



## SEC welcomes Clive Pettis to Board of Directors



*By Lauren Irby, Communications Specialist*

Clive Pettis of Crewe recently joined the Southside Electric Cooperative (SEC) Board of Directors. He succeeds Herbert Winn, who retired from the board after 26 years of dedicated service to the co-op. Pettis began his three-year term in April.

Since 2015, Pettis has served as a customer trainer and IT system administrator for Lockheed Martin, a company that builds the F-35 airplane for the government.

He is also active in the community as a member of the Nottoway County School Board, representing District 3.

Chairman Frank Bacon and the board welcomed Pettis at his first Board of Directors' meeting in April. "We are excited to have Mr. Clive Pettis join our SEC board. Clive brings to us a broad background in business and government, along with an especially strong commitment to giving back to his community. These qualities make him an excellent member of the SEC team with the sole purpose of looking out for our members' interests."

Before his current employment, he worked for Nottoway County Schools for 18 years as an IT administrator. Over the years, he has worked as a network administrator for Crewe Medical Center as well. "I stay busy, but love it," he adds.

Education has always been important to Pettis and his family. "My mother was always encouraging education." His mother worked as a custodian at SEC at one time, and she always spoke highly of the co-op and how it was a great place to work. "When I found out I had been selected to join the board, it couldn't have happened at a better time. It was Feb. 9, which is her birthday." He adds, "God has a plan, and I am excited!"

Born and raised in Crewe, Pettis attended Nottoway High School, graduating with the class of 1987. He later attended Fork Union Military Academy and received an athletic scholarship to attend James Madison University (JMU). He played football for the JMU Dukes and graduated in 1992 with a degree in office systems management & technology.

Pettis later earned his master's degree in 2008 from Virginia State University in educational administration and supervision.

SEC President & CEO Jeff Edwards looks forward to Pettis being a part of the SEC family. "He brings a unique perspective into the boardroom with his professional background in information technology. That knowledge will bring added value to our board and management team."

An SEC member since the early '90s, Pettis has never been able to attend an annual meeting — until last year.

"My relatives have been going for years, and they were showing me around. I was impressed with all of the good stuff the co-op is doing," he explains.

Pettis and wife Sherry have been married for 23 years and have a son, Clive "Cephas" Pettis Jr., 13.

Sherry is a data assessment and testing coordinator for Amelia County Schools, and together they encourage Cephas to excel in his studies.

When he's not working or spending time with his family, you can find Pettis on the golf course. "Golf is really the only hobby I want to do!" he laughs.

As a new board member, he looks forward to “serving the community and being able to get out and talk to people and understand any issues or concerns they may have.

“I’m not saying that I can solve it all,” he smiles, “but sometimes being heard can help establish trust.”

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