

Profile for Dennis Pottratz, as candidate for Oneota Coop Board

Experience and Training

BS Economics and Accounting, Iowa State University

BS Applied Environmental Technology, Jordan College Energy Institute (Valedictorian)

Passed CPA exam, 11 years of corporate audit with Prudential Insurance, Apache Oil and Gas, FW Woolworth and 3 years at Midland Cooperatives

Served on Coop Boards: Housing Coop, NYC, treasurer; Easttown Food Coop Grand Rapids, MI., treasurer. Also served as a financial advisor to Whole Foods Coop, Mpls. and Smokey Bay Coop, Homer, AK.

Personal

Grew up on a dairy farm in New Albin. Since moving to Decorah in 1996, I have operated GoSolar. My work involves designing and installing solar electric and wind energy systems. In the three years between leaving corporate America and finding a solar career, I self studied nutrition while traveling all over North America.

One of the reasons I choose to move to Decorah was the fact that Oneota Coop provided a source of healthy food and likeminded people. It seems like this is a time of transition for the coop. It is important to me to assist in seeing the Coop successfully make this transition. Taking a turn on the board is likely the best way for me to make this commitment.

When not working on GoSolar, I like to garden, cook, work on old houses, travel to warm places, play sports, watch movies, listen to music, read, dance, do yoga, meditate, drink, smoke and generally have a good time.

I believe the coop has a solid base to build into the future. There have been some rough times. I am not sure exactly what has taken place. I think we need to concentrate on our strengths, identify where we can do better, appreciate what we have and lighten up.

On a recent trip to Hawaii, I married Kate Narveson on my 57th birthday. At this ripe old age it looks like I will be hanging around Decorah for the foreseeable future. The coop better do the same.