

# AABE®



## All ABout Energy

*American Association of Blacks in Energy – Atlanta Chapter*  
*Vol. 5, Issue 6 ♦ February 2007*  
[www.aabe.org](http://www.aabe.org)

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### **JANUARY HIGHLIGHTS:** **8<sup>th</sup> Annual Martin Luther King Jr. Celebration Luncheon**



The annual Martin Luther King Jr. Day program was held on January 10<sup>th</sup> in Georgia Power's Arkwright Auditorium. The meeting was co-sponsored by the Energy Exchange and the African-American Women's Networking Group. The guest speaker was **Dr. Jane E. Smith**, Executive Director of the Center for Leadership and Civic Engagement (LEADS) at Spelman College. Dr. Smith spoke very passionately about Dr. King's life, his being authentic and his phenomenal abilities as a bridge builder; as well as her own heartfelt personal experiences.

### **ATLANTA CHAPTER NEWS:** **Happy Silver Anniversary!**

This year celebrates **25 years** that Atlanta Chapter has been in existence! On February 19, 1982, Atlanta was officially recognized as a chapter in good standing at the 5<sup>th</sup> Annual AABE conference held in Atlanta.

### **FEBRUARY GENERAL MEETING**

"Remembering the Past... Celebrating the Present... Preparing for the Future" is the theme for this special video-taped program. Please note date change to **Tuesday, February 13<sup>th</sup>** for Atlanta Chapter's annual Black History Month program in the GPC Banquet Room, from 11:30a.m. to 1:00p.m. Special guest speaker is **Al Vivian**, President and CEO of BASIC Diversity, Inc.

**Energy Town Hall Meeting** - blackEnergy and AABE will co-host "Energy and Black Dollars – A Town Hall Meeting" on Saturday, February 17<sup>th</sup> from 10a.m. to 1:00p.m. at Providence Missionary Baptist Church in Atlanta. Invited panelists include: **Bernard Cameron**, Georgia Public Service Commission; **Lynn Sims**, Georgia Department of Human Resources; **Janet Joseph** of the Heating Energy Assistance Team (HEAT); and **Eric Arnold** of GPC & Program Committee Chair of the Atlanta Chapter of AABE. Special invited guests include: U.S. District 5 **Congressman John Lewis**; **State Senator Horacena Tate**, District 38; **State Representative Tyrone Brooks**, District 63; **State Senator Vincent Fort**, District 39; and **Atlanta City Councilman Jim Maddox**, District 11.

**Joint Affinity Group Meeting**  
AABE will join the GE African-American Forum, Georgia

Power's African-American Women's Networking Group, the GPC Amigos, and the GPC Asian Pacific American affinity groups in a group discussion about the challenges minorities face in the workplace. The meeting will take place in the GPC Arkwright Auditorium on February 28<sup>th</sup> from 11:30a.m. to 1:00p.m.

### **Report Card from Scholarship Winner -**

Atlanta native **Steven Singleton**, first time **James K. Davis** scholarship recipient from 2006, sent us an update of his academic progress as a freshman during the first quarter of Stanford University in California. He states, "Thanks to our... contributions, encouragement, and support, I have been able to make it through this quarter. Knowing that everyone has high expectations for me and wishes of goodwill, keeps me motivated at least to simply do the best that I possibly can in school." Steven currently has a B average and is majoring in Management Science and Engineering.

### **AABE Black History Information -**

During the December '06 year-end celebration luncheon, Cherryl Harris presented a trivia quiz about AABE and other Atlanta Chapter facts. Since February is Black History Month, we decided to provide a brief highlight of our energy industry, organization and chapter...

First African-American Owned Electric Company:

**Granville T. Woods (AKA “The Black Edison”)** – (Founder of Woods Electrical Company, Cincinnati, OH) founding date in 1890s

Inventor of Carbon Filaments for Incandescent Lamps:

**Lewis Latimer** – (member of Edison Pioneers, Menlo Park, NJ) patented in 1882

Inventor of Automatic Engine Lubricator:

**Elijah McCoy (AKA “The Real McCoy”)** – (Founder of Elijah McCoy Manufacturing Company, Detroit, MI) patented in 1915, company founded in 1920

Expert in Particle Physics and Electricity Conduction:

**Shirley Jackson** – (Theoretical Physicist at Bell Labs, Murray Hill, NJ) 1976

AABE Founded:

14 Members – 9 Companies, 2 Legislators, 1 HBCU (Watergate Hotel, Washington, DC) July 25-26, 1977

AABE Incorporated as a Non-Profit Organization:

December 1, 1977

AABE Founder & First Chairman:

**Clarke Watson – Founder Emeritus** (CEO Watson Associates, Denver, CO) Chairman of AABE: 1977 - 1979

AABE Chapters:

Currently 35, with 1,000+ members, in 6 Regions

AABE Southeast Chapters:

Atlanta  
Birmingham  
Florida  
Gulf Coast  
North Carolina  
Savannah  
South Carolina  
Tennessee

Founding Member From ATL & Chairman:

**John Tucker** (Special Advisor to AGL President **Isaac Blythers**, American Gas Association Officer) Chairman of AABE 1986 - 1987

AABE Chief Operating Officer & Executive Director:

**Robert Hill** (AABE National Office, Washington, DC) 1992 – 1996, 1998 - 2007

AABE Chairman:

**Wilton Cedeno** (Director of Information Resources, Con Edison, NYC, NY) 2006 - 2007

ATL Chapter Founded:

**February 19, 1982** at AABE 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference – Atlanta, Georgia

ATL Chapter Founder:

**James K. Davis – Founder Emeritus** (SVP of Corporate Relations, GPC) 1982

ATL Chapter Membership:

175 – 10 Companies (Includes satellite chapter at the Georgia Power Customer Care Center (formed in 2001) in Henry County. Georgia Power Co. and Southern Company are listed as separate entities. Atlanta previously held title as largest chapter with 220 members in 2001. Detroit and New York Metropolitan Area chapters are also amongst the top three largest chapters in AABE.)

ATL Past & Present Member Companies:

Georgia Power Company  
Southern Company  
(Includes: Southern Company Energy Solutions, Southern LINC, Southern Natural Gas, Southern Nuclear, Southern Company Services)  
Atlanta Gas Light Co.  
AGL Resources  
HTS Enterprise  
blackEnergy  
Oglethorpe Power Co.

Mirant Corporation (formerly Southern Energy)  
Georgia Natural Gas  
SL King & Associates  
Institute of Nuclear Power Operations (INPO)  
Greystone Power Corp.  
Southstar Energy Services  
Honeywell International  
Gulf Oil Company  
Flint Energies  
HJ Energy Services  
General Electric (GE Energy)  
J.O. Rodgers & Associates  
SCANA  
City of Atlanta (honorary)  
Georgia Public Service Commission (honorary)

Atlanta Chapter Presidents:

15. **Eric Duncan** (APC, GPC) 2006-2007
14. **Wayne Young** (HON, SCS, HTS, AGL) 2004 – 2005
13. **Valerie Huff** (GPC) 2002 – 2003
12. **Gerald Mitchell** (GPC, SCS) 2000 – 2001
11. **Keith Jackson** (GPC) 1998 – 1999
10. **Wayne Glover** (GPC, Greystone) 1996 – 1997
9. **Gerald Johnson** (GPC, APC) 1994 – 1995
8. **Herb Joseph** (GPC, SoCo Gas, HJ Energy Services) 1992 – 1993
7. **Willie Green** (GPC) 1990 – 1991
6. **Calvin Vines** (GPC) 1988 – 1989
5. **Arthur McClung Jr.** (GPC) 1986 – 1987
4. **Warren Cox** (Institute of Nuclear Power Operations, HTS) 1985 – 1986
3. **Charles Rucker** (GPC) 1983 – 1984
2. **Barbara Washington** (GPC, City of Atlanta) 1982 – 1983
1. **Tom Walker** (Gulf Oil Company) 1982

ATL Officers:

8 - (see page 4 for details)

ATL Committees:

10 - (see page 4 for details)

[AABE Southeast Regional Coordinators from Atlanta Chapter:](#)

**Dorothy Herring** (GPC) 1998 – 2002

**Harriette Watkins** (GPC, AGL) 1996 – 1997

**James K. Davis** (GPC) 1985 – 1995

**Barbara Washington** (GPC, City of Atlanta) 1983 – 1984

[AABE National Board of Directors from the Atlanta Chapter:](#)

**John Tucker** (American Gas Association, AGL) AABE Founding Member, Board Member 1977 - 1990, National Chairman 1986 - 1987

**James K. Davis** (GPC) Atlanta Chapter Founder, Regional Coordinator, Board Member 1977 – 2004

**Art McClung Jr.** (GPC) Board Member 1988 – 1989

**Barbara Washington** (GPC, City of Atlanta) Board Member 1984 – 1985

**Sonja Ebron** (blackEnergy) Board Member 2002 – 2006

**Richard Holmes** (GPC) Board Member 2005 – 2007

**Ralph Cleveland** (AGL) Board Member 2005 – 2007

**Garry Harris** (HTS) Board Member 2005 – 2007

[James E. Stewart Award Recipients:](#)

**John Tucker** (AGA, AGL) 1989

**James Davis** (GPC) 1998

[National Conventions held in Atlanta:](#)

1982

1989

2000

[Outstanding Chapter of the Year Awards for Atlanta:](#)

2001, 2002, 2003, 2004, 2005, 2006

[ATL Chapter James K. Davis Scholarships Awarded:](#)

\$230,000 (from 1994 – 2006)  
150+ student awardees

[ATL Mentorship Schools \(Past and Present\):](#)

Atlanta University Center  
Georgia Institute of Technology  
McNair High School  
Washington High School  
Lithonia High School  
Henry County School District  
Terry Hill Elementary School

[ATL Partnerships \(Past & Present\):](#)

Atlanta Exchange  
GPC Affinity Groups  
Georgia Conservancy  
NAACP  
Georgia Chamber of Commerce  
Atlanta Black Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce  
APEX Museum  
Atlanta Union Mission  
Society of Non-Profit Organizations

**GEORGIA NEWS-Promotions/New Jobs:**

The Georgia Electric Membership Corporation hired **Cherica Simmons** as a staff accountant.

**Atlanta Business Chronicle**

**LED article** (by *Joanna*

*Carabello* - ABC 1/5/07)

Light Emitting Diode (LED) fixtures have been installed in unique exterior signs at the Turner Broadcasting System and Fox Theatre buildings. Advances in the LED technology have increased the use of these lights from cell phones, Christmas lights and exit signs to large-scale interior and exterior design. LEDs offer a longer life span, energy efficiency, lower temperatures, smaller size and color versatility.

**Employment Opportunities:**

HTS Enterprise has openings for the following positions:  
Power System Engineer,  
Procurement Engineer, and Root Cause Analyst. Please contact Garry Harris at [\*\*HTSENTERPRISE@aol.com\*\*](mailto:HTSENTERPRISE@aol.com) for more information.

**NATIONAL ENERGY NEWS: U.S. State of the Union Address -**

Live on television and in front of Congress, **U.S. President George W. Bush** is quoted in his Wednesday, January 24<sup>th</sup> State of the Union speech on the topic of energy policy as saying, "For too long our nation has been dependent on foreign oil...It is in our vital interest to diversify America's energy supply – and the way forward is through technology, ...reduce gasoline usage by 20% in the next ten years, ...and alternative energy sources. They will help us to confront the serious challenge of global climate change."

**Energy an Issue for Businesses**

More than 90% of venture capitalists surveyed by the *National Venture Capital Association* rated investing in energy companies the most popular for 2007. Investing in internet and media companies are numbers two and three respectively. Increasing U.S. supplies of oil, natural gas and developing alternative energy sources is the top legislative priority of the *National Association of Manufacturers* to lobby during the new 110<sup>th</sup> Congressional session. Large corporations and small business owners both say energy and fuel costs have the most impact on their business. CFOs surveyed by the *Association of Financial Professionals* and the small business owners surveyed by *International Profit Associates Small Business Research Board* both say they are worried that high energy costs could inhibit growth in 2007.

**Black Enterprise Articles -**

In the February 2007 issue of *Black Enterprise* magazine: **William Teel**, Chairman & CEO of 1 Source Consulting Inc., discusses how his company was awarded a \$1.4 billion

government contract with the U.S. Department of Energy. **Alfreda Bradley-Coar**, general counsel for General Electric, explains the benefits of mentoring programs and corporate sponsorships.

**Adriane Brown**, President & CEO of Honeywell Transportation Systems, will be a guest speaker at the Black Enterprise Women of Power Summit in Phoenix, Arizona from February 7-10.

**Listen to Black History - Say It Plain: A Century of Great African-American Speeches** is an archive of important black political oratory from the past 100 years. Sponsored by the American RadioWorks Network, the website presents a list of legendary figures (such as **Booker T. Washington** and **Martin Luther King, Jr.**), significant events (**Shirley Chisholm** is elected to Congress in 1974) and important political perspectives (**Fannie Lou Hamer** running for Congress in 1964). The website is <http://americanradioworks.publicradio.org/features/sayitplain/index.html>.

#### **SAVE THE DATE -**

for AABE's 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Annual Conference. Our theme is "*Back to the Past ... Shaping the Future.*" Please join us in Washington, D.C. from April 10 - 13, 2007 at the Washington Hilton. Guest speakers include **Charlie Cook**, political commentator for CNBC and **U.S. Department of Energy Secretary Samuel Bodman**. Registration information can be found on the AABE website [www.aabe.org](http://www.aabe.org) or by phone (202) 371-9530.

#### **2007 MEMBER DUES**

##### **ACCEPTED NOW:**

Please remember to join AABE or renew your 2007 membership ASAP. Dues are only \$150 for

the year. Applications were emailed last month and should be forwarded to Atlanta Chapter at P.O. Box 55216, Atlanta, GA 30308, for faster processing.

#### **Atlanta Chapter Committees:**

Volunteers are needed to support the following AABE committees in 2007:

**BEAM - (Black Energy Awareness Month)** Manages a Career Day event for high school students.

**Communication -** Preparation of the *All About Energy* newsletter.

**Fundraising -** Development of our Golf Outing to finance our scholarships.

**Membership -** Recruitment of new members.

**Program -** Developing quality monthly meetings.

**Scholarship -** Selection of qualified high school seniors for energy related awards.

**Mentoring - CHOICES:** Monthly peer advice for metro area 9<sup>th</sup> grade students.

**Philanthropic/Charitable -** Donations for needy families.

**Energy Education -** Promote AABE in the community.

**Legislative & Regulatory -** Push AABE's agenda with governmental agencies.

For more information contact AABE Chapter Secretary **Cherryl Harris** at [cmharris@southernco.com](mailto:cmharris@southernco.com)

#### **MEMBER COMPANY**

##### **WEBSITES:**

[www.aabe.org](http://www.aabe.org)  
[www.aglresources.com](http://www.aglresources.com)  
[www.blackenergy.com](http://www.blackenergy.com)  
[www.ge.com](http://www.ge.com)  
[www.georgianaturalgas.com](http://www.georgianaturalgas.com)  
[www.honeywell.com](http://www.honeywell.com)  
[www.htsenterprise.com](http://www.htsenterprise.com)  
[www.opc.com](http://www.opc.com)  
[www.southernco.com](http://www.southernco.com)  
[www.southstarenergy.com](http://www.southstarenergy.com)

#### **GOT NEWS?**

Please send all comments, suggestions, AABE information, announcements, and energy-related news to Wayne Young at [wayne.young2@honeywell.com](mailto:wayne.young2@honeywell.com).

The deadline for the next monthly newsletter is **Monday, February 26, 2007.**

*"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."*

#### **Atlanta Chapter Address:**

P. O. Box 55216  
Atlanta, Georgia 30308

#### **Atlanta Chapter 2006-2007 Officers**

Eric Duncan, President  
Cordell Carter, Vice President  
Olivia Woods, Treasurer  
Tiffany Ferrell, Asst. Treasurer  
Cherryl M. Harris, Secretary  
Monica Reese, Asst. Secretary  
Tanya Ligons, Parliamentarian  
Jennifer Henson, Chapter Coordinator

#### **SouthEast Region Coordinator**

**Corlene Williams**  
(@ Southern Natural Gas)  
(205) 325-355