

AABE NEWSLETTER

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF BLACKS IN ENERGY - VIRGINIA CHAPTER



**In recognition of Women History Month in March, we celebrate
AABE Virginia Women in Leadership**

Message to Our Members

The Newsletter Committee would like to thank you all for another great quarter! It's hard to believe it's been over a year since the COVID-19 pandemic has shifted the way we live and work. While the end seems in sight, we need to stay vigilant and continue to follow CDC guidelines to help prevent the spread of its variants.

This year marks a significant chapter milestone with our **10th anniversary**. We celebrate the continued success and achievements of all of our members. What an incredible accomplishment and many blessings to embrace! From the growth of our Chapter and its members to the positive impact we have on communities and students, bridging the gap of awareness to topics and/or opportunities within the Energy field. We will continue to stand strong to support a culture of diversity and inclusion.



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IN CASE YOU MISSED IT: ED BAINE SPOTLIGHT



NEW AT 6:00 | RICHMOND
"I WANT TO MAKE SURE THAT I PAVE THE WAY FOR OTHERS"
DOMINION ENERGY'S FIRST BLACK PRESIDENT TALKS ABOUT HIS JOB & INSPIRING THE NEXT GENERATION

Richmond Channel 6 News (WTVR) recently recognized Ed Baine, president of Dominion Energy Virginia and an AABE Virginia co-founder, during their Black History Month Spotlight segment. Baine discussed his journey from growing up on a tobacco farm to becoming the first African American President of Dominion Energy Virginia.

TO VIEW SEGMENT, [CLICK HERE](#).

Members on the Move

Tonya Byrd promoted to Manager - Community Engagement Policy
LaTasha Corprew promoted to Business Process Analyst
Catherine Epps promoted to Director, HR Operations & Delivery
Shaunta Hodge promoted to Supervisor, Customer Account Management
Katie Taylor promoted to Program Manager, BrightSuite
Lisa Walls promoted to Supervisor, Infrastructure Operations
Shiris Wyatt promoted to Business Process Analyst
Rebecca Gilmer promoted to Technical Support Supervisor

CONGRATULATIONS

BREAKING BARRIERS IN ENERGY



In Celebration of Women's History Month, Norfolk Channel 10 News (WAVY) recognized Mrs. Sylvia White, manager of Dominion Energy's Eastern Regional Operations Center (ROC), during their 'Breaking Barriers' segment.

Sylvia shared her background and experience leading the management and coordination efforts in restoring electric power to Dominion Energy's customers both "safely and reliably." [Click here](#) to view the profile video and read the full article.

Celebrating Life of Former Dominion Energy Executive & Board Chairman, Thomas Farrell



AABE Virginia commemorates the life of former Dominion Energy chairman, president and chief executive officer, Mr. Thomas F. Farrell II, who recently passed away at the age of 66. Farrell was a supportive ally, executive member, and influential advocate on behalf of the Virginia Chapter since its 2011 inception.

Mr. Farrell served as Dominion Energy's chairman and chief executive officer from 2007 to his retirement in 2020. He stepped down from chairman of Dominion Energy's Board of Directors effective April 1, 2021.



The Energy industry has lost a giant. Farrell was a compassionate thought leader, civic-minded visionary, diversity-champion, philanthropist, mentor, and friend to many.

We send our thoughts and prayers to the Farrell family and the entire Dominion Energy organization.

"Tom was a peerless mentor and outstanding leader who sought to find innovative solutions to challenges at Dominion Energy, in the utility industry and in the community he called home...In his tenure at the company, Tom oversaw an era of prosperity and growth, and a long-term transformation that will have a lasting impact on clean energy development and on the health of the environment. Above all else, he loved spending time with his wife, his sons and their spouses, and his grandchildren. We will miss him greatly, and extend our deepest condolences to his loving family."

- **Bob Blue**

Dominion Energy chairman, president and chief executive officer; AABE VA member

AABE 2021 Virginia Chapter Leadership

*Feel free to contact Chair if interested to learn more about a specific committee at www.virginia@aabes.org



Darius Johnson
Executive Sponsor



Jesse Myrick
Chapter President



Malesia Taylor
VP - External Relations



Shaunta Hodge
VP - Programs



Greg Sye
Treasurer



Dallas Simmons
Treasurer-Elect



Joy Parker
Secretary



Matthew Holland
Chair - Advisory Board



Patyence Green
Chair - Programs



LaTasha Corpew
Chair - Membership
Recruitment



Monica Davis
Chair - Professional
Development



Quinton Johnson
Chair - Community
Outreach



Charlotte Dean
Co-Chair -
Communications



Bryasan Mealy-Norris
Co-Chair
Communications



Javon Whitehead
Chair - Newsletter



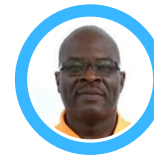
Shaye Jarvis
Chair -
Student Relations



Teirra Everette
Chair - Legislative
Issues & Public
Policy (LIPP)



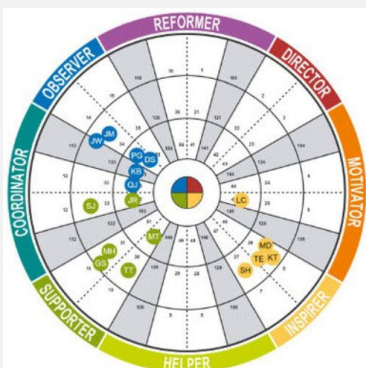
Kaitlin Taylor
Chair -
Branding Strategy



Kempis Brown
Co-Chair Charity
Golf Tournament



John Rison
Co-Chair Charity
Golf Tournament



Learn More About Your Leadership Team

During the first quarter, the Leadership team participated in several team-building activities to foster an effective collaborative environment. One was the Insights Discovery workshop. Insights, a tool designed to help individuals reflect upon themselves to identify personal traits and to better appreciate and value different approaches of others. The Discovery methodology uses a four-color model to help people understand their unique style, leadership strengths and weaknesses, and the value they bring to the team. Traits are broken down into color energies - Fiery Red, Sunshine Yellow, Earth Green, and Cool Blue energies - reflecting the strength in which each individual leads. The color energies determine how and why people behave the way they do.

Below are adjectives to describe each color's leadership approach.

- Fiery Red: purposeful, competitive, demanding, determined, strong-willed
- Sunshine Yellow: demonstrative, enthusiastic, persuasive, sociable, dynamic
- Earth Green: encouraging, caring, sharing, patient, relaxed
- Cool Blue: formal, precise, cautious, deliberate, questioning

Special thanks to Mr. Roosevelt Jones Jr. - senior human resource specialist at Dominion Energy, and AABE Virginia Professional Development chair - Monica Davis, for facilitating and coordinating this fantastic event.

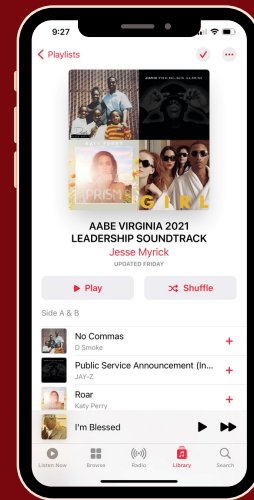
Initials	Name	Wheel Position	Colour Order Preference
QJ	Quinton Johnson	53	Blue / Yellow / Red / Green
JM	Jesse Myrick	34	Blue / Yellow / Red / Green
JW	Javon Whitehead	34	Blue / Yellow / Red / Green
PG	Patyence Green	54	Blue / Yellow / Red / Green
DS	Dallas Simmons	54	Blue / Yellow / Red / Green
KB	Kempis Brown	153	Blue / Yellow / Red / Green
MH	Matthew Holland	31	Blue / Yellow / Red / Green
GS	Greg Sye	31	Blue / Yellow / Red / Green
SJ	Shaye Jarvis	32	Blue / Yellow / Red / Green
JR	John Rison	52	Blue / Yellow / Red / Green
TT	Tiffany Taylor-Minor	30	Blue / Yellow / Red / Green
MT	Malesia Taylor	50	Blue / Yellow / Red / Green
SH	Shaunta Hodge	27	Blue / Yellow / Red / Green
LC	LaTasha Corpew	45	Blue / Yellow / Red / Green
MD	Monica Davis	26	Blue / Yellow / Red / Green
TE	Teirra Everette	26	Blue / Yellow / Red / Green
KT	Kaitlin Taylor	26	Blue / Yellow / Red / Green

AABE Virginia Leadership Music Playlist

The leadership team was asked to provide two theme songs that either describes their current mood, motivates them, and/or just a classic fan-favorite. With such an eclectic mix, a playlist was created as fun way to celebrate our 10-year anniversary throughout the year. Let's see if you can guess which song each Leader selected.

(FYI: Answer on page 8)

Click Here to download the 2021 Leadership team's curated playlist or scan the QR code with your iPhone camera to download!



QR Code



Leadership Networking Private Screening Event: Coming 2 America



On March 11th, AABE Virginia leadership took a step back from their busy work schedules for a leadership movie night at The Common House No. 2 - Richmond. Those in attendance relaxed with dinner and watched a private screening of Coming 2 America. The night was filled with laughter and fellowship!

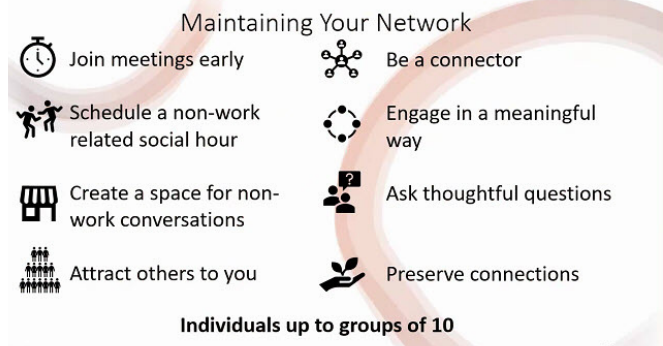
We are definitely looking for other opportunities to use the space for our membership!



Professional Development Series:

On March 10th, the Professional Development team hosted "Net" working in a Virtual Environment - a virtual event. Monica Davis led a discussion about tips on being more intentional and effective in engagement with others while working remotely, creating a structure for your workday, and the best methods of communication to deliver a message.

Click here to view the entire presentation.



AABE VA Gives Back to the Community in Donation Drives



Pictured above from left to right: Dayton Smith, Quinton Johnson, Teresa Diaz, and Terrence Moore. Pictured right: Quinton Johnson.

The Community Outreach team has coordinated two donation drives this quarter in support of the Richmond Community Refrigerator and the Goochland Cares Free Clinic and Family Services. Volunteers collected non-perishable items, goods, and donations at various Dominion Energy locations in the Greater Richmond area.

Looking ahead to the month of April, the team is coordinating another donation drive to support homeless veterans at the Hunter Holmes McGuire VA Medical Center in Richmond. To find out how to get involved, please contact Community Outreach chair - [Quinton Johnson](#).



FIRST QUARTER GENERAL BODY MEETING: COVID-19 IMPACTS ON THE UTILITY INDUSTRY AND ITS WORKFORCE

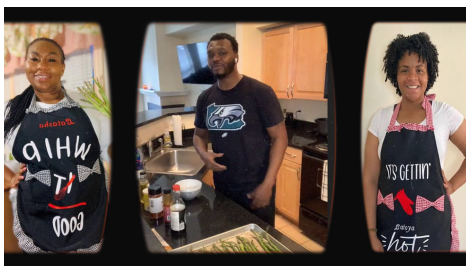


On March 18th, AABE kicked off its first general body meeting of 2021 with Rear Admiral Aisha K. Mix, Assistant Surgeon General and Chief Nurse Officer with the U.S. Public Health Service. With the ongoing impacts of COVID-19, it was essential to share information around the virus, the symptoms, vaccine administration, and the effects on individuals, families, and especially within communities of color.

Rear Admiral Mix shared details of her role with the U.S. Public Health Service Commissioned Corps, one of the eight uniformed services solely committed to protecting the public's health. The organization consists of 6,000 public health professionals dedicated to addressing public health and providing clinical care. Rear Admiral Mix's in-depth analysis of the COVID-19 virus included reviewing its symptoms and how the virus is transmitted through respiratory droplets, contaminated objects, and surfaces, as well as outlined cases where no symptoms were shown. She compared those who were at risk of getting infected - those in close contact with an infected person, those who gather in large settings, and those who travel to high-risk areas - individuals who were at a high risk of becoming severely ill from the virus - mostly older adults and those with underlying medical conditions.

In addition to vaccine administration education and physical safety measures, Rear Admiral Mix discussed the importance of protecting one's mental stability. She advised AABE members in attendance to take breaks from the news, set goals and prioritize, focus on the facts - dispel the myths, connect with others, and take care of your body by eliminating stress and seeking professional help if needed.

VIRTUAL COOKING NETWORKING SOCIAL: "YOU BE THE CHEF"



(left to right) LaTasha Corprew, chef-Marvin Raynor, and Latoya Williams.

On March 25th, AABE Virginia partnered with Dominion Energy's African American Resource Group (AARG) for a fun and inspiring evening in the kitchen. Led by our very own experienced culinary instructors, Mr. Marvin Raynor, key account manager II and Brandon Smith, supervisor of Electric Distribution Design - both at Dominion Energy, this fun virtual event transformed all of those who attended into self-proclaimed master chefs!

Whether you had several years of cooking experience under your belt, were a novice around the kitchen, or were a restaurant menu take-out guru, this family event was enjoyed by all who attended.

Special congratulations to Francesca Wilson, Erika Floyd, Charlene Chotalal, and Sylvia White who proved they had skills beyond just cooking by winning the plating competition. [Click here](#) for the complete menu and meal prep instructions.



LIPP SERIES: EQUITY IN ENERGY PANEL DISCUSSION

MODERATOR:



Teirra Everette
Senior Counsel - Law &
State Regulatory,
Dominion Energy



(left to right)



Katharine Bond, VP - Public Policy & State Affairs, Dominion Energy
Eric Claville, Director - Center for African American Public Policy, Norfolk State University
Lisa FaJohn, Supervisor - Energy Assistance, Dominion Energy Virginia
Vicki Friscic, Supervisor - Energy Assistance, Dominion Energy Ohio

The LIPP committee held its first event of the year March 31st, hosting a panel of experts as they discussed the state of energy equity in Virginia and how the proposed Percent of Income Payment Plan (PIPP) was working to level the playing field for eligible Virginians struggling to manage their energy costs.

The discussion covered the difference between equity and equality, how energy and equity are critically related, and the short - and long-term impacts of energy poverty on low-income consumers. Regarding the rollout of PIPP in Virginia, the panel covered the socialization of the costs of implementation, measures for success, and Ohio's implementation of the program. [Click here](#) to watch the full video-on-demand.

National News: Michael Regan First Black Man in Lead EPA Administrator Role

On March 10th, the U.S. Senate confirmed Michael Regan in a 66-34 vote as the next administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). He will play a key role in the implementation of President Biden's climate agenda. He is the first black man second Black administrator at the EPA to lead the EPA. Regan has said he will fight for environmental justice, reducing pollution's disproportionate impact on people of color and communities living in poverty.



Formerly, Regan served as the secretary of North Carolina's Department of Environmental Quality. During that time, he launched the state's Environmental Justice and Equity Board to advise his role in advancing environmental justice and promoting community engagement, particularly in historically underserved and marginalized communities.

Regan attended the HBCU North Carolina A&T State University, where he earned his Bachelor of Science degree in earth and environmental science. He then went on to attend George Washington University, where he earned a Master of Public Administration. Regan will be the second Black administrator at the EPA, following Lisa Jackson, who led the Obama administration agency.

"Our priorities for the environment are clear: we will restore the role of science and transparency at EPA. We will support the dedicated and talented career officials. We will move with a sense of urgency on climate change, and we will stand up for environmental justice and equity,"



AABE Scholarship Program



AABE Virginia will be awarding up to 10 high school seniors with a \$3,000 scholarship this year! More details to follow, as the selection process and planning for the annual Scholarship Banquet are underway. Be on the look out for a calendar invite soon!

AABE Virginia Annual Charity Golf Tournament



We are thrilled to announce the annual AABE Virginia Charity Golf Tournament is back this year and will be held at the Magnolia Green Golf Course located in Mosely, Virginia. Planning has begun and more details to follow shortly!



Top: (left to right) Ann Jones and Kaitlin Taylor
Bottom: Magnolia Green Clubhouse



Message from Chapter-President

2020 shed light on many social issues that have plagued our nation for generations, and unfortunately, those same semblances have played out in 2021 within recent months, specifically within the Asian and Pacific Islander (API) community. Racism, discrimination, and/or brutality on any level is unjust, intolerable, and irrational to justify!

In solidarity with the API community, my faith is TOGETHER we shall overcome the prejudices and biases that allow hate to continue to fester, and in its void, inject LOVE and RESPECT for one another. These senseless act doesn't define the ethos of our nation, however, hopefully, bridges awareness to implore action in fighting against these atrocities that will define its true character.

On behalf of AABE Virginia, we stand as allies and advocates for equity, accountability, and solutions.

-Jesse Myrick

Up Close & Personal with Offshore Wind:



Two wonderful highlights of Advisory Board member, **Mr. Lloyd Eley, M.S., PMP**, leading the project construction of Dominion Energy's offshore wind group.

Scan or Click Link, [Article](#)



[Video](#)



2021 Q1 Member Survey - Please take the time to share feedback on events.



AABE 2021 Leadership Playlist - 10 Year Soundtrack

Side A

- Track 1 - **No Commas**, Jesse Myrick
- Track 2 - **Public Service Ann.**, Quinton Johnson
- Track 3 - **Roar**, Ann Jones
- Track 4 - **Happy**, Edwina Linares
- Track 5 - **Where the Party**, Tiffany Taylor-Minor
- Track 6 - **Square Biz**, LaTasha Corprew
- Track 7 - **Family Affair**, Kempis Brown
- Track 8 - **Basketball**, Darius Johnson
- Track 9 - **One More Chance**, Matthew Holland
- Track 10 - **So Ambitious**, Darius Johnson
- Track 11 - **Unstoppable**, Shaunta Hodge
- Track 12 - **I'm Blessed**, Dallas Simmons
- Track 13 - **Soulshine**, Kaitlin Taylor
- Track 14 - **Sinnerman**, Javon Whitefield
- Track 15 - **This is Me**, Monica Davis
- Track 16 - **Superwoman**, Malesia Taylor
- Track 17 - **Love & Hate**, Nathaniel Wilson
- Track 18 - **Work That**, Patyence Green

Side B

- Track 19 - **Confidence**, Shaye Jarvis
- Track 20 - **If He Did It Before**, Jesse Myrick
- Track 21 - **God In Me**, Edwina Linares
- Track 22 - **Go Get It**, Jesse Myrick
- Track 23 - **Seasons**, *(Honorable Mention)*
- Track 24 - **Man of Your Word**, John Rison
- Track 25 - **Once in a Lifetime**, Lloyd Eley
- Track 26 - **All of Me**, Greg Sye
- Track 27 - **Praise Him...**, *(Honorable Mention)*
- Track 28 - **Helen's Testimony**, LaTasha Corprew
- Track 29 - **Thank You**, Lisa Walls
- Track 30 - **Every Hour**, *(Honorable Mention)*

[*Click here](#) for the Bonus Song of 2021

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