’s greatest asset,” Payne says. “She inspires our youth to accomplish things they never imagined possible. You can see the self-esteem and confidence growing in these kids every year. She truly makes a difference in the lives of these youth who attend the club.”

Shortly after first opening, the club was meeting at Occohannock Elementary School with the Northampton County School Board providing space after school and during the summer at a greatly reduced rate.

Today, the club has 242 members. About 90 percent qualify for free or reduced meals at schools, and 55 percent come from single-parent homes.

During the school year, at about 3:30 p.m., club members enjoy some brief activity in the gym to expend energy built throughout the day before being served a hot meal by longtime cooks Beulah Burrows and Ernestine Drummond. Last



Above: Boys & Girls Club members enjoy many different activities while attending the club. The Boys & Girls Club meets each school day at Occohannock Elementary School from 3:30 to 8 p.m. and on summer weekdays from 6:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Left: Colby West points out some of the improvements needed at the Mary N. Smith Cultural Enrichment Center. Right: Formerly known as Mary N. Smith School, which moved to its current location in 1953, it is now owned by an alumni association.

year, the club served more than 24,000 meals at the program.

Following the meal, members break up by age to work on their homework with help from the seven-person staff, members of the teen club and sometimes special tutors who volunteer to help with learning skills.

After their homework is complete, club members go outside, weather permitting, to play games organized by the staff and then go to one of three classrooms to work on arts and crafts, music, computers and other activities.

Parents can pick up their children by signing them out at any time up to 8 p.m. Reneaka Byrd, who mans the front desk, knows the name of every parent and member and always offers a friendly word as they depart.

In the summer, the club also meets at Occohannock Elementary School with doors opening at 6:30 a.m. and closing at 5:30 p.m. Programs include field trips to places of interest in the area, including NASA Wallops, the Nature Conservancy and sometimes events in Hampton Roads.

The Keystone Club, comprised of teenagers, participates in community projects, attends national conferences and helps mentor the younger children. Representing the Boys and Girls Club of the Eastern Shore, they have won national awards and have produced five Youth of the Year recipients in Southeast Virginia.

Freddie Elmandorf, 16, a Youth of the Year Recipient in 2017, has been attending the Boys & Girls Club since he was 4.

Today, he works with younger children, teaching them not to be like he was as a child. “I was hardheaded,” he admits. “It took me a while to develop and gain some maturity. The staff kept talking to me, and I finally got the message.”

The club boasts some amazing success stories of members being the first in their family to attend college or even to graduate from high school in some cases.

Food for meals throughout the school year and summer programs is provided by the Foodbank of the Eastern Shore with the Boys and Girls Club paying for the staff to prepare the meals.

Extremely reasonable program fees cover some of the other costs for the Boys & Girls Club, but a major portion of the budget is met by fundraising, including the club’s signature event, Swine and Wine.

For more information on the Boys and Girls Club, Eastern Shore Unit, call 757-350-9733 or 757-678-5151, ext. 8141, between 2 and 8 p.m. Find them on the web at www.bgceva.org.

2018 Boys and Girls Club Fundraiser Set for Oct. 13

This year’s Swine and Wine dinner will be held Saturday, Oct. 13, at the Mary N. Smith Cultural Center. Last year’s event at that location proved to be a great success, and the staff at the center is partnering with the Boys and Girls Club to stage the 2018 event.

Held from 6 to 10 p.m., the fundraiser features roast pig and chicken plus live music from Groove Junction and dancing



will follow. A silent auction will feature Eastern Shore art, golfing trips, fishing gear and many other items.

Sponsorships are available for the event to help the club meet its mission. Tickets are \$50, and \$40 for young adults 30 years and younger.

For information on sponsorships or to purchase tickets, call Shannon Gordon at 757-787-7577 or go to www.swineandwineforthekids.com.

Mary N. Smith Cultural Enrichment Center Has Rich History

The Mary N. Smith Cultural Enrichment Center is located at a historic school that served as the first secondary school for all black children of Accomack County. Opening in 1932 in the town of Accomac, the school moved to its current location near Route 13 in Accomac in 1953 and continued to serve as the county high school for African-Americans until integration in 1970, when it served as a middle school until 2004.

The school was named after Mrs. Mary Nottingham Smith (1892-1951), a trustee of the school and a Northampton County native who devoted her life to education beginning in 1921 as a Jeanes Educational Supervisor. The Jeanes Foundation was formed to improve vocational training programs for teachers of black students.

The school sat mostly vacant and neglected for years after its closing until 2011, when the Accomack County School

Board donated the building to the newly established Mary N. Smith Alumni Association, with graduates ranging from 1935-'70.

The alumni's mission is to maintain the legacy of the late Mrs. Smith by continuing to award scholarships and to convert the building to a cultural enrichment and educational community center for use by all citizens of Accomack County.

Its biggest challenge is to maintain the integrity of the building, badly in need of repairs and renovation after years of neglect.

"Our biggest need now is to install heating and air conditioning in the classrooms, gyms, hallways and restrooms," says Colby West, a retired teacher who is building and grounds supervisor for the facility and a member of the board, which is headed by Kelvin Pettit.

"There is a boiler furnace that heats the entire building when we turn it on, but it is very costly to use," adds West.

A \$40,000 grant from the Eastern Shore Community Foundation and annual funding from United Way of Virginia's Eastern Shore, in addition to money raised by the alumni association, have started the improvements, but there is still much work to be done.

Karen Downing, secretary and public relations director for the board, says the facility is already seeing considerable use by various organizations. "The Spell Rite event was held here recently, and we've had fundraisers, scholarship banquets,

wedding receptions, dances and many other events."

According to Downing, meetings also are held by groups, including the NAACP, Salvation Army, Delta Sigma Theta, among others.

Downing, a retired federal employee, says the alumni association wants to increase its programs offering youth mentoring. Touch Academy, which works with

at-risk youth after school, is conducting sessions at the center this summer. Una Familia, a group providing tutoring to maintain the skills of elementary and middle school students from non-English families, met at the center last summer.

The board also wants to expand the RISE (Regionally Increase Students Empowerment) Program, which provides successful male and female role models to high-risk youth.

West says the board is very excited about partnering with the Boys and Girls Club to hold after-school meetings at the facility beginning in September. "The Mary N. Smith Cultural Center and the Boys and Girls Club share the same vision of providing guidance and building character in our youth," explains West, who recently joined the board of the local Boys and Girls Club and helped plan last year's Swine and Wine fundraiser at the school.

"Colby has been a great addition to our board, and it was through our bond of providing all the resources we can to our youth that led us to explore the possibilities of having a second meeting place in Accomack County," says Payne. "This effort was helped greatly by a major gift from Perdue Farms. It has long been a dream of our board to expand in Accomack County, and we are excited about the club holding programs at the Mary N. Smith Cultural Enrichment Center in September."



Cooperative will upgrade to new meter technology to benefit members

A&N Electric Cooperative (ANEC) will upgrade its metering system to improve the reliability and efficiency of the existing electric distribution system.

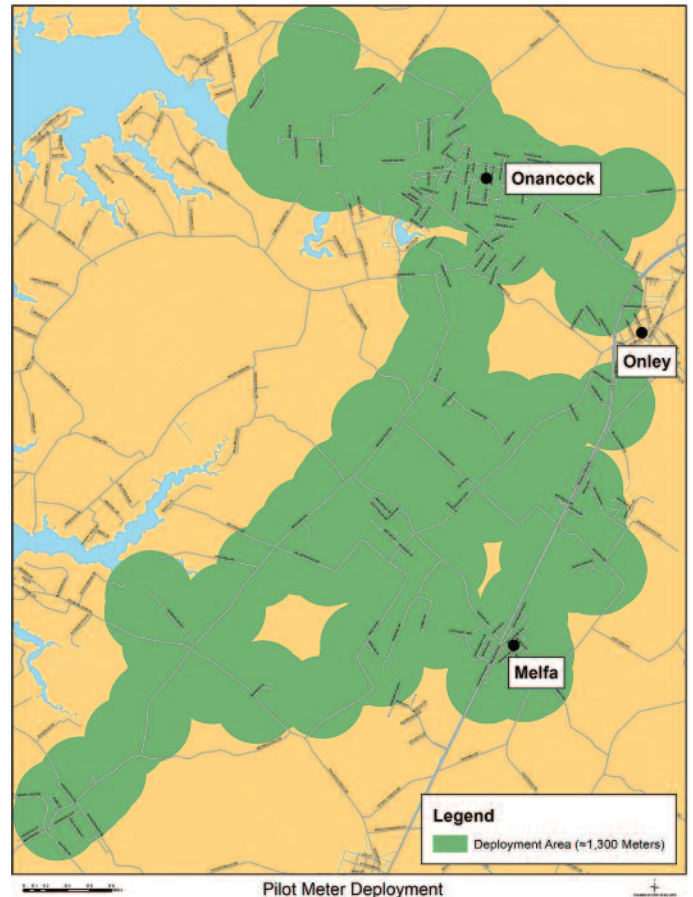
The Cooperative began installing a test phase in June, and will begin switching meters on a larger scale starting in August. The test phase of over 1,300 new meters will be installed in the Onancock area, stretching to areas that include Bobtown, Pungoteague, Melfa and Keller. ANEC expects to complete the installation of all of our members' 35,000-plus meters by December of 2019. Cooperative members can find an updated schedule of the installation at www.anec.com/content/meter-schedule.

"The upgraded metering system will allow members to see more detailed information about their energy use," says ANEC Director of Member Services Lori Shreaves. "Instead of the daily use we see with our existing system, members will be able to look at their hourly energy use and pinpoint what appliances and electronics are contributing to that use."

The impact of the installation is minimal. Co-op members can expect to lose power for a few minutes on the day of the installation. In addition, the next bill will show two meter readings: one from the old meter and one from the new meter. Members will be able to identify old and new readings by the meter number included on their bill.

The upgraded meters will enable the Cooperative to perform several functions remotely, such as reading meters and reconnecting power and will support additional value-added services for our members.

"Once fully installed, the new system will allow the Cooperative to expand its billing options and institute a pre-paid method, which has



New LED outdoor lights will help control cost, conserve energy

To help conserve energy and improve operational efficiency, A&N Electric Cooperative (ANEC) will begin replacing mercury-vapor and high-pressure-sodium lights currently in the field, with energy-efficient 55-watt LED fixtures when the older residential outdoor lights need repairs.

The LED outdoor-lighting options extend to streetlight replacement as well, with a 47-watt LED, 133-watt LED, and 209-watt LED replacing their 100-watt, 250-watt and 400-watt high-pressure-sodium equivalents.

If approved, the change will happen on Oct. 1 as part of the Cooperative's rate-adjustment filing with the Virginia Corporation Commission.

Not only will these new lights consume less energy, they require less maintenance and are dark-sky compliant, allowing an unobscured view of the night sky.

Rich Morrison, deputy administrator for building, planning, and economic development, says Accomack County appreciates the efforts and initiative by ANEC to move to LED lighting.

"Anyone who has witnessed a clear starry night on the Eastern Shore certainly appreciates our dark skies," Morrison says. "The winter skies in particular are spectacular, and ANEC's commitment to LED lighting will preserve and possibly enhance the beauty of our nighttime skies."

These fixtures are more durable and will reduce the number of maintenance calls associated with the Cooperative's existing lights, reducing our overall costs.

The new LED fixtures will eventually replace all outdoor lighting provided by the Cooperative.

LED Implementation Advantages

- More cost effective
- Easy to install
- More energy efficient
- Able to integrate with evolving technology
- Dark-skies compliant

been proven to help some members manage their energy use more effectively," Shreaves says.

The new meters will not affect Co-op members' kilowatt-hour rate.

The upgraded system will lower the cost related to manual meter reading, which will contribute significantly to the financial return on the project. The new system will also reduce the Cooperative's carbon footprint by reducing the number of employee-travel responses to meter issues.

Other benefits from the meters include:

- Faster response to outages;
- More efficient power distribution, helping us keep costs down for members;
- More accurate information about outages and restoration times;
- More information about your power use;
- Better detection of power theft; and
- Will support and expand billing options.

A&N Electric Cooperative is a member-owned, not-for-profit utility. We are looking out for our members by investing in new technology to improve efficiency and reliability.

ANEC linemen take part in regional rodeo



JAY DIEM PHOTOS

A&N Electric Cooperative employees joined more than 150 utility professionals from seven states at the 16th Annual Gaff-n-Go Lineman's Rodeo, held May 11-12 at Meadow Event Park in Doswell, Virginia.

Denny Crockett, Jake Parker and Virgil Wessels competed in seven events as part of both the equipment operators and journeyman competition, while Bryan Evans and Jackie Phillips served among volunteer judges.

The event features a number of different scenarios lineworkers could face during their work in the field. Teams are graded on speed and safety as they compete. The competition provides a learning opportunity for teams to see how other lineworkers tackle the specific event and techniques they use to make the job easier and safer.

"The job these linemen do to 'keep the lights on' for our members is a dangerous one," says Butch Williamson, ANEC president & CEO. "We're proud to support an event that promotes the safety and teamwork so critical to this profession, and delighted that our linemen did so well in this year's competition."

Named for the spike linemen attach to their boots when climbing electric utility poles, the Gaff-n-Go Lineman's Rodeo is organized by the Virginia, Maryland & Delaware Association of Electric Cooperatives.

The only competition of its type in the Mid-Atlantic region, the Gaff-n-Go Lineman's Rodeo offers professional linemen the opportunity to showcase their technical skills in various timed and scored events.

For more information and photos from this year's event, visit www.gaff-n-go.com, and check out A&N's Facebook page to see a video of the team competing.

MESSAGES FROM YOUR CO-OP

- ▶ Visit us at www.facebook.com/ANElectricCoop for up-to-date co-op information, notices and tips on energy efficiency and safety.
- ▶ Visit www.anec.com to sign up to receive Beat the Peak emails or text-message alerts.
- ▶ The **Touchstone Energy® Co-op Connections® Card is FREE to all ANEC members.** The card offers discounts at participating local and nationwide businesses, including prescription drug discounts.

