

## Members Interested in Serving on Election Committees Should Contact the Cooperative

Any A&N Electric Cooperative member who would like to serve on the co-op's nominating or credentials and elections committee for the upcoming 2023 board election should contact the cooperative prior to Dec. 31, 2022.

Nominating and C&E committee members are co-op members appointed by the board of directors but act as two independent bodies.

The C&E committee certifies candidates based on qualifications listed in the co-op bylaws. This committee also oversees the board election process.

The nominating committee is tasked with nominating a slate of candidates for any board seat up for election in 2023.

Members of either committee cannot be a close relative of any incumbent director, any cooperative officer, employee, agent or representatives, or of any declared, probably or actively campaigning candidate.

If you are interested in serving, please contact the cooperative at 757-787-9750 or utilize the "Contact Us" form at [anec.com](http://anec.com). Please include "Election Committees" in the subject line.

### CONTACT US

21275 Cooperative Way, P.O. Box 290  
Tasley, VA 23441-0290

**Phone**  
757-787-9750

**Payments**  
855-386-9921

**Website**  
[anec.com](http://anec.com)



### Office Hours

Monday-Friday, 7:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

**President & CEO**  
Butch Williamson

**Local Pages Editor**  
Jay Diem

*A&N Electric Cooperative is an  
Equal Opportunity Provider and Employer.*



## Help Support Members Helping Members This Holiday Season

**W**ith the holiday season around the corner, please consider giving to Members Helping Members to help our neighbors in need.

Members Helping Members Inc. is a community nonprofit organization and was established to assist families needing assistance in paying their electric service bills.

Over 2,300 co-op members are currently contributing more than \$3,000 monthly in amounts ranging from under \$1, with the program's round-up option, to as much as \$10.

"Members who are interested in giving are urged to try our 'Round Up' option," says Lori Shreaves, A&N Electric Cooperative's member services director. "It's a good place to start and has a minimal impact on the individuals who chose that option. A few cents may not seem like a lot, but it adds up very quickly."

Members who are eligible to receive funding from Members Helping Members should contact their county's Department of Social Services.

A&N Electric Cooperative, in cooperation with Members Helping Members Inc., secures funding through voluntary donations through the cooperative's electric service bills.

On average, the program assists more than 200 co-op members annually.

Members of the cooperative who would like to donate to the program can log onto [anec.com](http://anec.com) and search "Members Helping Members." Fill out the online form or speak with one of our member services representatives by calling 757-787-9750.

Eligibility requirements are also listed on the cooperative's website.

Donations to the program are tax deductible, and 100% of the funding goes to members in need.

The cooperative will hold a Members Helping Members fundraising drive in December.

*Members Helping Members is governed by an independent board. Community members interested in serving on the board should contact the cooperative at 757-787-9750 or by using the "Contact Us" form at [anec.com](http://anec.com).*







## Energy-Efficiency Tip of the Month

Is your home heating system ready for the winter chill? One of the easiest ways to keep your system running efficiently is to regularly replace filters. If your central air system has a furnace filter, it should be replaced about every 90 days.

If your home is heated through warm-air registers, baseboard heaters or radiators, remember to clean regularly to boost efficiency.

Source: [energy.gov](http://energy.gov)



## Upcoming Office Closures

The A&N Electric Cooperative Tasley office will be closed for the following holidays:

- Thursday, Nov. 24, in observance of the Thanksgiving holiday;
- Monday, Dec. 26, in observance of the Christmas holiday; and
- Monday, Jan. 2, in observance of the New Year's holiday.

A&N Electric Cooperative directors and employees wish you a safe and happy holiday season. Please have a safe and happy Thanksgiving, a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!



## Drones Help With More Efficient Transmission Inspections

In late August, A&N Electric Cooperative began working with Sentinel Robotics Solutions to perform aerial drone inspections of Old Dominion Electric Cooperative's transmission lines.

**B**eginning in late summer, A&N Electric Cooperative worked with Sentinel Robotic Solutions to perform aerial drone inspections of Old Dominion Electric Cooperative's local transmission lines.

The use of drones allowed for a more efficient inspection process. Drone operators were able to inspect more structures and equipment in a shorter period of time than a more conventional inspection crew. Particularly in harder to reach rights-of-ways.

The work took place during daylight hours and covered transmission lines in both Eastern Shore counties.

ODEC is A&N Electric Cooperative's power supplier. The not-for-profit generation and transmission cooperative owns and maintains transmission facilities in Accomack and Northampton Counties.

Sentinel Robotic Solutions is an unmanned systems consulting partnership headquartered locally in Wattsville, Va. The company works with government, commercial and engineering services.



Shawn Hildebrand, vice president of corporate services, speaks at a recent meeting of the Cape Charles Rotary Club. Hildebrand addressed the cooperative's recent energy cost increase and supply chain constraints, which are affecting the industry nationwide. The cooperative recently visited a number of local civic organizations to discuss a variety of industry related topics.





# VETERANS WORK HERE



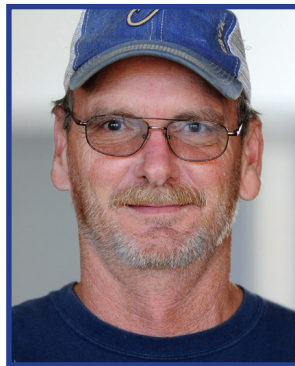
Garrison Drummond  
**U.S. AIR NATIONAL  
GUARD**



Daniel Hart  
**U.S. MARINE CORPS.**



Demonta Heath  
**U.S. ARMY**



Jack Sturgis  
**U.S. NAVY**



Butch Williamson  
**U.S. ARMY**



PROUD TO HONOR ALL WHO HAVE SERVED  
HAPPY VETERANS DAY





A&N Electric Cooperative's Jared Clayton speaks with a prospective Youth Tour student during Arcadia High School's open house event earlier this year. The cooperative visited several local open houses to discuss the Youth Tour and VICE Conference program opportunities.

## Youth Tour and VICE Conference Essay Deadlines in Early December

If you are the parent of a high school junior, urge them to participate in the cooperative's Youth Tour and VICE Conference essay contests.

The cooperative's annual essay contests to determine our local representatives for these two youth programs began last month.

The Youth Tour essay contest is open to all high school and home-schooled juniors living in the cooperative's service area.

For Youth Tour, students can select one of two essay topics: "Electricity's Importance to the Eastern Shore" or "What Would Life Be Like Without Access to Electricity?"

Each area high school is eligible to send a student on this year's Youth Tour.

For VICE Conference, students should write an essay based on this topic: "What are the Benefits of the Cooperative Model of Business to the Eastern Shore?"

VICE Conference attendees must be 16-19 years old as of July 1, 2023.

The cooperative has up to four spaces available for this youth program.

Essays can be submitted directly to the cooperative by logging onto [anec.com](http://anec.com) and selecting "Youth Tour" or "VICE Conference" under the "Community" tab.

The deadline for essay entrants is Dec. 3, 2022. Both conferences are at no cost to students who are selected through the essay contests. Travel to both conferences is also provided by the cooperative. Qualifying students can submit essays to both the Youth Tour and the VICE Conference contests but will only be selected for one trip.

To learn more about how you can participate in this program, contact Jay Diem at [jdiem@anec.com](mailto:jdiem@anec.com) or visit [anec.com](http://anec.com) and search "Youth Tour" and/or "VICE Conference."



VIRGINIA INSTITUTE ON COOPERATIVE EDUCATION





# Keeping Pets and Energy Bills Comfortable

During the winter months, make sure your whole family, including your four-legged members, is cozy without taking a big “bite” out of your budget.

**M**any people consider their four-legged companions to be part of the family and can't imagine life without them. During the winter months, make sure your whole family, including your four-legged members, is cozy — without taking a big “bite” out of your budget.

Following are a few simple ways you can make your home more comfortable this winter, which can ultimately help you save on energy bills.

At the onset of the cold weather season, replace the HVAC filter for better air quality and to help the unit operate more efficiently. You can also keep your home cozier by replacing caulk and weatherstripping around windows and doors. If your home is particularly chilly, you can tape or affix heavy, clear plastic to the inside of your window frames to create an additional barrier against the cold. Ensure that the plastic is tightly sealed to the frame to help reduce infiltration.

Winter can be “ruff,” so consider setting your thermostat at 68 degrees or as low as comfortably possible, a “purr-fect” temperature for people and pets. This is especially important for smaller, short hair and older pets — not just for warmth, but for their general health. Puppies, kittens and older pets with arthritis or other ailments may have a harder time controlling their body heat and need the additional warmth when it's chilly out.

Pets that sleep close to the floor can be subject to cold drafts that enter your home through windows and exterior doors. If your pet's bed is near a window or door that feels drafty, tightly roll up a towel and place it near the bottom of the door or window to eliminate the draft. Cutting down on cold drafts helps everyone feel more comfortable during colder months.

If possible, elevate your pet's bed so it's not placed directly on a cold floor. An old chair or sofa cushion works well. If you don't use a dog bed, take some old blankets and create a donut shape on the cushion so the dog can snuggle and “nest” within the blanket. You can do the same for cats but on a smaller scale. Blankets enable pets to nestle into them, even when they aren't tired, and provide a comfortable place for dogs and cats to curl up.

During the day, open your blinds and curtains to allow sunlight to warm your home. Close window coverings at night for an added layer of insulation.

At A&N Electric Cooperative, we want to help you save energy and money. Check out our SmartHub app or visit our website at [anec.com](http://anec.com) for additional energy-saving tips.

We can't control the weather, but we can provide advice to help you save energy and keep your family and furry friends more comfortable during the winter season.







## DO WE OWE YOU MONEY?

### List of Unclaimed Capital Credits

When the cooperative has margins at the end of the year, they are allocated to active members based on their electricity use during that year.

Annually, the board of directors determines if the cooperative is in a financial position to distribute any margins, or capital credits, back to members. Capital credits are then retired and given to the members in the form of a bill credit, and in the case of an inactive member, a check.

We have many former members that have checks awaiting them, but are unable to mail those checks because we no longer have a valid address on file. If you think you are one of those members, or know someone who might be, please go to [anec.com](http://anec.com) and search "Unclaimed Capital Credits" or use your mobile device to scan the QR code below.



[anec.com/unclaimed-capital-credits](http://anec.com/unclaimed-capital-credits)

## Holiday Artisan Tour is Nov. 25-26

The Artisans Guild of the Eastern Shore's 19th Annual Holiday Tour will be held 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Nov. 25-26.

Eighteen stops at studios, historic locations and a winery, featuring the creative work of 49 local artists/artisans, will be included in this self-driven tour. The tour's footprint stretches from Onancock in the north to the Cape Charles area in the south.

A brochure and map of the tour can be found at [esvaartisansguild.org](http://esvaartisansguild.org).

Contact [info@esvaartisansguild.org](mailto:info@esvaartisansguild.org) for more information.



## Member Satisfaction Surveys Conducted in December

**A** &N Electric Cooperative will be conducting member satisfaction surveys during the month of December with the help of Cooperative Insights.

Surveys are conducted through email quarterly.

We appreciate all the co-op members who participate in these regular surveys. The feedback provided has helped the cooperative better respond to issues.

Co-op members who receive a member satisfaction survey email will see a link to the survey embedded in the message.

If a member has any questions about the validity of the email, please contact us at 757-787-9750.



Lighting the Way, A&N Electric Cooperative's employee non-profit organization, continues its monthly commitment at the Foodbank of the Eastern Shore's Tasley facility. The group helps bag nonperishable food items for the Foodbank's pantry program. Lori Shreaves (from left), David Darby, Mark Belknap, Dan Schaffer, Robie Marsh, Curtis Taylor and Michelle Evans volunteered in September.