



The American Association of Blacks in Energy® – Atlanta Chapter Vol. 3, Issue 1 ♦ January 2008 http://aabe.org/atlanta





ATLANTA CHAPTER Highlights:

AABE Atlanta Chapter Officer Installation and Year in Review



Atlanta Chapter held its end of year general meeting December 13th at Georgia Power with an official ceremony and holiday celebration. Outgoing **President** Eric Duncan (GPC) presented highlights of monthly programs, committee activities and events held in 2007. AABE Atlanta has been a model chapter in 2007 by awarding over \$30,000 in scholarships, holding town hall meetings, delivering quality programs to its members, promoting the website and providing newsletters filled with member and energy related information. Thank you to all the members who brought wrapped gifts and gave donations to benefit My Sister's House (MSH). A total of

\$350 was collected at the meeting which was used to purchase toys, toiletries, infant supplies and paper products. President Duncan delivered the items to MSH on December 17th. Melissa Clayton, shelter coordinator, extended thanks and appreciation on behalf of the residents.

Olivia Parks-Woods (GPC) gave an overview of the chapter's 25th Anniversary Gala along with a video news clip and PowerPoint presentation. **Cherryl Harris** (GPC) awarded door prizes to members who answered AABE Atlanta trivia.

View the Anniversary video clip on *YouTube* by clicking <u>here</u>.

President Duncan also awarded certificates of merit to AABE ATL Chapter Committee Chairpersons, plaques to AABE ATL Chapter Officers and a special honor to **Wayne Young** (Honeywell) for his outstanding service on the newsletter and website. Cherryl and Wayne also gave Eric an honorary plaque and trophy for serving as Chapter President for over 2 years.



AABE National Board member **Dot Harris** (GE Energy) officially installed the newly

elected leadership as AABE Atlanta Chapter Officers for the 2008 to 2009 term (pictured). A list of our new officers is provided at the end of this newsletter.

Eric passed the Presidential Gavel to **President Cordell Carter** (AGL). President Carter addressed the membership and pledged to continue AABE's mission. Our initiatives are to increase awareness of energy issues in the community, diversity membership and establish a student chapter at Georgia Institute of Technology.

AABE January Dr. Martin L. King Jr. Day Program

Please join us for our annual MLKing luncheon program. This will be a joint meeting with Georgia Power's Energy Exchange



Group and will be held on Wednesday, January 16th at 11:30am in the GPC Arkwright Auditorium. The guest speaker is **Milton Little Jr.**, president of the Metropolitan Atlanta United Way. The meeting will be firstcome, first-seated due to the large number of expected attendees and media.

SCANA Energy Donates to UNCF (by Tasha Reid (SCANA)



As one of Georgia's leading natural gas marketers, SCANA Energy has devoted many corporate resources towards education. With its ongoing commitment to education, SCANA Energy proudly donates annually to the United Negro College Fund (UNCF) and the company is pleased to increase its sponsorship level of the 24th Annual Mayor's Masked Ball benefiting UNCF to help thousands of students attend UNCF colleges.

SCANA Energy also fully funds after-school programs and Homework Centers in elementary schools throughout Georgia to help build solid foundations that will make our future community leaders better, brighter, and stronger. Pictured above (L-R): actors **Tim** and **Daphne Reid**, AABE Atlanta Members **Tasha Reid** and **Jamal Petrus**.

Career Day Expo

Volunteers are needed at Clarkston High School to discuss their education, employment and scholarship opportunities. The expo will be held on Thursday, January 31st from 8am to noon. Guest speakers include CNN news anchor T.J. Holmes and Channel 11 Alive sports anchor Sam Crenshaw. Clarkston High School is located at 618 North Indian Creek Drive. For more info, please contact Clarkston High School Head Counselor Pier Mehrvarz at (678) 676-5329.

AABE Atlanta Scholarship Applications Due



Applications are being accepted now for the annual James. K. Davis Scholarship. High school graduating minority seniors accepted at accredited institutions for degrees in energy-related fields are eligible. Qualifying students will also be considered for the AABE National and Regional Scholarships. For an application, please contact Scholarship chairs Valerie Searcy (GPC) at vdsearcy@southernco.com or Fanchester Henry (GPC – CCC) at fyhenry@southernco.com. The application and eligibility criteria can be found on the AABE Atlanta Chapter Website.

Free Minority Scholarships

Click <u>BlackExcel.org</u> to view over two hundred links for scholarships that are available to qualifying students.

AABE ATL Membership Drive



Please renew your membership to the Atlanta Chapter. Your annual dues are tax-deductible and most companies will pay them on your behalf. AABE's dues help sustain the chapter and fund meetings, programs and activities such as the scholarship program. AABE members receive access to energy related information and events; professional and personal development seminars; and opportunities to serve your community through mentoring, leadership and charitable contributions. Recommend a friend or colleague to join us!

The Atlanta Chapter is one of the most diverse chapters within the AABE organization with over 20 different member companies, organizations and private firms. We currently have a chapter in metro Atlanta and a satellite at the Georgia Power Customer Care Center (CCC) in Henry County. Our goal this year is to create a student chapter at Georgia Tech and the AUC. Annual dues should be submitted prior to March 1 to participate in key voting during at the annual conference this April.

Professionals in the energy field who wish to apply new or perhaps renew their membership to AABE will be charged \$150. Student chapter dues are \$20. To download membership applications please click the <u>website</u> or contact AABE Atlanta Chapter Membership Committee Chairperson, **Lillie Battle** (GPC) at <u>lrbattle@southernco.com</u>.

<u>Atlanta Chapter Committees</u> <u>Need Your Involvement!</u>

Chairpersons, co-chairs and volunteers are needed to support the following AABE committees in 2008 and 2009:

BEAM (Black Energy Awareness Month)

Manage the October Career Day event presented to area high school students.

Communications/ Public Relations & Technology

Preparation of the *All ABout Energy* monthly newsletter and maintain the chapter website. Participate in the AABE National Technology Development Committee.

Fundraising

Development of the James K. Davis Annual Golf Outing to finance our scholarships.

Membership Recruitment of new members.

Program

Creating quality monthly meetings for the general and satellite chapters.

Scholarship

Selection of qualified high school seniors for the annual James K. Davis energy awards.

Conference Planning

Serve on subcommittees to plan the 2009 32nd Annual AABE National Conference in Orlando, Florida.

Taking Our Unbroken Commitment Home (TOUCH) Mentoring

CHOICES: Monthly peer and life skills advice for 9th graders.

TOUCH Philanthropic/Charitable Donations for families in need.

TOUCH Energy Education

Enlighten the community about energy at 4-6 planned town hall meetings.

Legislative & Regulatory Affairs

Lobby AABE's agenda with governmental agencies. Participate in the AABE National Legislative Issues & Public Policy Committee.

Student Chapter

Grow and maintain a student chapter at Georgia Tech and the AUC.

For more info, contact AABE Secretary Monica Hart (GPC) at mhreese@southernco.com.

MEMBER NEWS: **Promotions**

Stephen D. Harvey was promoted to service manager for Mayberry Electric Inc. Mayberry Electric is a commercial electric service provider in the metropolitan Atlanta area.

GEORGIA NEWS:

ABC Book of Lists

The Atlanta Business Chronicle (ABC) released its annual Book of Lists for 2007 - 2008. Statistics on environmental and energy-related companies is provided below:

Top 20 Foreign-Owned Subsidiaries

2. Siemens Energy & Automation 19. Deutz Corp.

Fortune 500 Companies in GA

168. Southern Co. 474. Mirant Corp.

ATL's 50 Fastest-Growing **Private Companies**

42. GC Electrical Solutions LLC 48. CAB Inc.

25 Highest Paid Executives of

GA Public Companies 9. Edward R. Muller – Mirant 10. David M. Ratcliffe -Southern Co.

ATL's Top 100 Private **Companies**

3. RaceTrac Petroleum 4. Southwire Co. 10. Oglethorpe Power Corp. 15. Colonial Pipeline Co. 24. MACTEC Inc. 56. GA Transmission Corp. 61. PS Energy Group Inc. 85. Cape Environmental Management

GA 25 Top Performing Stocks

5. IntercontinentalExchange Inc. 23. Mirant Corp.

GA 50 Most Valuable Public Companies

4. Southern Company

- 8. IntercontinentalExchange Inc.
- 9. Mirant Corp.
- 21. AGL Resources

GA Public Companies

7. Southern Company 16. Mirant Corp. 19. AGL Resources 61. IntercontinentalExchange Inc. 132. Servidyne Inc.

ATL Top 25 Engineering Firms

1. CH2M Hill 7. MACTEC Inc. 17. EarthTech

ATL Top 25 Women-Owned Firms

2. PS Energy Group

ATL Top 25 Technology **Employers**

4. General Electric Co.

6. Siemens Energy & Automation

GA 25 Most Valuable Public Technology Companies

1. IntercontinentalExchange Inc.

Top HBCUs

(US News & World Report)

1. Spelman College 4. Morehouse College

- 22. Clark Atlanta University

America's Best Colleges

- (US News & World Report)
- 17. Emory University
- 35. Georgia Tech
- 59. University of Georgia

GA 25 Largest Colleges & Universities

- 1. University of Georgia
- 2. Georgia State Univ.

6. Georgia Tech

13. Clark Atlanta University

14. DeVry Institute

17. Atlanta Technical College

21. Morehouse College

25 Largest GA Based Company Sponsored Foundations

5. Georgia Power Foundation8. Southern Co. CharitableFoundation11. AGL Resources PrivateFoundation18. Colonial Oil Foundation

ATL Top 25 Minority Owned <u>Firms</u>

 HJ Russell & Co.
 PS Energy Group
 Cape Environmental Management Inc.

National Largest Consumer <u>Markets</u>

 Georgia - \$58B African-Americans
 Georgia - \$13.6B Hispanics

Economics: Buying Power

 US
 GA

 All
 \$10T
 \$278B

 Black
 \$845B
 \$58B

 Latino
 \$860B
 \$13.6B

 Asian
 \$459B
 \$8.1B

2007 Unemployment Rate

Atlanta – 4.4% Georgia – 4.6% USA – 4.5%

2008 Georgia Economic Forecast

Economy growth -2.4%Unemployment -5%

Leading sectors include life sciences, health care, defense, transportation, professional, businesses and hospitality. Weak sectors include housing, manufacturing, financial services and information technology.

Our Condolences



AABE regrets to inform you of several passings during the month of December. The late **Senator Tom Murphy** (pictured), the Georgia Democrat who was Speaker of the House for 28 years. The late **Congresswoman Julia Carlson**, the first female and African-American elected in Indiana and the late **Cynthia King**, daughter of **Mae Stem Bridge**, caterer for our AABE Atlanta scholarship banquets.

GPC Rate Increase Approved



The Georgia Public Service Commission has approved a \$321.7M/year revenue increase for Georgia Power Company (GPC) that will take effect this month. Residential customers will see their electric bills increase by an average \$5.24 per month. After the January increase, the rates will remain the same in 2009 and 2010. GPC filed for a rate increase to recover costs for installing environmental controls as required by state and federal regulations.

GE Energy Wins Contracts

Atlanta based GE Energy reported \$650M in contracts to provide 333 wind turbines adding 500MW of power capacity to New York and Texas.

Latest GA Drought Updates



Water conservation efforts in the state of Georgia have been successful but 50% of the state remains in exceptional drought conditions. Governor Sonny **Perdue** set a goal for all large users to reduce consumption by 10%. The target was 230 million gallons per day and as of December; the state reduced 348 million gallons per day. Overall water usage was down 10% in Atlanta, 10 – 15% in Gwinnett County, 15 – 20% in Cherokee County, and 20% in Cobb County. Approximately 31 out of 97 largest water users in Georgia did not meet the 10% reduction goal. Rate hikes are being considered by Clayton and Cobb Counties.

GE Water's President and CEO, Jeff Garwood, who operates the sister unit to GE Energy, recommended that the region should seriously consider creating more water reclamation projects and desalinate water from the coast of Savannah.

So far, Lake Lanier and Allatoona reservoirs are down 20 feet and Bear Creek reservoir is up 3 feet. Thanks to recent rainfall, 2007 has not been the driest year on record at 31.85 inches. In 1954, Georgia's rainfall for the year was 31.80 inches. Georgia farmers estimate crop losses in 2007 at \$787 million.

AABE NATIONAL NEWS:

AABE National Board Meeting

The quarterly AABE National Board of Directors and Chapter Presidents meeting was held at the Brown Convention Center in Houston, Texas from December 7th to 8th, 2007. National committee reports, presentations and teambuilding projects were conducted by the Board members.

The AABE Houston Chapter hosted the event. The meeting included updates about the administration, conference, website, chapters, scholarships and energy issues.

Various chapters introduced AABE to its newly elected Presidents. AABE's Board, members and Chapter Presidents participated in a SWOT (Strengths, Weaknesses, **Opportunities and Threats**) strategic planning session. **Outgoing AABE National Chairman Wilton Cedeno** (ConEd - NY) called the meeting to order. AABE National President and COO Frank Stewart reported on AABE policy-making activities with U.S. and international organizations.



Board member **David Owens** (pictured, EEI – DC), Chair of the National Legislative Issues and Public Policy (LIPP) Committee, presented for approval the AABE General Principles on Energy Efficiency, Energy Policy, Renewable Energy, and Energy Technology. These principles were accepted by the Board and initiatives for public release are in progress. The 2008 AABE State of Energy in Black America report will be sponsored by Board member from Atlanta, Richard Holmes (GPC – ATL). This report is in the process of being updated and will be presented during the upcoming conference in April.

Board member Warner Williams (Chevron – Southern California) presented a donation check from Chevron for \$125K towards the AABE 31st Annual Conference. Board member Dot Harris (GE Energy – ATL) will conduct the first AABE Energy Entrepreneur's Forum during the conference. AABE Southeast Region Coordinator, Corlene Williams (SNG - BHM) announced that the AABE 32nd Annual Conference will be held at the Rosen Shingle Creek Resort in Orlando, Florida during April 2009. Seattle, Washington will host the 2010 conference.

The AABE National Technology Development Committee (TDC) Vice-Chair and Atlanta Chapter Communications Chairperson Wayne Young (Honeywell) informed the board about website vendor solicitations and updates to the national and chapter websites. Wayne also previewed a draft copy of the *AABE Energy News*. The quarterly newsletter includes highlights of various AABE chapter meetings, national committee highlights, special events, energy and environmental information. The new national newsletter will be available this January to all members.

AABE Board member from Atlanta, **Ralph Cleveland** (AGL) hosted the United Negro College Fund (UNCF) to make a request in front of the Board. The UNCF wishes to partner with AABE member companies to recruit minority college graduates in their ranks.

The meeting was heavily attended by various AABE chapter representatives, committee members, committee chairpersons, board members and the national office. The next Board meeting will be held during the National Conference.

AABE National Conference



The AABE 31st annual AABE National Conference will be held at the Houston Americas Hotel in Texas from Tuesday, April 15th to Friday, April 18th. The theme is "Advancing the Understanding of Energy ... from local to global" and hosted by the AABE Southwest Region Chapters. The keynote speaker is **Dr. Randal** Pinkett, (pictured) winner of NBC's The Apprentice – Season 4. Early-bird registration for AABE members is \$650 until February 1st and \$700 afterwards. Registration is now available online at http://aabe.org.

Nominations & Elections



Candidates for the 2008 – 2010 Officer positions on the AABE National Board of Directors were announced at the December Board meeting in Houston on December 8, 2007.

The nominees include:

Carolyn Green (Sunoco – Philadelphia) as AABE National Chairperson,

Robert Holmes (APC – Birmingham) as 1st Vice Chairperson,

Warner Williams (Chevron – Southern California) as 2nd Vice Chairperson,

Sabrina Campbell (AEP – DC) as Treasurer, Dot Harris (GE Energy – ATL) as Secretary,

Rufus Gladney (CMS – MI) as

Assistant Treasurer, and Gilda Joseph (Chevron – Houston) as Assistant Secretary.

Candidates for six 2-year board member seats that were up for renewal are **Derrick Freeman**, **David Owens** (EEI – DC), **Calvin Talley** (CMS - Midwest Regional Coordinator – MI), **Polly Rosemond** (Entergy – LA), **Stephanie Hickman** (Chicago), and **Joyce Hayes-Giles** (DTE – MI). AABE National Central, Southwest and Northeast Regional Coordinator positions are open and will be appointed by the new chairperson.

The AABE National Nominations & Elections Committee Chairperson is **Frank Johnson** (CMS - MI). Elections will be held in January via email or proxy. The election and installation ceremony will be held during the AABE General Membership Meeting and James **E. Stewart** Gala at the 31st Annual AABE National Conference in Houston, Texas on Friday, April 18th. Congratulations go out to Dot for representing the Atlanta Chapter as a National Board Officer.

U.S. ENERGY NEWS:

President Signs Energy Bill



On December 19, 2007, **President George Bush** signed H.R. 6, the Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007. The measure will reduce US energy consumption 8% by 2030. The bill will save consumers \$80B by 2030 and reduce carbon emissions 20% by 2050. The legislation requires that gasoline be blended with ethanol to reduce petroleum consumption. The incandescent light bulb will be phased out within a decade to reduce their electricity use 60% by 2020. New dishwashers and washing machines are required to use 28% and 40% less water respectively. All Federal buildings will be required to become more energy efficient. The bill also calls for expansion of the renewables and nuclear energy industries.

Washington Action Day for LIHEAP



Over 100 representatives from the National Fuel Funds Network (NFFN) member organizations. companies and allies will hold a national lobbying event for increased funding of the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP). Volunteers will visit over 200 Congressional offices, organize a press conference and hold meetings with Administration officials. The event will be held on Wednesday, January 30th. A pioneer from the NFFN is showcased as the Black History Maker for the month at the end of this newsletter. For more information, please visit http://www.nationalfuelfunds.org.

<u>US Participates at Bali Climate</u> <u>Conference</u>

On December 15, 2007, the US along with 189 other nations developed an agreement to mitigate climate change in a "measurable, reportable and verifiable" manner. **Paula Dobriansky**, Deputy US Secretary of State, stated, "The US is very committed to developing a long-term greenhouse gas reduction emission reduction goal." The agreement lays out an initial "road map" that aims to set a timetable and other parameters to guide negotiations on a new global climate treaty over the next two years. The new treaty will succeed the Kyoto Protocol, which expires in 2012.

AABE ATL INFORMATION:

What is AABE®?

"The American Association of Blacks in Energy™ is dedicated to ensuring the input of minorities into the developments of energy policy, R&D technologies, and environmental issues."

Visit AABE's National website at <u>http://www.aabe.org</u> for more information.

Atlanta Chapter 2008-2009 Officers Cordell Carter, President (AGL) Eric Arnold, Vice President (GPC) Cherryl Harris, Treasurer (GPC) Olivia Parks-Woods, Assistant Treasurer (SCS) Monica Hart, Secretary (GPC) Jennifer Henson, Asst. Secretary (GPC – CCC) Tiffany Callaway-Ferrell, Parliamentarian (AGL) Shelby Hall, Chapter Coordinator (GPC – CCC)

Board of Directors Ralph Cleveland, AGL Dot Harris, GE Energy Richard Holmes, GPC

Southeast Region Coordinator Corlene Williams, Birmingham Chapter (SNG)

AABE Atlanta Chapter 2008 Program Schedule (Tentative)

1/16 – MLK Jr. Program (GPC) 1/26 – AABE 31st Conference Planning Meeting (Houston) 1/31 – Career Day Expo (Clarkston HS) 2/14 – Black History Month Program (AGL & CCC) 3/3 – AABE Scholarship Applications Due 3/13 – State of Energy in GA Program (GPC & CCC) 4/1 – Town Hall Meetings (various) 4/10 – General Meeting (GPC) 4/15 to $4/18 - AABE 31^{st}$ Annual Conference (Houston) 5/8 – Scholarship Banquet (GPC) 5/9 – Golf Tournament (TBD) 6/1 – CCC BBQ (TBD) 6/6 to 6/7 – Board of Directors Meeting (Kansas City) 6/12 – AABE/AAF Meeting (GE) 7/1 – CCC School Drive (TBD) 7/10 – General Meeting (TBD) 8/1 – Town Hall Meetings (various) 8/14 – General Meeting (GPC) 9/1 – CCC TOUCH Program (TBD) 9/11 – General Meeting (AGL) 9/25 to 9/27 – Board of Directors Meeting/Congressional Black Caucus (Washington DC) 10/9 – BEAM Program (various) 11/1 – Town Hall Meetings (various) 11/13 – TOUCH Program (AGL) 12/1 – CCC TOUCH Program (TBD) 12/5 to 12/6 – Board of Directors Meeting (Orlando) 12/11 – End of Year Program (GPC)

Atlanta Chapter Address:

AABE – Atlanta Chapter P.O. Box 55216 Atlanta, GA 30308-5216

Atlanta Chapter Website: http://aabe.org/atlanta

Member Company Websites:

www.aabe.org www.atlantagaslight.com www.aglresources.com www.blackenergy.com www.ch2m.com www.gas-south.com www.gasoc.com www.gepower.com www.georgianaturalgas.com www.georgiapower.com www.greystonepower.com www.heatga.org www.honeywell.com www.htsenterprise.com www.mirant.com www.opc.com www.psc.state.ga.us www.scana.com www.slking.com www.southerncompany.com www.southstarenergy.com www.snpo.org www.thinkenergygroup.com www.willyoujoinus.com

GOT NEWS?

Please send all comments, suggestions, AABE



information, energy-related news and announcements to Communications/ Public Relations and Technology Committee Chair **Wayne X. Young** (Honeywell) at <u>wayne.young2@honeywell.com</u>. The deadline for the next monthly newsletter is *Monday, Jan 28th*.

Black History Energy Moments

January 10, 1864 – George Washington Carver, scientist and inventor, is born.

January 15, 1929 – **Reverend Dr.** Martin Luther King, Jr. is born.

January 17, 1882 – **Lewis H. Latimer** is granted a patent for the process of manufacturing carbons.

<u>HISTORY MAKER BIOGRAPHY</u> – VICTORINE Q. ADAMS

(1912 - 2006)



Victorine Q. Adams, a Baltimore pioneer in African-American politics and civic leader, became the first black woman on the City Council nearly four decades ago.

A former schoolteacher, Mrs. Adams founded the Colored Women's Democratic Campaign Committee in 1946 to mobilize support for candidates - then invariably white - who were sympathetic to black causes, among them **Theodore R. McKeldin**, the city's last Republican mayor.

From a base in the Adams household's living room, the committee pushed for change and African-American voter registration. In 1954, the group helped stage a landmark victory when **Judge Harry A. Cole** then a young black Republican lawyer - won a state Senate seat over the white candidate backed by the entrenched Democratic Party machine of political boss **Jack Pollack**.

Mrs. Adams ran unsuccessfully in 1962 for the state Senate and four years later was elected to the House of Delegates. But she resigned after a year and won election to the City Council. She held the seat for four terms, until 1983.

Among her accomplishments was working with the Baltimore Gas and Electric Co. in 1979 to establish the Baltimore Fuel Fund, which has helped thousands of area families with winter heating bills and is now named the **Victorine Q. Adams** Fuel Fund. It became a model for other jurisdictions in Maryland and the nation.

She also pushed for urban renewal, low- and middle-income housing, improved nursing homes and increased programs to help the elderly.

The National Fuel Funds Network's (NFFN) Victorine Q. Adams Institute is a new national program to enhance the contribution of charitable energy assistance fundraising to meeting the nation's Home Energy Affordability Gap. To be held in Baltimore in September 2008, the Institute will provide two days of industry-specific, in-depth fundraising technical training for energy assistance professionals from across the United States. It will be the first in-depth forum for training and strategy development for NFFN members.

AABE PHOTO GALLERY:

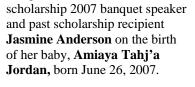
Scholarship chairs **Earnestine Young** and **Fanchester Henry** receive awards



Atlanta Chapter's newly-elected 16th President **Cordell Carter** with AABE members



The late Indiana Congresswoman Julia Carlson



Congratulations to AABE







DTE Energy receives the Corporate Excellence Award from the NFFN in 2007.

