

AABE®

All ABout Energy

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



AABE ATLANTA CHAPTER HIGHLIGHTS:

AABE February Black History Month Program

On February 14th, the Atlanta Chapter held its annual Black History Month program entitled “Recapping our Past History, Creating the Future” at AGL Resources corporate headquarters. Featured speakers included **Leonard Haynes**, EVP of Supply Technologies, Renewables & Demand Sales Planning for Southern Company and **Allen Spivey**, Manager, Office of Corporate Engineering for AGL Resources. Our *Black History Maker* presentation was conducted by **Maurice Baker** (GNG) and showcased **Rufus Stokes**, inventor of the air pollution control device. His biography is featured at the end of this newsletter.

AABE CCC February Meeting

The AABE Atlanta Chapter’s Georgia Power Company Customer Care Center (GPC-CCC) Satellite Chapter held a membership drive on February 19th at the CCC facility in Henry County. The meeting was hosted by the Chapter Coordinator, **Shelby Hall** (CCC). Atlanta Chapter **President Cordell Carter**, VP **Eric Arnold**, **Jennifer Henson** and **Faye Adeniran** answered questions about AABE and its mission. GPC has approved funding 21 member applications at the CCC this year.

February 19th also marked our 26th year as an advocate for minorities in energy-related issues. Please view our video release of the AABE Atlanta Chapter 25th Anniversary Celebration on *YouTube* by clicking [here](#).

Light Swap 2008

African-Americans have higher utility bills and thus greater needs for efficient energy technologies, but we are less familiar with (and less likely to use) these technologies without targeted outreach. [Light Swap 2008](#) is designed to introduce the benefits of compact fluorescent lights (CFLs) to African-American neighborhoods in metro Atlanta. Our goal is to exchange a number of incandescent bulbs for CFLs in 1,000 metro Atlanta households and provide important facts about energy conservation to low-income residents.

Volunteers are needed to help hand out CFLs throughout the city. The event is scheduled for Saturday, March 22nd. [True Light Baptist Church](#), 47 Anderson Ave. N.W., is where we will hold our opening ceremony and distribute CFLs to the volunteers. AABE will be partnering with various



organizations such as NSBE and the Concerned Black Clergy. To volunteer, please contact AABE Atlanta Chapter Taking Our Unbroken Commitment Home (TOUCH) Committee’s Energy Education Chairperson, **Sonja Ebron** (blackEnergy), at Sonja@blackenergy.com.

AABE Atlanta March Meeting

Please join us on Thursday, March 13th for our monthly meeting. The theme of the meeting is “*The Housing Market Crisis and its Effect on the Energy Sector.*” The program will be held at the GPC Banquet Room from 11:30AM to 1:00PM.

Each month the Chapter conducts a *Black History Maker* presentation during our general meetings. We are seeking individuals that will help present pioneers in the energy industry. To volunteer, please contact the Atlanta Chapter Assistant Treasurer, **Olivia Parks-Woods** (SCS) at opwoods@southernco.com.

AABE Atlanta Scholarship Applications Deadline Extended to March 24h

Applications are being accepted now for the annual **James. K. Davis** Scholarship. High school graduating minority seniors with GPAs of 3.0 or more that were 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. Past awardees are also eligible for the continuing education scholarship. The deadline for submittals has been extended to Monday, March 24th by 5:00PM.

For an application, please contact Scholarship chairs **Valerie Searcy** (GPC) at vdsearcy@southernco.com and/or **Earnestine Young** (GPC – CCC) at emyoung@southernco.com or visit the [AABE Atlanta Chapter Website](#).

Free Minority Scholarships

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

Career Day at Redan HS

Redan High School in Stone Mountain is seeking volunteers from AABE to speak to students on Friday, April 25th. Presenters will rotate between classes of 9th through 12th graders, depending on your availability that morning.

Presentations will last about 15-30 minutes and will cover your education, work experiences and career choices. To volunteer, please contact Atlanta Chapter Treasurer **Cherryl Harris** (GPC) at cmharris@southernco.com.

Support UNCF

AABE Board member **Ralph Cleveland** (AGL) is leading the charge to support the United Negro College Fund (UNCF) within AABE. The UNCF wishes to select qualified minority college graduates for recruitment in the ranks of AABE member companies. For more information about the partnership, please contact **Maurice E. Jenkins**, SVP for UNCF at

Maurice.Jenkins@uncf.org.

Donations to UNCF can be made to their website, www.uncf.org.

AABE Atlanta 6th Annual Scholarship Golf Tournament



The Atlanta Chapter is proud to host the 6th Annual **James K. Davis Scholarship Golf Outing** on May 16th at the Summer Grove Golf Club. This event welcomes all AABE and non-AABE members to play four men, best ball (scramble) a round of golf sponsoring our student scholarships. Executive sponsorships are also available and are tax deductible. The early bird entry fee is \$135/person (\$540/team of 4). The early bird registration deadline is April 25th. The club is located at 353 Summer Grove Parkway in Newnan, GA 30265.

This event is named after the late **Jim Davis** (GPC), founder of the AABE Atlanta Chapter. For an application, please visit the [Golf Outing](#) webpage or contact the Fundraising Committee Chairpersons, **Charmaine Caruth** (GPC) at cacaruth@southernco.com and **Jerrold Hill** (AGL) at jhill@aglresources.com.

AABE ATL Membership Drive

Professionals in the energy industry located in the Northern Georgia areas of Atlanta, Macon, Augusta, Henry County and surrounding regions who wish to participate in AABE related events can apply new or renew their membership for 2008. General membership dues are

\$150. Student chapter dues are \$20. All membership dues are tax-deductible and normally paid for by energy-related businesses. To download membership applications please click the [website](#) or contact AABE Atlanta Chapter Membership Committee Chairperson, **Tarece Johnson-Hassell** (AGL) at thassell@aglresources.com.

Officer Position Open

The Atlanta Chapter is seeking a new Secretary to support our Assistant Secretary, **Jennifer Henson** (GPC-CCC). The duties of the Secretary are to record the minutes of the Chapter and Officer's meetings along with distributing Chapter information via email to our membership. If you are interested in becoming Secretary, please contact our Parliamentarian, **Tiffany Callaway-Ferrell** (AGL).

Promotions



Fanchester Henry (pictured), Sr. Service Consultant has been selected as a Scheduling Analyst in Georgia Power Company's Customer Care Center - Call Center Operations. Fanchester joined Georgia Power in May 1999 and has worked in Active Collections and on the Critical Response Team.

On another note, Fanchester is also participating in the American Cancer Society's Relay for Life® event and is soliciting donations for this very worthwhile cause. To make donations online, visit her personal page at <http://main.acsevents.org/site/TR/RelayForLife/RelayForLifeSouthAtlantic>

Donations can also be sent to:
American Cancer Society
2970 Clairmont Rd. Suite 840
Atlanta, GA 30329

Gov. Crist selects Terry for state board



Bentina Terry, Gulf Power's Vice President of External Affairs and Corporate Services, has been appointed to the Florida Technology, Research, and Scholarship Board.

The 21st Century Technology, Research, and Scholarship Enhancement Act, established during the 2006 Florida Legislative Session, established the board within the Board of Governors of the State University System to give Florida a leadership position in emerging technology areas with the potential for economic and societal impact for the state.

Lakeesha Wilson, AABE's Executive Assistant for the past 3 years, has been promoted to Director of Member Services at the National Office in Washington, DC.

Albert Myres was promoted to SVP of Government and Public Affairs for Reliant Energy in Houston, Texas. His responsibilities include managing the company's interface with government and regulatory agencies across the country.

GEORGIA NEWS:

AGL Resources Adopt Diversity Statement – (AGL Press Release – 2/20/08)

Underscoring AGL Resources' commitment to an inclusive work environment, the Board of Directors on Wednesday voted to adopt a statement that spells out the company's commitment to fairness for all employees and stakeholders.

The Board of Directors of AGL Resources Inc. believes that integrity, respect, fairness and a commitment to a variety of ideas, backgrounds and experiences are essential to create a stronger, more diverse and sustainable workplace. In addition we:

- Set the example for diversity and inclusion for the Company, its employees and other stakeholders, including customers, suppliers and shareholders. Therefore, we will maintain diverse representation within our ranks, as well as that of Company management.
- Promote an environment that is inclusive and fair to all, reinforced by the Company's ongoing efforts in the areas of employment and promotion, training, community relations and supplier diversity.
- Believe in and encourage diversity of ideas, backgrounds and experiences, resulting in demonstrations of the Company's core values:
- Honesty, Integrity and Respect: The foundation of everything we do.
- Stewardship: We will make the most of all of the resources available to us -- including our employees.
- Value Seeking: In addition to seeking value, we will value and respect the diversity of our employees, customers, suppliers and shareholders.
- Generosity of Spirit: We will be inclusive in seeking out those in need.

- Expect evidence of progress to be reported to the Board of Directors on a regular basis. We will continue to receive reports from management on these efforts and engage in discussions with management on specific actions to achieve corporate diversity goals.

PSC Sides with Renters - (Atlanta Journal Constitution – 2/6/08)

The Public Service Commission passed a rule Tuesday that makes it clear a tenant can switch gas marketers even if the landlord has an agreement with a particular marketer. But it's still tenant beware.

The rule does not prohibit a marketer from paying a landlord to steer tenants to that marketer. And it does not prevent a lease from saying a tenant must use a certain marketer.

A renter has the legal right to violate a lease and switch marketers, but that could trigger a dispute with the landlord.

"You might get into trouble with your landlord if you do, but that's your problem," **Commissioner Bobby Baker** said.

The new rule arose after Atlanta Gas Light was not honoring tenants' requests to switch marketers because of pacts between marketers and landlords. State law says consumers can choose marketers. AGL would switch the service only at the request of the landlord or the landlord's marketer.

NRC Wants to Expand Downtown - (Atlanta Business Chronicle – 2/15-21/08)

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) is seeking new downtown space in Atlanta to consolidate its offices and expand its workforce. The NRC could add up to 200 jobs over the next four years. Many of the new hires will be inspectors, nuclear,

mechanical and electrical engineers who will oversee construction of nuclear power plants. So far in 2008, 13 companies intend to submit applications to build new plants at 14 sites, with the majority of them in the South.



City's Water Meter Woes May Lead to Audit – (Atlanta Business Chronicle – 1/18-24/08)

The City of Atlanta's internal auditor may probe the city's \$4B sewer project after a recent audit found major delays and other problems. A project about water meter replacements was awarded to K & V Meter Automation in July 2006. The three-year program to replace more than 153,000 aging water meters cost the city \$35M.

The contractor was behind schedule by 9,600 meters in September 2007. Approximately 75% of the new meters in a sample audit were damaged or exhibited some kind of mechanical failure. Apart from the damage, the new electronic meter reading system was found to be no more accurate than the old one.

K & V has promised to make good on work that should have been done correctly without additional costs to the city, although the contractor said it would not rule out a change order that could hike the value of the contract. The city is also behind one year in the construction of a \$210M subterranean sewer tunnel.

Tennessee Pipeline Plans Well Under Way – (Atlanta Business Chronicle – 2/15-21/08)

Georgia lawmakers proposed on February 6th to move the state's border a mile north to tap the Tennessee River, an idea that is receiving major opposition from Tennessee representatives. A potential pipeline route would follow interstate I-75 from Chattanooga to Atlanta will move through the cities of Trenton, Dalton, Calhoun and Cartersville.

The national water engineering firm, Brown and Caldwell, has agreed to design a facility in Dade County that could pump and treat the water. The project would boost Georgia's water supply by 250 million to 1,100 million gallons a day. The cost of the project would be less expensive than desalinating water on the Atlantic coast and pumping it 250 miles north to Atlanta, much of it uphill. Tennessee stands to gain by alleviating chronic flooding along the river. The multimillion dollar project could be paid by state and local governments in partnership with the private sector.

If the border move dies in court, a backup plan could tap underground aquifers connected to the river by drilling wells near the Tennessee state line.

AABE NATIONAL NEWS:

AABE NC Chapter Energy & Environment Conference

[AABE's North Carolina Chapter](#) hosted a one day mini-conference to discuss energy and environmental issues at the Marriott Hotel in Greensboro on February 21st. The theme of the program was "Energy in the 21st Century - Challenges and Opportunities for African-Americans."

Featured speakers included AABE National Board member **Hilda Pinnix-Ragland** (NC), SVP from Progress Energy,

AABE pioneer **Luddy Hayden** (DC), President of Hayden Associates, AABE National President **Frank Stewart** and AABE National Chairman **Wilton Cedeno** (NYMAC) from Con Edison. **Leslie Fields**, Director of Environmental Justice for the Sierra Club gave a moving presentation on the environmental issues affecting New Orleans and Nigeria. **Morry Davis** (SMSI) of Peabody Energy discussed the reasoning behind the [AABE Energy Principles](#). NC Chapter Vice-President **Pamela Hoyles** (PSNC Energy) also provided the audience with information on their scholarship, mentorship and fundraising programs. Atlanta Chapter member **Wayne Young**, Performance Contracting Engineer from Honeywell International was a panelist on the "Energy in the Built Environment" session and examined the potential for energy savings in commercial & industrial buildings. Other speakers included members of the NC Legislature, Chevron, Advanced Energy and the US Department of Energy (DoE).

The conference was hosted by the AABE North Carolina Chapter and invited guests in attendance included the media, DoE, Advanced Energy, Education Africa, the US Congress, students and faculty from NC A&T University. The *Greensboro News & Record's* article on the event can be viewed [here](#).

New AABE Chapters Planned

AABE is pleased to announce the formation of the San Joaquin Valley Chapter. The San Joaquin Valley is located in Central California containing metro cities such as Fresno and Bakersfield. The chapter was founded by AABE Board Member **Warner Williams**, Vice President of San Joaquin Valley SBU for Chevron Corporation. The chapter will be recognized formally during the

AABE National Conference in April.

Two AABE chapters have announced that they are planning to create three student chapters within the organization. The Atlanta Chapter intends to create two chapters with college students attending the Atlanta University Center (AUC) consisting of Morehouse College, Spelman College & Clark Atlanta University, Georgia Institute of Technology (all forming the Metro Atlanta Chapter) and Fort Valley State University (Middle GA Chapter). The North Carolina chapter also announced that a student chapter will be formed at NC Agricultural & Technical State University (NC A&T). The AUC, Fort Valley State and NC A&T are historic Black colleges & universities (HBCUs).

There are currently three student chapters within AABE. They are located at the University of Kansas, Michigan State University and the University of Tulsa, Oklahoma. Students from local colleges and HBCUs are also included in the membership.

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 AABE Houston Chapter is hosting its 1st annual scholarship golf tournament at Gleannloch Pines Golf Club in Spring, Texas on April 19th.

The theme of the conference is *"Advancing the Understanding of Energy ... from local to global"* and hosted by the AABE Southwest Region Chapters of

Houston, Dallas/Ft. Worth, Oklahoma, University of Tulsa, Mississippi, Louisiana, Arkansas and Central SW Louisiana. The keynote speaker is **Dr. Randal Pinkett**, (pictured) winner of NBC's *The Apprentice – Season 4*. Confirmed panelists from our chapter include **Chris Womack** (GPC) and **Dr. Comas Haynes** (GaTech).

Don't forget to support the 2nd Annual Silent Auction during the conference on Friday, April 18th. AABE will auction off memorabilia, artwork, tickets and prizes, etc. to members in attendance that bid on such items. Donations of these kinds of items are needed for the event. To make donations, please contact **Heidi Boykin** (GPC) at (404) 506-2565.

Registration for AABE members is now \$700 and available online at <http://aabe.org>. For more information, please contact the AABE Director of Member Services, **Lakeesha Wilson**, at lwilson@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 Board Member **Frank Johnson** (CMS - MI). Elections will be held via email or by 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: US Presidential Candidates' Energy Positions

For a description of each Democratic and Republican candidate's policy on energy and environmental issues, please click on the [Grist.org website link](http://grist.org).

Oil Closes Over \$100 for the First Time – (Washington Post – 2/20/08)



The price of crude oil closed at \$100.01 for the first time Tuesday, February 19th on the New York Mercantile Exchange,

rattling stock markets and marking a milestone in the relentless rise in petroleum prices over the past five years.

The high oil price, which rivals the inflation-adjusted peak set during the early days of the Iran-Iraq war nearly three decades ago, has drained cash from the pockets of consumers just when the slowing economy could use a spending boost. And it reinforced fears that oil prices, which have long fluctuated with political and economic cycles, may never again drop to past levels.

An explosion and fire at a small Texas refinery on February 18th in the town of Spring had no effect on crude prices, but it helped drive up gasoline prices on futures markets. The price of gasoline for March delivery jumped 10.93 cents a gallon, to \$2.60 a gallon.

Chavez Threat Increases Oil Prices - (Wall Street Journal – 2/12/08)



Crude-oil futures surged to their highest close in nearly a month, lifted by tensions in oil-exporting countries, refinery outages and a Northeast cold snap.

Light, sweet crude for March delivery rose \$1.82, or 2%, to close at \$93.59 a barrel on the New York Mercantile Exchange, the highest front-month settlement price since Jan. 14.

Oil markets climbed after Venezuelan President **Hugo Chávez** (pictured) threatened to stop selling oil to the U.S. in response to Exxon Mobil Corp.'s legal moves to freeze assets of Venezuela's state-owned oil company. Exxon is seeking

compensation for a stake in a project it walked away from last summer after Venezuela demanded contract changes.

Analysts doubt Mr. Chávez will deliver on his statements, noting he has issued similar threats in the past and any embargo would harm CITGO Petroleum Corp., the refining and marketing arm owned by a unit of Petróleos de Venezuela SA, the state-owned oil company. The rhetoric was enough to spook the market.

"The oil market has been confronting geopolitical threats for the past half decade as supply and demand balances have tightened into a fragile equilibrium," Lehman Brothers said in a note to clients. "The Venezuelan threat serves as a reminder that internal strife in Nigeria or Iraq or an attack on Iran to stop its development of nuclear energy could have significant price repercussions."

The word of a partial outage at CITGO's Lake Charles refinery in Louisiana and a power failure at a Valero Energy Corp. plant in Delaware City, Del., also spurred buying. Although both seem to be short-lived problems, "in this market, any refinery outage is clearly not good news," said **Peter Beutel**, President of Cameron Hanover, an energy risk-management firm in New Canaan, Conn.

Bitter cold in the Northeast also pushed prices higher. Front-month March heating oil settled 5.03 cents, or 2%, higher at \$2.6044 a gallon.

After cresting above \$100 a barrel as the year began, crude futures settled at \$87.14 a barrel amid concerns an economic slowdown could pinch oil-demand growth. Prices have

staged a comeback since then as attention shifts to supply risks.

Supreme Court May Reduce ExxonMobil Disaster Fines

Several Supreme Court Justices have been inclined to reduce the penalty imposed on ExxonMobil for the Valdez oil tanker spill in 1989. ExxonMobil was ordered to pay \$2.5B for the disaster. So far, ExxonMobil has paid \$500M to compensate victims for the damages. Overall, ExxonMobil has paid \$3.4B in fines, cleanup costs, penalties and other expenses. In 1989, the 987 foot tanker Valdez spilled 11 million gallons of oil into Alaskan waters and was named the worst oil spill in US history.

Wall Street Lenders to Set Carbon Standards - (LA Times 2/5/08)

Three Wall Street banks said that they would set standards for factoring in environmental risks posed by carbon emissions when lending to companies that seek to build coal-fired power plants.

Citigroup Inc., JPMorgan Chase & Co. and Morgan Stanley will form "*The Carbon Principles*," climate-change guidelines for advisors and lenders to power companies in the U.S.

The standards do not preclude bank financing for building traditional coal-burning power plants, said **Jeffrey Holzschuh**, vice chairman at Morgan Stanley. Instead, they set up a more rigorous evaluation process, such as looking at the costs of storing carbon emissions and other risk factors.

"*The Carbon Principles*" establish a process to include the effect of future global-warming laws on the loan risk of building coal-fired power plants.

The principles are intended to be an industry-wide framework, and more financial institutions are expected to jump on board.

US Moves to Cut Energy Use in Televisions - (Reuters UK 2/6/08)



The Environmental Protection Agency said digital televisions will face more stringent requirements to earn its energy efficient label.

Starting November 1, televisions carrying the EPA's Energy Star label will have to be up to 30% more efficient than conventional models. This is the first time that the Energy Star designation will be given to televisions for using less energy while they are on and in standby mode.

"Energy Star's new specifications for televisions are turning the channel on energy guzzling sets - making them go the way of rabbit-ears and the black and white TV," said EPA Administrator **Stephen L. Johnson** in a statement.

The new specifications are expected to lower greenhouse gas emissions and save Americans money. If all televisions sold in the United States were to meet Energy Star's new requirements, the savings in energy costs would grow to about \$1 billion annually and greenhouse gas emissions would be reduced by the amount spewed by 1 million cars.

The United States has more than 275 million televisions in use.

Johnson Controls Gets Milestone Deal with the CCI - (Milwaukee Journal Sentinel - 2/20/08)



Wisconsin-based Johnson Controls, Inc. (JCI) has been awarded the first contract signed through the [Clinton Climate Initiative](#). On February 19th, JCI inked a deal to slash energy use and global warming emissions at the largest mall in Mumbai, India's largest city.

In May, former **US President William J. Clinton's** foundation announced a plan, the Clinton Climate Initiative (CCI), for cities, private institutions and commercial buildings to bring down the cost of energy efficiency upgrades while saving the environment. Energy services companies (ESCOs) such as JCI, Siemens, Honeywell and Trane are certified contractors for the CCI. These ESCOs are allowed to bid on energy efficiency projects on a global scale. Large financial institutions are also participating as official lenders for the CCI. Commercial buildings account for one-third of the world's energy use and greenhouse gas emissions.

EPA Updates CFL Cleanup Guidelines



Compact fluorescent lights (CFLs) are lighting more homes than ever before, and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is encouraging Americans to use and recycle them safely.

Carefully recycling CFLs prevents the release of mercury into the environment and allows for the reuse of glass, metals and other materials that make up fluorescent lights.

The EPA is continually reviewing its clean-up and disposal recommendations for CFLs to ensure that the Agency presents the most up-to-date information for consumers and businesses. Maine's Department of Environmental Protection released a [CFL breakage study](#) report on February 25th. The EPA has conducted an initial review of this study and, as a result of this review; has updated the [CFL cleanup instructions](#) provided in the attached link above.

Blackout Hits Florida

A massive power outage impacted the areas of Miami, Orlando, Tampa, Boca Raton and Key West on February 26th. Officials from Florida Power & Light say that equipment failure and a fire in an electrical substation at 1PM EST triggered a cascading event that caused 8 power plants, including 2 nuclear reactors, to shut down or go offline. Over 3 million people across the state were affected. Power was restored in 24 hours. The outage struck as a strong cold front and severe weather affected the southeast region of the US.

Solar City in Arizona Planned

Abengoa Solar, a Spanish renewable energy company, announced that it will build a 280MW solar powered plant in the desert of Arizona. The plant will cover 3 square miles of desert in the town of Gila Bend, 50 miles southeast of Phoenix. Thousands of giant mirrors will be installed to heat up liquids which in turn will spin turbines, thus generating electricity. The plant, named the Solana Generating Station, is estimated to supply up to 70,000 homes

with electricity by 2011.
Construction could begin as early as next year if the Federal government extends the solar investment tax credit deadline.

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 <http://www.aabe.org> 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)
Secretary - VACANT
Jennifer Henson, Assistant 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

L. Corlene Williams,
Birmingham Chapter
(ElPaso/SNG)

AABE Atlanta Chapter 2008 Program Schedule (Tentative)

1/16 - MLK Jr. Program (GPC)
1/26 - AABE 31st Conference Planning Meeting (Houston, TX)

1/31 - Career Day Expo (Clarkston HS)
2/14 - Black History Month Program (AGL)
2/21 - AABE NC Chapter Energy & Environment Conference (Greensboro, NC)
3/13 - General Meeting (GPC)
3/15 - AABE 31st Conference Planning Meeting (Houston, TX)
3/22 - Light Swap 2008 Event
3/24 - AABE Scholarship Applications Due
4/2 - AABE Energy Principles Meeting (AGL)
4/10 - General Meeting (CCC)
4/15 to 4/18 - AABE 31st Annual Conference (Houston, TX)
4/25 - Career Day Program (Redan HS)
5/8 - Scholarship Banquet (GPC)
5/16 - Golf Tournament (Summer Grove Golf Club)
6/6 to 6/7 - AABE Board of Directors Meeting (Kansas City, KS)
6/12 - AABE/AAF Meeting (GE)
7/10 - General Meeting (TBD)
7/28 - AABE 32nd National Conference Planning Meeting (Orlando)
8/1 - Town Hall Meetings (var.)
8/14 - General Meeting (GPC)
9/11 - General Meeting (AGL)
9/25 to 9/27 - Board of Directors Meeting/Congressional Black Caucus (Washington, DC)
10/9 - BEAM Program (various)
10/12 - AABE 32nd National Conference Planning Meeting (Orlando)
11/1 - CCC TOUCH Program
11/13 - AABE/AAF Mtg (GE)
11/29 - Town Hall Meetings (various)
12/1 - CCC TOUCH Program
12/5 to 12/6 - AABE Board of Directors Meeting (Orlando, FL)
12/11 - End of Year Program (GPC)

AABE Atlanta Chapter General Membership meetings are held on the 2nd Thursday of the Month. Executive Committee Meetings are held during the last week of the month. Dates may change when necessary.

Atlanta Chapter Address:

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

Atlanta Chapter Website:

<http://aabe.org/atlanta>

Atlanta Chapter Committees and Chairpersons:

BEAM (Black Energy Awareness Month)

Kimberly Bryant (GPC) and
Blake O'Farrow (AGL Resources)

Communications/ Public Relations & Technology

Wayne Young (Honeywell) and
Jennifer Henson (GPC-CCC)
Open Co-Chair position available

Fundraising

Charmaine Caruth (GPC) and
Jerrold Hill (Atlanta Gas Light)

Membership

Tarece Johnson-Hassell (AGL Resources)
Open Co-Chair position available

Programs

Fanchester Henry (GPC-CCC) and
Faye Adeniran (GPC)

Scholarship

Valerie Searcy (GPC) and
Earnestine Young (GPC-CCC)

2009 Conference Planning

L. Corlene Williams (ElPaso Corp. / Southern Natural Gas - Birmingham Chapter) and
Gregory Owens (Jacksonville Electric Authority - Florida Chapter)

Taking Our Unbroken Commitment Home (TOUCH)

Mentoring

Nevada Weatherspoon (GPC)
Open Co-Chair position available

TOUCH

Philanthropic/Charitable

Pauline Harriott (SCS) and
Capucine Pansy (AGL Resources)

TOUCH Energy Education
Sonja Ebron (blackEnergy)
Open Co-Chair position available

Legislative & Regulatory Affairs
Mickey Wade (AGL Resources)
and **LaTunya Goodwin** (GPC)

Student Chapter
Ralph Cleveland (AGL Resources) and **Dr. Comas Haynes** (GaTech)
Open Co-Chair position available

Atlanta Chapter Goals (2008-2009):

- Raise Community Profile;
- Increase Membership Recruitment and Retention by 5%;
- Financial Governance;
- Increase Scholarships by 5%;
- Establish Student Chapters;
- Create a Membership Directory;
- Establish a Foundation to Fund Scholarships;
- Update the Chapter By-Laws.

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.scanaenergy.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 AABE Atlanta Chapter Communications, Public Relations and Technology Committee Chair **Wayne X. Young** (Honeywell) at wayne.young2@honeywell.com. The deadline for the next monthly newsletter: **Monday, March 24th**.



Black History Energy Moments

March 12, 1791 – **Benjamin Banneker** and **Pierre Charles L'Enfant** are commissioned to plan and develop Washington, DC.

March 17, 1806 – **Norbert Rillieux**, engineer and inventor, is born.

Quotable Quotes -

"Almost always, the creative dedicated minority has made the world better."

-Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

*"The pessimist complains about the wind.
The optimist expects it to change.
The leader adjusts the sails."*

- John Maxwell

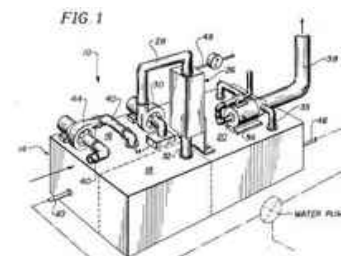
HISTORY MAKER BIOGRAPHY –
RUFUS STOKES

(1924 - 1986)



Rufus Stokes was an inventor born in Alabama in 1924. He later moved to Illinois, where he worked as a machinist for an incinerator company.

In 1968, Rufus was granted a patent on an air-purification device to reduce the gas and ash emissions of furnace and power plant smokestack emissions. The filtered output from the stacks became almost transparent. Stokes tested and demonstrated several models of stack filters, termed the "clean air machine," in Chicago and elsewhere to show its versatility.



Rufus Stokes' Air Pollution Control Device

The system benefited the respiratory health of people, but also eased the health risks to plants and animals. A side-effect of reduced industrial stack emissions was the improved appearance and durability of buildings, cars, and objects exposed to outdoor pollution for lengthy periods.