

Welcome to AABE!



Dear AABE Members and Guests:

Welcome to the first issue of *AABE Energy News*. This newsletter was developed by the AABE National Communications Committee, whose overall objective is to develop a public relations strategy to enhance awareness of AABE and its mission. The committee hopes to supply AABE's membership with a quarterly newsletter that will focus on energy and environmental issues affecting the minority community, AABE strategy, updates from the various AABE National Committees, and highlights from our Chapters across the country.

In 1978, AABE published its first quarterly newsletter edited by our founder, the late **Chairman Emeritus Clarke Watson** (Denver). After a brief hiatus, the current leadership welcomes back its long awaited resource to promote AABE's national agenda.

Please support the newsletter by submitting timely, value-added information to our staff on a regular basis. We thank you in advance for your continued support.

Sincerely,

Wayne X. Young

AABE National Communications Committee ☀

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AABE NATIONAL NEWS

Chairman Cedeno Receives Latino Honors

Con Edison Press Release – October 31, 2007



Wilton Cedeno, AABE National Chairman and Director of Information Resources for Con Edison, received a 2007 Defining Trends in Latino Culture (DTM) Trendsetter Award on Monday, November 5, 2007 at the United Nations.

The DTM award recognizes leaders who hold themselves to the highest of standards and best define the elements of America's Latino experience.

"Having a proven leader like Wilton in our Information Resources department has been a tremendous value to our organization," said **William Tesi**, Con Edison's Director of Application Services. "His experience and expertise is exemplary. His receipt of the DTM award is well deserved."☀

AABE National Office News

AABE's National Office relocated to a new spacious headquarters at 1625 K Street, Suite 405 in Washington, DC on November 1st. AABE also hired **Pauline St. Cyr** as its office assistant and **Kyle Elliott** as the research assistant. Please welcome the new staff to support our executive assistant **Lakeesha Wilson** and AABE National President **Frank Stewart**.

AABE was contacted by the **Leon H. Sullivan** Foundation inquiring about the opportunity to collaborate on the presentation of a workshop on alternative fuels and renewable at their African/African-American Summit in Tanzania in 2008.

The National Office participated on a World Bank panel discussing the role African-Americans can play in supporting the social, economic, and governance of nations in Africa. The presentation included a description of the organization and details about the AABE Institute, where we assisted in the creation of an energy infrastructure in developing nations.

The National Office attended the Banneker Institute annual scholarship dinner and awards presentation with guest speakers **Dr. Mae Jemison**, the first African-American female to go to space in 1992 and actor **Dr. Bill Cosby**.

Frank Stewart, AABE National President, also attended the signing of H.R. 6, *the Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007*.

President Stewart and AABE member **Morry Davis** (Peabody - SMSI) took part in the Congressional Coal Forum on December 5, 2007. AABE gave a brief summarization of the “*State of Energy in Black America*” report and the *AABE Energy Principles* listed below.☀

AABE Announces Principles on Energy and Climate

AABE Press Release – December 8, 2007

AABE’s Legislative Issues and Public Policy Committee (LIPP) developed general principles to guide AABE’s involvement in the public policy debate. The way that Congress, the states and local governments address these issues will have a significant impact on low-income, disabled, elderly and minority energy consumers.

These principles include AABE’s directives on various energy issues such as general energy policy, climate change, energy efficiency and renewable energy resources.

General Principles: AABE believes that in order for economic equality to be achieved in the U.S., all citizens must have access to abundant, reliable and affordable energy.

Climate Change Principles: AABE supports policies that balance environmental improvements with the inclusion of all sectors of the economy.

Energy Efficiency Principles: AABE is a resource for providing information and educating energy consumers from all sectors of society about ways to improve their efficient use of energy.

Renewable Technology Principles: AABE supports the development of renewable technologies as an essential element for enhancing economic developments in parts of the nation.

These principles were adopted by the Board of Directors during the quarterly Board meeting in Houston on December 8, 2007. AABE Board member **David Owens** (EEI - DC) is the chair of the LIPP committee. For a

detailed description of *AABE’s Energy Principles*, please visit <http://aabe.org/about/committees/LIPP>.☀

Register Now for the AABE National Conference

AABE Press Release – December 1, 2007



AABE will celebrate its 31st year of service to the minority community by hosting its annual national conference in Houston, Texas, April 15 – 18, 2008 at the Hilton Americas Hotel.

“*Advancing the Understanding of Energy...from local to global*” is the theme for the 2008 national conference. Sessions will address such crucial energy issues as: the development of a national policy on climate change; international business strategies for minority owned energy firms; investing in emerging energy supply technologies; insuring energy security around the globe; and supplier and workforce diversity in the energy industry.

The conference’s featured speakers include: **Peter Robertson**, Vice-Chairman of the Board of Directors of Chevron Corporation and **Dr. Randal Pinkett** (pictured above), President and CEO of BCT Partners and winner of TV’s “*The Apprentice – Season 4*.”

The list of guest speakers includes the Chief Executive Officers of American Electric Power, CAMAC International, Con Edison, GE Energy, Entergy Nuclear, the Texas Railroad Commission, and Luminant/TXU Corp. Representatives from NASA, Environmental Protection Agency, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, Bonneville Power Administration, Tennessee Valley Authority, Organization for Black Airline Pilots (OBAP), National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL), and the US Nuclear Regulatory Commission are expected to be presenters.

More than 500 energy professionals attended the conference last year in Washington, D.C. This year AABE leaders anticipate a dynamic, engaging four days of discussion, debates and networking. The conference is hosted by the Southwest Region Chapters of

Houston, Louisiana (New Orleans), Mississippi, Oklahoma, Dallas/Ft. Worth, Central SW Louisiana, Arkansas, and the student chapter at the University of Tulsa. AABE Board member **Polly Rosemond** (Energy - Louisiana) is the National Conference Planning Chair. AABE Southwest Regional Coordinator, **Gilda Joseph** (Chevron - Houston) and **Sheila Wright** (Energy - Arkansas) are the chairs of the 2008 conference planning committee.

Registration for the four day conference is \$650 (early bird) for members not including hotel reservations. The conference is open to everyone and available at <http://aabe.org> or by calling (202) 371-9530.

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. ☼

AABE Energy Entrepreneurs Forum

AABE Press Release – December 1, 2007

During the national conference, AABE will host its first Energy Entrepreneurs Forum on Wednesday, April 16, 2008 from 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. in the Hilton Americas Hotel.

The AABE National Energy Entrepreneurs Committee develops programs and plans which foster a mutually-beneficial relationship between AABE and energy entrepreneurs. It sponsors activities which enable entrepreneurs to make financial and in-kind contributions to AABE's operations, and conversely, helps to position AABE to use its resources and alliances to seek out and promote opportunities for minority energy entrepreneurs.

The forum will include sessions about developing businesses in the industry, lessons learned and networking for business opportunities. Supplier diversity representatives will be in attendance. Membership registration is \$200 per person.

The chair of the AABE National Energy Entrepreneurs Committee is AABE Board member **Dot Harris** (GE - Atlanta). Registration information can be found on the AABE National website at: <http://aabe.org/about/committees/energy>. ☼

AABE Website Solicitation

AABE Technology Development Committee – November 16, 2007

The AABE Technology Development Committee (TDC) released in October a request for proposals (RFP) to design, host, and maintain its national website.

The vendor selected for this proposal was Filnet, Inc. located in Alexandria, Virginia. This vendor will develop our new website for release by April 2008.

The chair of the Technology Development Committee is AABE Board member **George Williams** (Exelon - Chicago). For more information about the RFP please visit: <http://aabe.org/about/committees/technology>. ☼

AABE Partners with SNPO and UNCF

In 2007, AABE partnered with the Society of Non-Profit Organizations (SNPO) to provide us with valuable information to develop and sustain charitable associations such as ours. The partnership is of no extra cost to AABE members. SNPO also delivers free subscriptions to *NonProfit World*, its bi-monthly magazine and access to the <http://www.snpo.org> website. SNPO also offers access to <http://www.grantstation.com>, an interactive website that provides a database of potential funding sources, tools to make proposals, and applications for grants.

AABE Board member **Ralph Cleveland** (AGL - Atlanta) hosted the United Negro College Fund (UNCF) to make a request to the Board during the December quarterly meeting. The UNCF wishes to partner with AABE member companies to recruit minority college graduates in their ranks. For more information, please contact **Maurice E. Jenkins**, SVP for UNCF at Maurice.Jenkins@uncf.org. ☼

AABE Membership Strives for 2000 in 2008

AABE Membership & Chapter Development Committee December 7, 2007

AABE's growth and strength as an organization is directly related to the size and reach of its membership base. Please support AABE's drive to increase its membership to 2,000. Professionals in energy-related careers, disciplines and entrepreneurs are welcome to participate in AABE.

College students pursuing energy-related degrees are also encouraged to join our student chapters.

Membership renewals are due for local chapters and board positions at the beginning of the year. Dues vary per chapter for new, existing, student, and sustaining members. The chair for the Membership and Chapter Development Committee is AABE 1st Vice-Chair **Carolyn Green** (Sunoco - Philadelphia). Membership

criteria and applications can be found on our website at:
<http://aabe.org/membership>. ☀

AABE Nominates New Board Members in 2008

AABE Nominations & Elections Committee – December 8, 2007

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

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

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. ☀



AABE CHAPTERS NEWS

Alaska Chapter

AABE members from Municipal Light & Power (ML&P) hosted the June 2007 Board of Directors and Chapter Presidents quarterly meeting in Anchorage. ML&P provided tours that included Eklutna Hydroelectric Plant, gas turbine plants and the North Slope Oil Field. ☀

Arkansas Chapter



The Arkansas Chapter of AABE participated in the development of the 50th Anniversary of the integration of Little Rock Central High School in September 2007. Arkansas Chapter Secretary, **Sheila Wright** (Entergy) currently serves as PTSA President at the high school. Pictured above are **Senator Hillary Clinton** and **Sheila Wright**. ☀

Atlanta Chapter



The Atlanta Chapter held its Silver Anniversary on November 30th at Georgia Power Company (GPC) headquarters. “*Empowered by the Past, Energized for the Future*” was the theme of the gala. The chapter celebrated 25 years as an advocate for energy issues in the minority community. Over 135 members and guests attended the celebration. The event featured a reception and dinner program which included a history of the Atlanta Chapter, special awards ceremony, musical

entertainment and guest speakers such as **Clayton Webb**, co-inventor of the Automated Meter Reading (AMR) device. The chapter was founded in 1982 by the late **James K. Davis**, SVP of GPC. The Atlanta Chapter also welcomed **Cordell Carter** (AGL) as its new President for the 2009 – 2010 term of office. Pictured: AABE National Chairman **Wilton Cedeno** and Atlanta Chapter Past President **Valerie Searcy** (GPC) cut the anniversary cake. ☼

Birmingham Chapter



AABE Birmingham Chapter hosted its 2nd Annual Energy Forum on November 29, 2007, at the Civil Rights Institute. The event included representatives on the panel from Alabama Power Company, Southern Nuclear, Alabama Gas, the Birmingham Waterworks, JCCEO, and the American Red Cross. Topics of discussion ranged from the drought, winter energy costs, public assistance, new technologies, and conservation efforts.

In October, the new Alabama Public Service Commissioner **Susan Parker** spoke to a full crowd of nearly 60 members and guests.

The Chapter has an Endowment Fund designed to help attract more students in the field of energy. With a recent donation of \$45,000 from Alabama Power, the fund now has over \$70,000. The Chapter is proud to announce **Jonathan Porter** (APC - above, right) as the new President for the 2008 – 2010 term of office. ☼

Chicago Chapter

The AABE Chicago Chapter welcomes **Tyrone Slayton** of GE Energy as its new President for the 2009 – 2010 term of office. ☼

Cincinnati Chapter

The AABE Cincinnati Chapter members mentored high school students at Diamond Oaks Vocational School in 2007. The intent was to counsel students who have been identified as needing role models and additional support

to complete their Ohio Proficiency Tests and complete their graduation requirements. ☼

Columbus Chapter



The Columbus Chapter and the Columbus Urban League co-hosted “A Warm Place Called Home” seminar event at the King Arts Complex on September 22. This interactive program provided an opportunity for the Columbus, Ohio community to come out and learn about energy conservation, weatherization and public assistance programs. The event included hands-on demonstrations, activities for children, and giveaways including energy-saving products and services. Several Columbus City Council members were in attendance and issued a proclamation honoring the chapter for promoting energy awareness and conservation. The Columbus Chapter also welcomes **Jatona “Toni” Cunningham** (AEP) as its new President for the 2009 – 2010 term of office. Pictured: AABE Columbus Past-President **Jerry Johnson** (center) with members. ☼

Connecticut Chapter



The Connecticut Chapter hosted its first Energy Awareness and Career Exploration Program. The event was held at Northeast Utilities’ corporate office and included a tour of their Emergency Operations Center and the Systems Operation Center. The students were introduced to the technology used to restore power. Employees from CL&P, Yankee Gas, United Illuminated and Northeast Utilities manned information stations representing nine career clusters in the electric

and gas energy business. Information on AABE's scholarship program was also shared with the group. The CT Chapter is also proud to announce **Lorenzo Marshall** of CL&P as its President for the 2008 to 2009 term of office. Pictured: Over 50 middle school and high school students participated in the very successful event shown here touring NU's Emergency Operations Center. ☀

Denver Area Chapter



The Denver Area Chapter (DAC) of AABE, held its 4th Annual **Clarke Watson** Scholarship Luncheon at the Adam's Mark Hotel on March 14, 2007. The event recognized math and science accomplishments of students in local area high schools. **Dayleen Alcocer** and **Jerrell Johnson** (pictured), both graduating seniors from Denver Public Schools received \$2,000 each for scholarships to be paid to the university or college of their choice. **John Quincey Moaning**, President and CEO of Black Diamond Ventures based in Houston, Texas was the keynote speaker. ☀

Florida Chapter

The Florida Chapter of AABE held its annual General Membership Meeting and Golf Scholarship Tournament in Orlando on December 6-7, 2007. The theme for this year was *Power to Empower*. The host hotel for both events was Rosen Shingle Creek Hotel. The Membership Meeting featured a business meeting and a keynote address by the owner and founder of the Rosen Hotels, **Harris Rosen**. In addition to Mr. Rosen's keynote address, several afternoon workshop topics were held focusing on energy and professional development issues. They ranged from energy conservation, renewable generation, climate change, diversity and innovation. The Scholarship Golf Tournament attracted more than 80 enthusiastic golfers which helped raise more than \$25,000. ☀

Gulf Coast Chapter



The Gulf Coast Chapter of AABE hosted its first Black Energy Awareness Month (BEAM) event in October 2007. The program was hosted in three locations (Mobile, AL, Pensacola, FL & Biloxi, MS) with a focus to encourage and heighten awareness of high school students across the Gulf Coast on career opportunities and knowledge surrounding the energy industry. The chapter set out to enhance student's understanding of the energy industry as a whole. Students were welcomed to an open forum of conversations, mentoring, sharing of personal experiences, and interactive activity to energize successful planning for life & career choices. Each agenda included inspirational opening comments on life choices, career barriers, personal experiences dealing with how to respond to adverse circumstances in one's life and panel discussions with AABE Members currently working in the energy business in various disciplines (engineering, computers, human resources and plant operations, etc.).

AABE Scholarship discussions were presented with details surrounding the application process & criteria; and an interactive activity based on the "Jeopardy" game-show. Each event offered fun and excitement throughout the day for both the AABE Members and the students. Approximately 260 students attended the events that were held at the Snyder Community Center in Gulfport, MS; Pritchard Municipal Complex in Pritchard, AL; and the Gulf Power Company headquarters in Pensacola, FL. ☀

Houston Chapter



The Houston Chapter hosted its annual Black Energy Awareness Month (BEAM) program on November 15 at the Entergy Lewis Creek Plant in Willis, Texas. Fifteen students that expressed interests in energy, science and engineering from Woodlands High School were invited to a tour of the fossil plant. AABE members answered student's questions about energy generation, energy conservation and career opportunities. ☀

Indiana Chapter



The Indiana Chapter participated in distributing energy conservation information at the Fort Wayne Energy Fair at the Indiana Tech campus on October 6, 2007. Over 16 organizations and agencies, including Northern Indiana Public Service Company (NIPSCO) distributed pamphlets and Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) information to NIPSCO customers. Representatives from Lowes, Menards and Home Depot were on hand to teach customers how to weatherize their homes for the winter. ☀

Kansas-Missouri Chapter

The Kansas-Missouri AABE Chapter Community Outreach Committee joined forces with two organizations Youth Friends and **W. E. B. DuBois** Learning Center to mentor and tutor students for the 2007-2008 school years. Six AABE members are tutoring students, ages 5 through 18, in the Kansas City area. Both mentoring programs

consists of one-on-one and group mentoring in reading, math, science and computer skills. It is the committee's goal to work diligently with the students to encourage confidence, positive behavior and educational success. ☀

Louisiana Chapter



On November 6, the Louisiana Chapter of AABE held its first membership drive/meeting since the devastation of Hurricane Katrina. The event was held in downtown New Orleans at the Basin Street Station with some forty active and prospective members in attendance. This was an opportunity for the local chapter to promote benefits of membership in AABE, recruit new members, and renew membership for current/past members.

Several National Board members and key speakers were in attendance providing support for this initiative. They included: **Frank Stewart** - National AABE President & COO (pictured), **Carolyn Green** - National AABE Board First Vice-Chairperson, **Dan Packer** - Past President & CEO, Entergy New Orleans and former National AABE Chairperson, **Tracie Boutte** - National AABE Board Member, **Polly Rosemond** - National AABE Board Member, **Rod West** - President & CEO, Entergy New Orleans and **Bridget Carter** - AABE Louisiana Chapter President.

Moving forward, the chapter's major goal is to be a viable resource for the community on key energy issues and projects planned for 2008 focusing on energy efficiency, renewables and climate change. This event was a huge success for the Louisiana Chapter, as the need to re-build and increase membership is key to the level of contribution it can make towards meeting its goal. ☀

Mississippi Chapter



Several members of the Mississippi Chapter of the AABE partnered with Entergy Mississippi adopt-a-school students in the Jackson area with a Harvest Festival activity at the Pleasant Hill Nursing Home. Residents of the nursing home were able to go through several game booths where they were awarded a prize. The game booths were designed by the teacher coordinator for the high school and students and manned by students and AABE members. The residents, students and AABE members enjoyed the Harvest Festival. ☼

Michigan Chapter

The Michigan Chapter (AABE – MI) held a reception for the new Michigan Public Service Commissioners on Tuesday December 4th, 2007. Members of the Michigan Public Service Commission (MPSC) include **Orjiakor N. Isiogu**, Chairman, **Monica Martinez**, Commissioner, and **Steven A. Transeth**, Commissioner.

Guests included energy industry leaders and their state governmental and regulatory affairs key officers and community affairs personnel. Guests enjoyed a rare opportunity to meet and speak with the Commissioners one-on-one. The Commissioners were enthusiastic and appreciative for the chance to share their ideas and concerns with Michigan's industry leaders.

As our industry experiences rapid transition and the U.S. re-examines its energy policies, this networking event was timely and informative. The reception was well attended and a great success! Thanks to the AABE MI, Program Committee and Chapter members for hosting such an enlightening event. ☼

New Jersey Chapter



The New Jersey Chapter hosted its 3rd Annual Black Tie Gala on November 16 at L'Affaire Fine Catering Hall in Mountainside. The theme of the event was "*Clean Energy, the New Green Power*" with guest speaker, **Rick Thigpen**, Vice President of State Governmental Affairs for PSEG. Over 80 members were in attendance. A portion of the proceeds from the event helps finance the AABE New Jersey Chapter Scholarship Fund. Pictured: Rick and AABE NJ President **Kevin Kimbo** (on right). ☼

New York Metropolitan Area Chapter (NYMAC)



AABE NYMAC is pleased to announce the election of **William "Bill" Suggs** as its new chapter president for the 2008 – 2010 term of office. Bill is a Senior Specialist in the Corporate Environmental Health and Safety Department at Con Edison and currently serves as Vice-Chair of the AABE National Conference Planning Committee. ☼

North Carolina Chapter

NC Chapter of AABE sponsored a "Youth Day" on Saturday, September 15 in the Progress Energy offices located in Raleigh. The forum's theme was "*Powering Your Future*". We had an impressive agenda planned for the youth on this day with speakers and facilitated discussions that motivated the youth to action. The young adults participated in various group projects

including an in-depth analysis of a Harvard business case study and then were led through the creation of their own customized "Power Plan". The goal of the power plan was to establish (i) who we are, (ii) where do we want to go, and (iii) what is our documented plan for getting there? The project linked the theme by providing the youths with clear ideas and a road map of how to achieve their goals. ☀

Philadelphia Chapter

Elections for 2008 – 2009 Chapter Officers will occur at the January 24th Networking and Business meeting. ☀

South Carolina Chapter

The South Carolina Chapter sponsored a Professional Development Seminar, which focused on the Energy industry, AABE, and the individuals. More than 125 guests attended the seminar. Speakers included AABE President, **Frank Stewart**, **David Owens**, SCANA officers, and other industry experts. Our members were offered a session on financial planning and a LIHEAP discussion. Our BEAM Project included members of the chapter partnering with a local high school, providing a speaker on the utility industry, asking for judges for their LEGGO competition and making a contribution to help send their Robotics team to the regional competition. The Lunch Buddies program had over 15 volunteers who regularly met with 10 students at a local elementary school and worked on character traits. The South Carolina Chapter was recognized by Richland School District No. 1 for its volunteer efforts. ☀

Southern California Chapter



On May 26, 2007, The Southern California Chapter facilitated the second District 8 Utility-Science Fair at Exposition Park in Los Angeles. This year's fair focused on bringing energy education and customer assistance programs from participating utilities to customers and constituents in south Los Angeles and the 8th city council district. An award ceremony and press conference was held to kick-off the fair. Winners of the 1st annual essay

contest were announced with their winning essays and drawings on display.

Public Utilities Commissioner **Timothy Simons**, Los Angeles City Council member **Bernard Parks** (District 8) and other Los Angeles City officials attended as well as a Southern California Gas Company Vice President, **Ann Smith**, were on hand to provide opening remarks to the press and attendees. The attendance at this year's event was estimated to be approximately 3,000 children, parents and concerned citizens.

Pictured: Councilman Parks presents a resolution to Southern California President **Chuck Pulliam** on behalf of AABE's participation at the event. ☀

Southeastern Missouri/Southern Illinois Chapter



The Southeastern Missouri/Southern Illinois (SMSI) Chapter held a meeting/mixer on December 11, 2007 as part of the chapter's recruitment efforts. The featured speaker was AABE Chairman of the Board, **Wilton Cedeno**. Chairman Cedeno spoke on the career benefits of being an AABE member to the individual, as well as the benefits that a company receives from its involvement with AABE.

The meeting was very successful, with many new faces among the attendees. (SMSI) is currently in its third year of existence as a chapter and chairman Cedeno's message offered many ideas on what we can be doing forward to be the recognized voice on energy matters in our companies and our communities. This meeting will serve as a springboard into 2008. We look forward to 2008 as a year of growth in our membership numbers, and more importantly, as a year when to become more active in community outreach activities.

Pictured: SMSI Chapter President **David St. James** (Ameren) and Vice-President **Gloria Thirdkill** (Laclede Gas). ☀

Tennessee Chapter



The AABE Tennessee Chapter held a two-day Professional Development Conference in Chattanooga on October 19th and 20th. Members throughout the state attended a self improvement seminar and were treated to a tour of Tennessee Valley Authority's (TVA) systems operations center at Missionary Ridge, commercial operations and fuels center, and Raccoon Mountain, TVA's largest hydro facility. ☀

Washington DC Metropolitan Area Chapter

The DC Chapter participated in the 2007 Home Energy Efficiency Expo on November 10th at the Washington Convention Center. The event was well attended by local residents. DC Chapter members handed out over 150 brochures about AABE, chapter scholarship applications, and several hundred information packages on ways to achieve energy efficiency with little or no cost. The chapter received positive feedback from the DC People's Counsel, Expo staff, vendors and visitors. Many of whom expressed interest in AABE, membership, and working together on future events. ☀

Washington/Oregon Chapter (WAOR)



In a strong showing of Chapter solidarity and community support, many AABE WAOR members attended the Black United Fund/African American Alliance Breakfast held at Irvington Village. The African American Alliance is a leadership forum providing advocacy, support, and information that strengthens the African American

Community. Committees include: Economic Development, Education, Health and Political Action. Topics of discussion included weatherization, energy efficiency, and the impact of state and federal energy policies on the African-American and low-income communities. AABE 1st Vice Chair **Carolyn Green** (pictured) delivered a highly charged speech and made herself available for questions and comments throughout the event. ☀

AABE Western Regional Conference



The chapters of the Western Region held their second regional conference, August 1-3, 2007, at the Adam's Mark Hotel in downtown Denver, Colorado. The theme for the 2007 Western Regional Conference was "*Renewing Our Energy*"; the objective was to educate conference attendees on energy issues such as climate change and utility regulation, while raising awareness of the alternative solutions on the horizon such as ocean turbine technologies.

Wednesday, August 1st, the event was kicked off with an evening reception sponsored by Pacific Gas & Electric (PG&E). Attendees were provided with an opportunity to network, relax and enjoy a meal. Members of the Western Region were honored to have AABE® National President, **Frank Stewart**, Chairman **Wilton Cedeno**, and First-Vice Chair, **Carolyn Green**, of the Board of Directors, and Regional Coordinator, **Kirsten Watts**, in attendance. Conference sessions on Supplier Diversity, Opportunities in Oil and Gas, Climate Change, Energy Options for the 21st Century, and Regulating Utilities were presented on Thursday, August 2nd. Ocean Technologies and Energy Efficiency in Housing in Africa were the topics Friday, August 3rd. Ocean current technology has great potential. However, at this time there is still work to be done on the effect to the environment. Underwater turbines interfere with marine life migration in the same way wind turbines present a potential hazard to birds. A

satisfactory solution is not readily available. The discussion by **Dr. Lilia Abron**, President, Peer Consulting Inc., on energy efficient housing in Africa was a heart-felt experience that showed the potential for improving “way-of-life” standards for families in Africa by building green houses that are low-cost and sustainable. Unfortunately, there are political and economical roadblocks to making this a common practice. Each session was a thought-provoking experience, as the Western Region intended.

The sessions included a panel of two or more representatives to discuss the topic at hand. Panelists included local representatives from the National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL), Xcel Energy, CH2M Hill, the National Center for Atmospheric Research, Whiting Oil and Gas, DCP Midstream, and CADDO Solutions. In addition to the chapter members who traveled to Denver, representatives from PG&E, Sunoco Inc., Metropolitan Water District of Southern California, Chevron, Bonneville Power Administration (BPA), Re-Vision Consulting, and PEER Consulting Inc., agreed to come to the Mile High city and participate in this special event.

Thursday evening, the Denver Area Chapter (DAC) co-sponsored a 2007 Black Professional Consortium with the Denver Chapter of the National Black MBA's. This reception featured the President of the Denver City Council, **Michael Hancock** and the former Mayor **Wellington Webb**. It was an outstanding event with African American professionals from across the metropolitan area in attendance. AABE[®] Chairman **Wilton Cedeno** was given a few minutes at the microphone to promote AABE[®] and the Western Regional Conference.

The 2007 WRC attendees were treated to words of support and wisdom at each breakfast and lunch by honored guests such as Tom Plant, Colorado Governor's Office on Energy Efficiency; **Danielle Radovich Piper**, Chief of Staff, **Congressman Ed Perlmutter's** Office; **Michael Hancock**, Denver City Council President; and **Gilbert Ivey**, Assistant General Manager/CAO Metropolitan Water District of Southern California. Mr. Plant and Mrs. Radovich Piper spoke of the importance of conferences such as this one to increase energy awareness, while Mr. Hancock and Mr. Ivey emphasized that we all have a responsibility to support and educate our youth, they will be the next generation to combat the energy and other issues in the world.

Friday evening, the conference officially closed with a reception and tour at Forest City Stapleton. Forest City is the company who developed the former site of Stapleton International Airport once the airport moved east of the city and became Denver International Airport. This developer is proud to state that they utilized recycling and green materials in much of the redevelopment of the area from airport to a sprawling, prosperous community. The 2007 Western Regional Conference was a great success in providing information on supplier diversity and various energy issues in addition to positive reports on successes such as the energy efficient housing in Africa. The AABE[®] Western Region would like to thank our sponsors: Xcel Energy, Forest City Stapleton, Chevron, NREL, and PG&E for their generous contributions.

The chapters of the Western Region include: Alaska, Denver, Southern California, and Washington/Oregon. ☀

ENERGY & ENVIRONMENT

US Energy Bill Signed into Law

On December 19, 2007 **President George Bush** signed the "*Energy Independence & Security Act of 2007*" (H.R. 6) into law. For a complete summary of the bill's provisions you may go to the following website and click on the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee: <http://energy.senate.gov>. Below is a brief highlight on the Bill.

Vehicle mileage: Requires automakers to boost fleet wide fuel economy for cars and light trucks to 35 mpg by 2020.

Renewable fuels: Calls for a fivefold increase to the amount of biofuels, such as ethanol, added to gasoline, to 36 billion gallons by 2022.

Light bulbs: Phases out most common types of incandescent light bulbs by 2020, and triples energy efficiency standards.

Greenhouse gases: Boosts federal research into ways to trap carbon dioxide emissions from power plants and store them in the earth.

Green federal buildings: Speeds up use of energy efficiency technologies and requires new or renovated buildings to use 55% less fossil fuel by 2010 and 100% less by 2030.

Geothermal power: Encourages new technologies and creates tax incentives to expand the use of energy drawn from the Earth's heat. ☼

Brazil Discovers Oil off the Atlantic

Wall Street Journal – November 9, 2007

Brazil's state-run oil company, Petroleo Brasileiro SA, released a statement announcing that it found a large oil reserve deep in the Atlantic Ocean. Named the Tupi Field, the reserve is 180 miles off the coast of Rio de Janeiro under 1.25 miles of water and 2.5 miles of rock. Initial estimates indicate a recoverable volume of 5 to 8 billion barrels of crude oil equivalent. A field of that size could end up producing 500,000 barrels per day.

Commercial production would be several years from now, additional wells must be drilled, the flow of oil studied, and the field must be judged economically viable before the reserves can be booked under U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission guidelines. Once verified, the Tupi Field would be the largest known oil discovery since the Kashagan Field in the Caspian Sea in 2000. ☼

Winter Heating Crisis Looms in Northeast

Wall Street Journal – November 5, 2007

Last winter, 1.5 million low-income families in the northeast region received assistance to help pay their heating bills. That number is expected to surge this year, as crude-oil prices, approaching \$100/barrel, have sent heating-oil prices to record levels. US House and Senate lawmakers have agreed to raise emergency fuel funds for states to \$431M from \$181M this fiscal year which started October 1, 2007. Northeastern states use 76% of the nation's heating oil. ☼

Winterize Your Home

- Set your thermostat between 68 – 70°F during the day and 60 – 65°F at night to save 10 – 20% on your heating costs.
- Protect your home with R-30 insulation for ceilings, R-19 for floors and R-16 for outside walls.
- Keep windows and doors closed.

- Plug drafts in windows, doorways and outlets using caulk or other weather stripping materials.
- Keep air filters in your heating system clean.
- Use programmable thermostats. Keep the fan in your heating system on the “auto” position.
- Consider purchasing an energy-efficient boiler or heating system if your home unit is over 10 years old. ☼

Top Corporate Supporters of HBCUs

US Black Engineer & IT Magazine – April 23, 2007

The third annual survey by *US Black Engineer and Information Technology Magazine* asked deans of engineering programs at Historic Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) which companies they feel most contribute to their school's institutional missions. In all, 52 companies were named top corporate supporters of HBCUs.

Boeing was named top supporter. Energy companies within that list included United Technologies – Carrier Corp. (8), Exxon/Mobil Corp. (13), Alabama Power Company (23), CenterPoint Energy (29), ChevronTexaco (30), ConocoPhillips (31), Dominion Corp. (34), Duke Energy (36), General Electric Company (38), Progress Energy (45), Shell Corp. (47), Southern Company (48), and the Tennessee Valley Authority (49). ☼

Renewable Energy Grants Awarded in Colorado

Colorado School of Mines Press Release – October 29, 2007

The Colorado Center for Biorefining and Biofuels (C2B2) has awarded \$500,000 in grants to ten teams for projects promoting renewable energy research.

Ten proposals, each worth \$50,000, were given to institutions and industry for plans to increase production and use of renewable energy resources. Five awards went to the University of Colorado at Boulder (CU-B), two awards each went to Colorado State University (CSU) and the Colorado School of Mines (CSM), and one was awarded to the National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL). Several of the award-winning projects include new technology innovations and biofuel production from algae, cellulose and sugar beets. C2B2 was founded in March

2007 by the Colorado Renewable Energy Collaboratory, a consortium involving CU-B, CSU, CSM, NREL and 27 industry sponsors. ☼

Survey Shows 7% of Voters Know Cause of GHG

Insulation Outlook – October, 2007

A survey released recently by the American Institute of Architects (AIA) shows that 40% of voters believe cars and trucks are the highest contributors, compared to just 7% who accurately identified buildings as the top cause of emissions.

Studies show that buildings produce 48% of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions contributing to climate change, and that they consume 71% of electricity produced at US power plants. Despite these statistics, only aerosol cans finish behind commercial buildings (1%) as being identified as the top source for GHG emissions. Power plants (19%) and natural causes (15%) were thought to be top contributors, while 10% of respondents were not sure what the top cause was and 8% responded “other.”

The AIA survey was conducted among 1,000 voters. ☼

Short-Term Energy Outlook

US Department of Energy (DOE) Energy Information Association (EIA) – November 6, 2007

Global Petroleum Markets – World oil consumption grew at a moderate rate of 700,000 barrels/day in the first half of 2007 and expected to grow at a year-over-year rate of 1.8 billion barrels/day. In 2008, the EIA estimates that non-OPEC production will rise by 1.1 million barrels/day. Growth projections for the US are 50,000 barrels/day and Brazil at 50,000 barrels/day. Despite higher prices, OPEC officials have expressed a reluctance to raise production due to stock prices, geopolitical tensions and fund speculation. The EIA projection for OPEC has been lowered to 30.5 million barrels/day. Nigerian and Iraqi output has been constrained due to militant attacks and is estimated to produce 641,000 barrels/day.

US Petroleum Markets – Total domestic petroleum consumption averaged 20.9 million barrels/day in 2007, up 1.3% from 2006. In 2008, consumption is projected to increase another 1%, to an average of 21.1 million barrels/day. Domestic crude oil production averaged 5.2 million barrels/day, up 0.7% from 2006. The EIA projects 2008 production will increase to 5.4 million barrels/day.

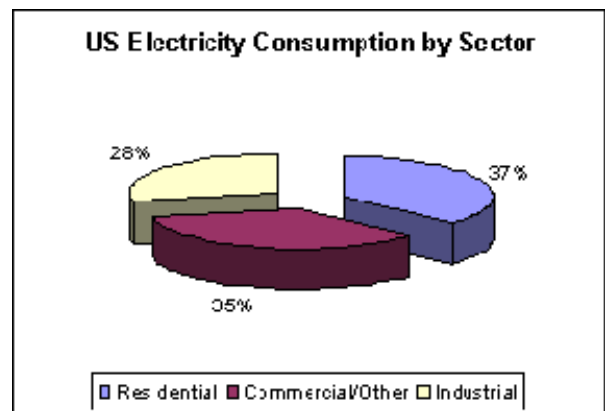
Natural Gas – On July 27, 2007, working natural gas in U.S. storage was 2,840 billion cubic feet (bcf), 0.8% more than 2006. Imports of liquefied natural gas (LNG)

averaged 850 bcf in 2007, a record high. Total U.S. dry natural gas production is expected to rise by 1.5% in 2008. The EIA projects increased natural gas consumption by 1.3% in 2008. The residential and commercial sectors are expected to show annual growth of 10.5% and 7.5% respectively, while the industrial sector is expected to decline by 1.5%. Continued increases in the use of natural gas are expected worldwide.

Electricity Markets – U.S. residential electricity prices increased by 2.6% in 2007 and projected to rise by 2.9% in 2008. Consumption is expected to grow at a lower rate of 1.4% in 2008 due to slightly slower economic growth and a return to normal temperatures. The highest growth rates are in the commercial sector (2.2% per year) and the industrial sector (1.6% per year) for 2008.

Table 1 – Sales and Projections by Sector in billion kWh

	2005	2006	2007	2008
Residential	1,365	1,384	1,403	1,423
Commercial	1,274	1,302	1,331	1,360
Industrial	1,021	1,037	1,054	1,071
Totals	3,660	3,723	3,788	3,854



Electric power generation from utility plants – 61.1%.

Electric power generation by independent power producers (IPP) and combined heat & power (CHP) plants – 38.9%.

Coal Markets – Projected growth in electric power coal consumption should grow by 1% by the end of 2007 and remain flat in 2008. U.S. coal production decreased

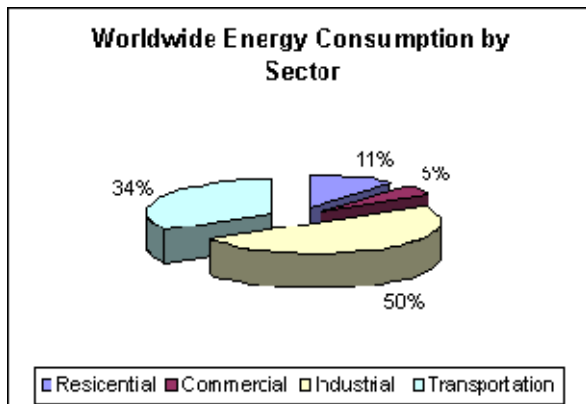
by 2.6% in 2007 and should fall again by 0.5% in 2008. Total stocks of coal held by the U.S. consuming sectors should remain flat at 147 million short tons in 2008. In 2025, coal is expected to account for 28% of the world's electricity fuel market, down from 26% in 2006. China accounts for 15% of the total share of world consumption.

US Resources – Electricity generated in the U.S. came from the following resources listed below. The precise mix varies year to year.

Coal – 49%, Nuclear – 19.4%, Natural Gas – 20%,
Hydro – 7%, Petroleum – 2%, and Renewables – 2.6%.

Renewable energy, predominantly hydropower, accounted for one-fifth of the world's energy use for electricity generation in 2006, where it is expected to remain flat through 2025.

Nuclear energy production is expected to decline from in most regions of the world (except the US, France and Japan) as a result of public opposition, waste disposal issues, economics and the threat of nuclear arms proliferation. The share of nuclear energy is projected to drop to 12% in 2025 from 19% in 2006.



Worldwide net electricity consumption was estimated at 16 trillion kWh in 2007. Global energy demand grows by 2.4% per year. China's electric consumption is expected to increase by 4.3% per year.

Total worldwide energy consumption is estimated at 450 quadrillion BTUs.☀

UN Panel Warning about Climate Change

Associated Press – November 18, 2007

According to the U.N. panel of scientists, whose latest report is a synthesis of three previous ones, enough

carbon dioxide already has built up that it imperils islands, coastlines and a fifth to two-thirds of the world's species.

As early as 2020, 75 million to 250 million people in Africa will suffer water shortages, residents of Asia's large cities will be at great risk of river and coastal flooding, according to the report.

Europeans can expect extensive species loss, and North Americans will experience longer and hotter heat waves and greater competition for water, says the report from the U.N. Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, which shared the Nobel Prize with **Al Gore** last year.

The panel portrays the Earth hurling toward a warmer climate at a quickening pace and warns of inevitable human suffering. It says emissions of carbon, mainly from fossil fuels, must stabilize by 2015 and go down after that.

In the best-case scenario, temperatures will keep rising from carbon already in the atmosphere, the report said. Even if factories were shut down today and cars taken off the roads, the average sea level will gradually rise over the next 1,000 years to reach as high as 4.6 feet above that in the pre-industrial period, or about 1850.

Climate change is here, they said, as witnessed by melting snow and glaciers, higher average temperatures and rising sea levels. If unchecked, global warming will spread hunger and disease, put further stress on water resources, cause fiercer storms and more frequent droughts, and could drive up to 70 percent of plant and animal species to extinction, according to the panel's report.

The report was adopted after five days of sometimes tense negotiations among 140 national delegations. It lays out blueprints for avoiding the worst catastrophes - and various possible outcomes, depending on how quickly and decisively action is taken.

The report is intended to both set the stage and serve as a guide for the conference, at which world leaders will begin discussing a global climate change treaty to succeed the *1997 Kyoto Protocol*.

That treaty, which expires in 2012, required industrial nations to reduce greenhouse gases and a smooth

transition to a new treaty is needed to avoid upsetting the fledgling carbon markets.

"This report will have an incredible political impact," **Yvo de Boer**, the U.N.'s top climate change official, told *The Associated Press*. "It's a signal that politicians cannot afford to ignore."

The United States opted out of Kyoto in 2001, arguing that the science was unproven and that the burden of mandatory emission cuts was unfair since it excluded fast-growing China and India.

China and India have said any measures impinging on their development and efforts to lift their people from poverty were unacceptable - a point likely to be heeded at the Bali talks.

The report offered dozens of measures for avoiding the worst catastrophes if taken together - at a cost of less than 0.12% of the global economy annually until 2050. They ranged from switching to nuclear and gas-fired power stations, developing hybrid cars, using more efficient electrical appliances and managing cropland to store more carbon. The Panel said a new agreement should provide funding to help poor countries develop clean energy resources, adapt to climate conditions and give them the technology to help themselves.

The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) is a scientific body tasked to evaluate the risk of climate change caused by human activity. The panel was established in 1988 by the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) and the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), two organizations of the United Nations.

The complete report can be found on the IPCC website at <http://www.ipcc.ch/press/index.htm>. ☼

African-American Contributes to IPCC

US Black Engineer & IT Magazine – October 15, 2007



When the United Nations' International Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) contacted the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory and asked for help there was, at first, consternation. **Dean Williams**, senior research computer scientist at the Laboratory, recalled "Our program director came to me and said they want us to coordinate and standardize all this data from around the world. Can we do this? I said we cannot "NOT" do this. And then we set out to figure out how and it led to the creation of the Earth System Grid."

The awarding of the 2007 Nobel Peace Prize to both former **U.S. Vice President Al Gore** and the International Panel on Climate Change has cast an international spotlight on the behind the scenes work of Williams, one of the world's most influential black research scientists. Williams' first contribution was the development of the Climate Data Analysis Tool (CDAT), an open source analysis and visualization software package which allows researchers to simultaneously look at multiple climate models and compare observed results.

This was followed by the development of the Earth System Grid, which standardizes how data is collected and provides a common framework for the world's climate modeling centers. It has changed the way the world's climate scientists operate. During the development, Williams sent out terabyte discs to every major climate modeling group, and has since uploaded more than 300 terabytes of data into the Earth System Grid for the IPCC. The Earth System Grid has been expanded to provide operational nodes at 23 climate research sites around the globe so new information can be downloaded directly for all climate researchers to use.

He earned a bachelors degree in applied mathematics and statistics, and then a master's degree in computer science at California State University at Chico and then joined Lawrence Livermore. When he is not standardizing the world's climate research, he coaches high school track. ☼

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. National Holiday



Date: January 21, 2008

Events: Please view various Chapter websites for programs, activities and meeting dates.☀

Washington Action Day for LIHEAP

Date: January 30, 2008

Location: Washington, DC

Registration: <http://www.nationalfuel funds.org>. ☀

Black Enterprise Women in Power Summit

Dates: February 13 – 16, 2008

Location: Palm Springs, CA

Registration: <http://www.blackenterprise.com/wps>. ☀

AABE National Scholarship



National Deadline: March 14, 2008

Applications:

<http://aabe.org/about/committees/scholarship>

Criteria: Minority high school seniors pursuing degrees in energy-related fields such as business, mathematics, physical sciences, computer information technologies and engineering are eligible for regional and national scholarships from AABE. All applications must be submitted by the regional coordinators to the national scholarship committee chair by the deadline date. Local

chapters must send eligible candidates to the AABE regional coordinator by this date. Local chapter scholarships are available on various AABE chapter websites. Deadlines for local chapter submissions vary.

The AABE National Scholarship Committee chair is Board member **Gerald Dawes** (NYMAC).

Email: dawesg@coned.com. ☀

AABE 31st Annual National Conference



Theme: “Advancing the Understanding of Energy, from local to global”

Date: April 15 – 18, 2008

Location: Hilton Americas Hotel

Address: 1600 Lamar Street, Houston, TX 77010

Phone: (202) 371-9530 (AABE National Office)

Registration: <http://www.aabe.org/conference>

Program includes:

- Energy related sessions
- Featured speakers and panelists
- Young Adult Forum
- Energy Entrepreneur’s Forum
- Six Sigma Training
- Breakfast, lunch and dinner banquets
- James E. Stewart Awards Ceremony**
- Special guest entertainment☀

AABE Houston Chapter

4-Person Scramble Scholarship Golf Tournament



Date: Saturday, April 19, 2008

Location: Gleannloch Pines Golf Course

Address: 19393 Champion Forest, Spring TX 77379

Contact: **Terrence Griffin** (Houston) Tournament Chair
Email: tgriff3@entergy.com
Phone: (281) 794-9373
Website: <http://aabe.org/houston>
Registration: 7:00 a.m.
Shotgun Start: 8:00 a.m.
Lunch & Awards Ceremony: 1:00 p.m.
Costs: Individual - \$125 and Foursome - \$500
Sponsorships available
Proceeds will benefit the AABE Houston Chapter
Scholarship Program.☀

Black Enterprise Entrepreneur's Conference & Expo

Dates: May 14 – 17, 2008
Location: Charlotte, NC
Registration: <http://www.blackenterprise.com/beec>. ☀

National Energy and Utility Affordability Conference

Dates: June 16 – 18, 2008
Location: Denver, CO
Registration: <http://www.nationalfuelunds.org> ☀

AABE Chapter Meetings

AABE Chapters' meeting schedules for 2008 can be found under each chapter website. Dates, times and locations vary by chapter. A list of chapters can be found on our website at <http://aabe.org/chapter>. ☀

AABE Chapter Presidents and Board of Directors

Quarterly Meetings

June 6-7, 2008
Location: Crown Center Hotel, Kansas City, Missouri

September 25-27, 2008
Location: Grand Hyatt Hotel, Washington, DC

December 5-6, 2008
Location: Rosen Shingle Resort, Orlando, Florida ☀



AABE INFORMATION

AABE® Mission Statement

The American Association of Blacks in Energy (AABE) is a national association of energy professionals founded in 1977 and dedicated to ensure the input of African Americans and other minorities into the discussions and developments of energy policies regulations, R&D technologies, and environmental issues.

The purposes of AABE are the following:

- To serve as a resource for policy discussion of the economic, social and political impact of environmental and energy policies on African Americans and other minorities.
- To ensure involvement of African Americans in governmental energy policymaking by recommending capable sensitive and informed personnel to appropriate officials.
- To encourage both the public and private sectors to be responsive to the problems, goals and aspirations of African Americans in energy-related fields.
- To encourage African American students to pursue careers in energy-related fields and to provide scholarships and other financial aid for such students.

AABE was founded in 1977 and is largely comprised of African-American professionals in energy-related careers. AABE is a not-for-profit organization with 36 chapters across the country and over 1,300 members. ☀

AABE National Board of Directors Officers (2006 – 2008)

AABE National Chairman **Wilton Cedeno** (NYMAC)
AABE 1st Vice Chairman **Carolyn Green** (Philadelphia)
AABE 2nd Vice Chairman **Robert Holmes** (AL)
AABE Secretary **Joyce Hayes-Giles** (MI)
AABE Assistant Secretary **Marion Brackett** (NYMAC)
AABE Treasurer **Charles Tinker** (MI)
AABE Assistant Treasurer **Rufus Gladney** (MI)
AABE General Counsel **Paul White** (Denver)
Fifteen additional board members

Six regional coordinators

Terms of office are two years with new elections occurring during the AABE National Conference General Membership Meeting on Friday, April 18, 2008. ☼

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Executive Assistant **Lakeesha Wilson**
Email: info@aabe.org
National website: <http://www.aabe.org>
Chapter websites: <http://aabe.org/chapter> ☼

Article Submissions

News items from AABE members or outside sources are welcome. Please include information about your chapter or committee if applicable. Reprints of articles must have permissions from the source of the document. Events announcements must be provided at least 3 months in advance. Word documents, emails, Adobe Acrobat files and pictures (.GIF, .JPEG and .JPG extensions only) are requested.

Deadline: **Monday, April 28, 2008**
Editor: **Wayne X. Young** (Atlanta)
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Phone: (770) 689-0424
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The AABE® *Energy News* is created and maintained by the AABE National Communications Committee. This committee retains the right to edit any articles to be published.

AABE National Communications Committee members include:

Lakeesha Wilson (HQ)
Alice Gordon (AL)
Patricia Berry (Gulf Coast)
Jessica Whitaker (NC)
Florence Washington (MI)
Carin Burwell (NJ)
Margo Jackson (CT)

And various AABE chapter Presidents and communications/public relations committee chairpersons. ☼

An AABE Dedication



The *AABE Energy News* is dedicated to **Rufus McKinney**, AABE Co-Founder, author and historian. Rufus served as Vice President of National Public Affairs for Southern California Gas Company, appointed by the governor of Maryland in 1996 to the Maryland Commission on Human Relations, and was inducted by Indiana University Law School in 2002 to its Academy of Law Alumni Fellows.

He has also been published in the NAACP's *Crisis* magazine and in the *Indiana Law Journal*. Rufus served as the 2nd AABE National Chairman from 1980 to 1982. In his autobiography, *Beating the Odds*, Rufus wrote about the formation of AABE and the early years of the organization. Excerpts from his book can be found on our website at: <http://aabe.org/about/AABEHistory>. ☼

PHOTO GALLERY

NJ - Black Tie Gala Photos



AABE® Energy News

Volume 1, Issue 1

<http://www.aabe.org>

1st Quarter 2008



Columbus - Warm Place Called Home Photos



AABE December Board Meeting Photos



Western Regional Conference Photos

