

MESSAGE FROM THE NEWSLETTER COMMITTEE

The Virginia Chapter of the American Association of Blacks in Energy (AABE) has been busy since the last newsletter was published at the end of the first quarter. This newsletter combines our second and third quarter activities. Enjoy!

Former President of Virginia Chapter, Drexel Harris, Retires



Drexel Harris, a founding member and former president of the Virginia Chapter of AABE, retired effective July 1 from his post as Recruiting and Talent Pipeline Strategic Advisor at Dominion Energy. Drexel served in the energy industry more than 40 years. In his last role Drexel oversaw the recruitment and development of new talent pipeline sources to meet the company's current and future workforce needs. He was instrumental in promoting the company's culture of diversity and inclusion and recruitment from historically black colleges and universities.

In addition to his leadership in the Virginia Chapter of AABE, Drexel also serves as an AABE National board member and is its Regional Director of the Mid-Atlantic Region. Recently, during this year's National Conference, he was awarded AABE's Clarke A. Watson Chairman's Cup award in recognition of his outstanding service and promotion of AABE's growth, vitality and enhancement of its mission as a resource for energy policy making.

Drexel's contributions to AABE are invaluable. Ed Baine said it best during a retirement celebration held in his honor - "Without Drexel there would be no Virginia Chapter." Congratulations on your retirement Drexel!!!

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MEMBERS ON THE MOVE

AWARDS, PROMOTIONS, & RECOGNITIONS

2019 Volunteer of the Year Community Vitality



AABE's own, Tonya Byrd, is no stranger to serving her community. From supporting her sorority, Alpha Kappa Alpha, to serving as the Vice President of Dominion Energy's African-American Resource Group,

Tonya combines people and resources to produce results.

Dominion Energy recognized six employees for their volunteer efforts during 2018. As part of their recognition, employees pay it forward with a \$5,000 donation from the company's Charitable Foundation to their non-profit of choice. Tonya was one of the recipients of our Volunteer of the Year annual recognition honor.

At the request of Dominion Energy, Tonya has repeatedly served on the planning committee for the United Negro College Fund's Hampton Roads Mayors' Masked Ball. As co-chair of the Silent Auction Committee, she assisted in raising over \$100,000 for local college students.

Congratulations to the following AABE members on the move!

Dominion Energy unless otherwise noted

Howard Brown promoted to Manager, Infrastructure Application Services

Rodney Brown promoted to Supervisor, Metering Engineering & Planning

Crystal Bright promoted to External Affairs Representative III

Lloyd Eley promoted to Manager, Generation Site Construction

Catherine Epps promoted to Manager, IT Client Services

Machesha Hasty promoted to Key Account Manager I

Shaye Jarvis promoted to Business Systems Analyst

Crystal Johnson promoted to Sr. Staffing Specialist - Talent Acquisition

Quinton Johnson promoted to Supervisor - Customer Account Management

Ann Jones promoted to Director II, Clover Power Station

Nicole Leggett promoted to Supervisor - Customer Account Management

Edwina Linares promoted to Manager, Electric Distribution Operations & Construction

Leighton McCoy promoted to Vice President, Gas Distribution Technical Services

Terrence Moore promoted to Distribution Operations Assistant

Lisa Hicks-Thomas will become Deputy General Counsel in Regulatory Compliance

Brandon Smith promoted to Supervisor, Electric Distribution

Greg Sye promoted to Transmission Strategic Project Advisor

Rachel Snead promoted to Director, NERC Reliability Compliance and NERC Policy

Alexander Stanley promoted to Manager, Nuclear Training

Elijah Stewart promoted to Manager, AMI Metering & Metering Engineering

Kaitlin Taylor promoted to Senior Customer Energy Solution Strategy Analyst

Nikki Taylor promoted to EnergyShare Program Manager

David Walker promoted to Director, Customer Service and Strategic Partnerships

Calvin Watson (Columbia Gas of Virginia) promoted to Construction Specialist

Vanessa Woodson promoted to Supervisor, Network Services

Steve Wooten promoted to Vice President and Chief Information Officer

Courtney Young promoted to Manager, Customer Account Management.

AABE Retirees

Cyril Coombs - Assistant General Counsel, Law-Labor & Employment

Drexel Harris - Recruiting and Talent Pipeline Strategic Advisor

Linda Haskins - Public Policy Specialist, Corporate

Celestine Moore - Manager, Customer Account Management

Susan Smith - Manager, Electric Distribution Operations - Design

PROGRAMS & PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT AT A GLANCE



Clean Cities' Alleyn Harned on the Future of Transportation

On May 30th, AABE Virginia hosted Alleyn Harned of Virginia Clean Cities for the 2nd General Body Meeting. Virginia Clean Cities, a coalition that seeks to bring together both public and private stakeholders to cultivate an advanced transportation community and address the challenge of moving the country away from the dependence on imported petroleum towards energy independence. After the meeting, the chapter hosted Tesla and the Dominion Corporate Fleet for a hands-on display of electric vehicles.

AABE VA Visits Dominion Energy's Cove Point Liquefied Natural Gas Facility

On June 21st, AABE Virginia hosted a tour of Dominion Energy's Cove Point Gas Liquefaction Facility. Located on the Chesapeake Bay in Lusby, Maryland, Cove Point is Dominion Energy's first liquified natural gas (LNG) export station and is the second of its kind in the country. Members received a brief presentation on the technology used at the facility, toured operations, and rode bicycles to the port where they were able to see a ship being filled with LNG to be transported overseas.



AABE VA and Columbia Gas Partner on Employee Development Event



On June 12th, AABE Virginia partnered with Columbia Gas of Virginia's LEAD group, and Dominion Energy's Young Professionals and African American Resource groups for a professional development event featuring Dr. Jamelle Wilson - Dean, School of Professional and Continuing Studies, University of Richmond. Dr. Wilson talked to attendees about how to become a more "valuable" employee within a transformative workplace.

MEMBER ACTIVITIES

COMMUNITY SERVICE & NETWORKING



AABE VA and Dominion Team Up for Field Day RVA

On June 1st at the Bon Secours Redskins Training Center, members competed to raise money for Higher Achievement. Funds raised provide middle school students in Richmond Public Schools the tools and support they need to graduate from high school and to go to college.

Cookout for a Cause

On May 25th, AABE VA members volunteered at the 3rd annual Cookout for a Cause hosted by FeedTheStreetsRVA at the Westover Community Center. The purpose of this event was to unify the community through food, music, and games while also bringing awareness to the poverty that exists in Richmond. Non-perishable food items were collected and donated to FeedMore. Volunteers spent the afternoon engaging with the attendees and vendors, while providing extra hands to the event organizers.



AABE National Conference in Indianapolis this Year

April 30th - May 4th, The 2019 the National AABE Conference was held in Indianapolis, Indiana. This year's conference theme was "Energizing the Future



for Customers and Communities". Energy industry experts, visionaries and corporate executives came together to lead discussions around emerging policies, technology advancements, and innovative solutions while creating opportunities for partnerships designed to create a sustainable future. The Virginia Chapter had 16 members participate this year. Next year's conference will be in Houston, Texas.

Spring Membership Social Brings in New Faces

On April 5th, AABE Virginia hosted a membership networking social. The event provided an opportunity for new and prospective members to meet the chapter and learn more about the mission of AABE and opportunities available. It was also a great time for members to relax after a long day of work.



Annual Family Cookout a Success

The Annual Family Cookout was another fun-filled event. On September 14th, members and their families came out to the Dominion Energy Dry Bridge Pavilion to enjoy an afternoon of games, food, and fun. Sharonda Shepard catered the event, while Chapter president, Jason Holland was on the grill.





Thirteen Students Awarded \$49,000 in Scholarships

Due to the success of the Second Annual Golf Tournament, AABE Virginia was able to award 13 scholarship to deserving Virginia high school scholars in support of their pursuit of careers in STEM. The keynote speaker for the evening was Dr. Gladys B. West, inventor of the Global Positioning System (GPS). Raven Witherspoon, Dominion Energy intern, and former AABE Virginia scholarship recipient also spoke. The Virginia Chapter awarded 13 scholarships totaling over \$49,000 this year and will be awarding an additional \$500 book stipend to the 2018 scholarship recipients entering into their sophomore year.



2019 AABE VA Scholarship Winners

- Myles Alexander** - Electrical Engineering at George Mason University
- Noelle Baptiste** - Business and Biology at the University of Virginia
- Saron Emanuel** - General Engineering at George Mason University
- Manuela Danso-Fordjour** - Computer Science at NC A&T Greensboro
- Solomon Harris** - Engineering at Virginia Military Institute
- Kevin Jackson** - Mathematics at Georgetown University
- Devine Peebles** - Environmental Science at George Mason University
- Alexis Richmond** - Engineering at Virginia Tech
- Tyrell Simmons** - Civil Engineering at Virginia Commonwealth University
- Michael Sutton** - Engineering at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology
- Binette Wadda** - Chemical Engineering at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (Mid Atlantic Region Scholar)
- Devon Wise** - Mechanical Engineering at Virginia Tech
- Yosef Woods** - General Engineering at Virginia Tech



Golfers Tee off for the 3rd Annual Golf Tournament at Independence Golf Course

Despite the morning starting off with heavy rain and a lightning storm, the third annual golf tournament was a hit. Golfers descended on the green once again at Independence Golf Club in Midlothian.



Tournament Highlights

- 128 Golfers participated
- More than \$70,000 raised in sponsorships and donation
- Altec contributed more than \$10,000 for scholarships
- Hole in One sponsored by Lexus of Richmond and the 288 Group

Membership Challenge Extended

To help support the 3rd Annual Charity Golf Tournament fundraiser, AABE Leadership kicked off a Member Challenge. Jesse Myrick, our Advisory Committee Chair, is leading the effort by donating \$100 to our Chapter's Scholarship Program and challenging ALL members to do the same. Any and all "in-kind" donations are welcomed. All contributions go directly toward student scholarships. All donations are tax-deductible! Those members who would like to participate can do so with the Dominion Energy Credit Union or send a check payable to "AABE-Virginia Chapter" with "Member Challenge Fundraiser" in the memo. For additional information, please contact jesse.j.myrick@dominionenergy.com.

The Member Challenge runs until December 31, 2019.

MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

CHAPTER GROWTH & UPCOMING EVENTS

JOIN **AABE**

MEMBERSHIP
MATTERS!

GET CONNECTED. STAY CONNECTED.
BRING A COLLEAGUE!

Now Through
Aug 31, 2019

50 New Members

170% of 2019 Goal

131 Total Members

94% of 2019 Goal

AABE Virginia Membership Increases with Successful Recruitment Campaign

Membership has its Benefits!

- Enhance your knowledge of energy policy and its impact on various sectors of the industry and its consumers.
- Take advantage of opportunities for professional development at chapter meetings, and at regional and national conferences.
- Online degree and certification programs for AABE members at Thomas Edison State University.
- Learn about entrepreneurial opportunities in the industry.
- Support young people through our scholarship and mentoring programs.
- Receive regular updates on industry issues.

6 Months Membership FREE!
Join now by visiting www.aabe.org

Membership valid through
December 31, 2020.

The Virginia Chapter had a very successful membership campaign for AABE National's "Member-Get-A-Member" program. The program incentivized existing members to recruit new members through a rewards system.

Those new members who joined between July 1st - August 31st had their membership extended through December 31, 2020! The campaign was a success with 19 new members joining the Chapter, including one Dominion Energy executive, Carter Reid.

Of those who joined during the campaign, 31% were non-Dominion Energy employees, representing Rappahannock Electric Cooperative, SEIA, Southside Electric Cooperative, Columbia Gas of Virginia, and McGuire Woods.

Upcoming Calendar Events

OCTOBER

- 03** Executive Roundtable
- 7-11** BEAM Activity
- 08** Executive Board Meeting
- 23-24** Chamber RVA - Mission Tomorrow
- 22-31** 2019 Officer Nominations

NOVEMBER

- 1-30** Angel Tree & Baskets for Cheer
- 12** Executive Board Meeting
- 14** General Body Meeting

DECEMBER

- 1-31** RTC Clothing Drive
- 6** Joint Holiday Social
- 12** Leadership Strategy Session
- 13** Social Event - Eastern Region

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NEWSLETTER COMMITTEE

MEET THE EDITORS

We would like to thank the members of AABE Virginia for another great quarter of programming. If you have any ideas or suggestions for the newsletter, please forward them to malesia.a.taylor@dominionenergy.com.



Malesia "Nikki" Taylor (Chair)
EnergyShare Program Manager, Dominion Energy

Nikki started at Dominion Energy as a supervisor in Customer Account Management, after six years in the healthcare industry. She completed her masters in Public Administration and moved to Alternative Energy Solutions where she was an Alternative Energy Solutions Policy Research Analyst II providing policy support to the company's research and development teams and its subsidiary Dominion Voltage, Inc. Later she joined the Corporate Public Policy group supporting the company's policy initiatives and large infrastructure projects through community engagement. In her current role she oversees the company's EnergyShare program. She serves on a numerous boards, including the Richmond Behavioral Health Authority and the Department of Housing & Community Development's Policy Advisory Committee. Currently she is the chair of both the Newsletter and Legislative Issues in Public Policy committees for AABE Virginia.

Shaye Jarvis
Business Systems Analyst, Dominion Energy

Shaye began her internship at Dominion Energy in May 2016 as a sophomore at VCU. She accepted a full time offer at the start of her senior year and graduated in May 2018 with her Bachelors of Science in Information Systems. Shaye was the president of the IT club at VCU and was awarded with the 2018 Distinguished Service Award from the Information Systems Department. Ever since high school she's enjoyed being engaged outside of her primary responsibilities and that a significant reason why she's involved in AABE!



Tin Htut Myint
Engineer II - Dominion Voltage Product Development, Dominion Energy

Tin started his career under Dominion Generation as an engineer at Surry Power Station for five years before transferring to Dominion Voltage Inc (DVI). Currently, Tin is a Product Development and Customer Solution Engineer. Aside from AABE, Tin is involved in many organizations within and outside of DE. He served as a chair of Dominion's Engineering Club and President of VCU's College of Engineering Alumni Board. Tin is currently a chair of community outreach committee in AABE, a board member of Asian American Society of Central Virginia, and College of Engineering Alumni Board. Tin is also active with many Dominion Energy ERGs (YP, AARG, etc.).

Javon Whitehead
Customer Billing Specialist, Dominion Energy

Javon began his career as a billing intern at Dominion Energy in May 2015 as a freshman at Reynolds Community College. Upon graduation from Reynolds Community College he transferred to Virginia Commonwealth University to complete his bachelors of science in Accounting. At VCU he was Vice-President of the National Association of Black Accountants at VCU while continuing to intern at Dominion Energy. He accepted a full time offer at the start of his senior year and graduated in May 2018. He remains active in the Richmond NABA professional chapter, VCU Business Alumni Student Engagement Committee as well as serves on the AABE Newsletter Committee.



Crystal B. Bright
External Affairs Representative III, Dominion Energy

Crystal started her career at Dominion Energy as a contractor in the Customer Account Management team. Within three months, she was hired full-time by Dominion Energy. While working as an agent, she earned her Bachelor's degree in English with a minor in Public Relations from Old Dominion University. Since then, she has worked in the Eastern Regional Operations Center as an analyst. During that time, she earned a Master's degree in Writing Popular Fiction from Seton Hill University. Shortly after, she worked as a Project Scheduler and Emergency Preparedness Center Communications Specialist before moving to her current position as an External Affairs Representative III. In 2018, she earned a second Master's degree in Professional Writing from New England College. Besides working at Dominion Energy, she is also an author with six novels currently published.

Terion Griffin
480V System Engineer, Dominion Energy

Terion began interning with Dominion Energy in May of 2016 as a second year student. He earned his Bachelor of Science in Electrical Engineering in May of 2019 but before that he accepted a job offer at the beginning of his senior year to become the primary 480V System Engineer at Surry Power Station. Ever since he was a child, Terion has been adamant about giving back to his community. Terion was sold on AABE the minute he heard of the organization because he realized they shared the same drive and passion to plant seeds of growth in our communities. Terion is looking forward to becoming more active with as many of Dominion Energy's ERGs (AARG, W3, Hola!, YP, etc.) as his availability allows because he embraces the challenge to leave communities better than how he found them.

