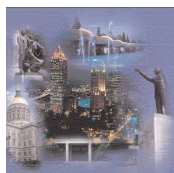


AABE®

All ABout Energy

The American Association of Blacks in Energy® – Atlanta Chapter
Vol. 3, Issue 7 ♦ July 2008
<http://aabe.org/atlanta>



AABE ATLANTA CHAPTER MONTHLY HIGHLIGHTS:

AABE/AAF June Meeting



The Atlanta Chapter of AABE and the GE Energy African-American Forum (AAF) presented their 3rd annual joint body meeting on June 16th at GE Energy headquarters in North Atlanta. The program focused on “*Supplier Technologies, Demand Planning and Renewables from a Customer & Supplier Perspective.*”

Panelists included **Leonard Haynes**, EVP - Supplier Technologies, Demand Planning and Renewables- Southern Company; **Beth Melendez**, Executive Sourcing Leader, GE Energy Services; and **Cindy Breitkreuz**, GM Wind and Field Services, GE Energy.

Mary Cantrell - Strategic Leader for the AAF/AABE collaboration and Flow Parts Leader for the GE Energy Engineering Division opened the meeting with recognition of the AABE officers and AABE National Board Secretary, **Dot Harris**, Synergy

Leader for GE Energy. **James Howard**, Commercial Operations Manager, GE Energy, moderated the session.

Mr. Haynes presented the forecast of energy in the coming years as a supplier and customer. He noted that Southern Company is positioning itself to meet the needs of future consumers. He spoke also about the migration of the population towards the SE USA, and how this will affect the capacity of all energy providers.

Beth spoke from a sourcing perspective on the strong global electricity demand thru 2016, and the increased demand in developing countries. GE anticipates the change and is positioned thru market leadership, domain knowledge, technology advantage, and financial strength.

Cindy spoke on the renewables sector, focusing on wind energy. GE is the number one US provider, expanding with global excellence. The audience was captivated at the data regarding wind turbine size, structure and capability.

All of the presenters had a similar message - the global demand is a reality, resources are constrained with rising structure costs, and that there is an increased concern over security and the environment. Pictured above from left to right are: **James Howard** (GE), **Leonard Haynes**

(Southern Co.), **Beth Melendez** (GE), **Cindy Breitkreuz** (GE), AABE National Board Secretary **Dot Harris** (GE), **Mary Cantrell** (GE) and AABE Atlanta Chapter VP **Eric Arnold** (GPC).

To learn more about General Electric’s African American Forum please visit their website at <http://aaf.gecompany.com>.

AABE Atlanta July Meeting

The Chapter will host a networking event and membership drive on Thursday, July 10th at the Georgia Power Company (GPC) Park Pavilion from 11:30AM to 1:00PM. Help build better relationships with your peers and enjoy a picnic outdoors with AABE! All members and interested parties are welcome to attend. The Pavilion is located at GPC headquarters, 241 Ralph McGill Blvd., in downtown Atlanta. To RSVP, please contact the Programs Committee Chair, **Faye Adeniran** (GPC).

Black History Maker Presenters Needed

Each month the Chapter conducts a *Black History Maker* 5-minute presentation during our general meetings. We are seeking individuals that will help present pioneers in the energy industry. To volunteer, please contact the AABE Atlanta Chapter Assistant Treasurer, **Olivia Parks-Woods** (SCS).

Volunteer for the AABE Mentoring Program



AABE and GPC will begin its annual *CHOICES* mentoring program throughout two metropolitan area high schools. Volunteers are needed to participate in educating 9th and 10th graders about life skills and leadership during the school calendar from September 2008 to May 2009. Mentors will be required to participate in one class period per month. **Booker T. Washington** High School (pictured above) and a Henry County high school (CCC) are part of the program. Help prepare our youth for the future. For more information, please contact AABE Mentoring Committee Co-Chairs [Nevada Weatherspoon](#) (GPC) and [John Moore](#) (GPC).

AABE CCC School Drive



The GPC Customer Care Center (CCC) AABE Satellite Chapter will conduct a charity school drive from July 28th to August 4th. The CCC Chapter seeks to donate school supplies such as book bags, pencils, and notebooks for local Henry County elementary school students. Monetary donations will also be accepted. The Chapter will provide a collection bin in the Georgia Power CCC cafeteria located at 2500 Patrick Henry Parkway in McDonough. For more information, please contact the AABE Satellite Chapter Coordinator, [Shelby Hall](#) (GPC-CCC).

Happy Retirements!



The Atlanta Chapter is honored to announce the corporate retirements of two of its dedicated members during the month of July. AABE Atlanta Chapter's 5th President & past National Board Member **Arthur McClung, Jr.**, City of Atlanta Operations Director for Georgia Power Company's External Affairs Department (pictured above) and AABE member & longtime sponsor **Leonard J. Haynes**, EVP of Resource Planning, Demand Side Planning and Renewables for Southern Company, have both served the industry and our organization for decades. We congratulate both men on their accomplishments and wish them well with future endeavors.

Our Condolences



AABE mourns the passing of one of the Atlanta Chapter members, **Percy "Chuckie" Smallwood, Jr.**, a Certified Public Accountant, who was a devoted husband and father. He looked with anticipation at spending his time off with his immediate and extended families. Percy served as Controller of Finance for Georgia System Operations Corp., an Oglethorpe Power Co. Family of Companies. In addition

to his love of family and friends, he enjoyed a good round of golf. His legacy is love - love that will be missed and cherished.



Eloyce Riley Sampson, the mother of AABE member **Marsha Johnson**, SVP of Human Resources and Chief Diversity Officer for Southern Company Services, passed away on June 4th. Mrs. Sampson, 76, a native of Jacksonville, Florida was a Registered Nurse, graduating from Brewster-Duval School of Nursing in 1962.

AABE extends its condolences to all family and friends of both members during this difficult time.

Atlanta Golf Tournament Sets New Record in Fundraising



The 6th annual AABE Atlanta Chapter **James K. Davis** Scholarship Golf Outing on May 16th raised a record **\$24,335** towards our Chapter's 2009 scholarship fund. Special thanks goes out to our sponsors, tournament chairs, volunteers and Fundraising Committee members for their commitment to enriching the lives of young students pursuing higher education in energy related fields of study. More pictures of this event are

provided at the end of this newsletter.

AABE ATL Membership Drive

Atlanta is one of the most diverse chapters within the organization. We currently have **162** members from **32** environmental & energy-related companies, subsidiaries, organizations and institutions. We are excited to welcome members from new companies such as **Peter Palmer-Buckle** (Burns & McDonnell), **Keenan Conigland** (Millennium Energy, LLC) and **Marlin Gines** (Synergetic Design).

The Atlanta Chapter of AABE has one general chapter and three satellite chapters (CCC, GA Tech and FSVU) in the Southeast region of the organization. Professionals in the energy industry that are located in the Northern Georgia cities of Atlanta, Macon, Augusta, Jonesboro, McDonough and surrounding counties who wish to participate in AABE related events can apply new or renew their membership for 2008.

Recruitment efforts are now underway for college students studying energy-related degrees at our new local student chapters. General membership dues are \$150. Board of Directors dues are \$250. Sustaining membership dues are an additional \$100. Student Chapter dues are \$25. 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).

AABE's Community Efforts

President Cordell Carter (AGL) provided key information about

AABE and its mission at several public events in June. He stated, "These meetings are significant steps in broadening our influence as an organization and being a resource in the discussion of local energy issues."

At the Association of Black Engineers, Scientists and Technologists (ABEST) annual conference on June 7th, President Carter provided insights on cap & trade concepts during the "*Opportunities in the Green Energy Sector*" panel. AABE member **Garry Harris** (HTS) was the moderator for the session. Afterwards, President Carter received a tentative commitment from ABEST to let us present the *AABE Energy Principles* separately as a stand-alone meeting.

On June 5th, President Carter gave a presentation to the South DeKalb Rotary Club at the Fairfield Inn, StoneCrest Mall in Lithonia. He spoke about "*Conservation in an Unstable Energy Environment*" and focused on health concerns & energy efficiency issues affecting our community.

AABE also distributed energy conservation, LIHEAP and utility information at the Atlanta Housing Authority Utility Forum on Saturday, June 28th at the Georgia World Congress Center.

Our Legislative & Regulatory Affairs Committee (L&RA) also plans to participate in the annual National Black Caucus of Local Elected Officials (NBC-LEO) conference being held in Atlanta from July 23rd to 27th to engage the government in AABE's legislative efforts. The L&RA Committee will also host its 4th annual *State of Energy in Georgia* meeting on September 11th at AGL Resources headquarters in downtown Atlanta.

Volunteers are needed to participate on behalf of the AABE Atlanta Chapter Legislative & Regulatory Affairs (L&RA) Committee and Taking Our Unbroken Commitment Home (TOUCH) - Energy Education Sub-Committee. For more information, please contact [Valerie Harris](#) (GPC-CCC).

GEORGIA NEWS:

Ministers Boycott Gasoline



On June 16th, members of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC) and the Concerned Black Clergy of Metropolitan Atlanta are urging local residents to boycott against high gasoline prices. The ministers walked ½ mile down Cascade Road in SW Atlanta and prayed in front of a local retail gas station. The protest included **Dr. Charles Steele** (pictured on left) SCLC President & CEO and **Rev. Joseph Lowery**, Steering Committee Covenor of the Coalition for the People's Agenda. The SCLC will continue the protest nationwide throughout the summer and will target the top 5 national oil companies (BP, Chevron, Shell, ExxonMobil and Texaco) to provide some short-term economic relief for consumers.

East Point Fan Giveaway



The City of East Point Fire Department distributed 500 fans

to local residents on June 10th. Firefighters at Fire Station No. 1 held their 4th annual “Seniors Stay Cool” program which provided free Galaxy® brand fans, West Nile Virus literature, fire prevention and heat related injuries information to recipients who are either low-income, handicapped or senior citizens who may be adversely affected by the extreme temperatures during the summer. SCANA Energy has donated over 2,000 fans for this program since 2005.

Drought Conditions Still Exist



Despite recent rainfall and conservation efforts, Georgians are still affected by the drought. With the exception of Lake Lanier, most lakes and reservoirs are at full pool. Lake Lanier is currently at 15 feet below full pool and is down 10.1 feet from July 2007. Lake Allatoona is up 2.7 feet since July 2007. Meteorologists hope that a tropical storm can bring Georgia’s lakes, reservoirs and waterways back to full pool by spring of 2009.

Solar Cell Maker Moving to Gwinnett – (Atlanta Business Chronicle June 6-12, 2008)



Suniva, Inc., a low-cost manufacturer of solar energy cells, announced that it is opening its first plant in Norcross. The facility will cost \$75M to build and will become the first solar

plant in Georgia. Suniva will have the capacity to manufacture enough cells to power 10,000 homes per year. The company was conceived by Chief Technical Officer **Ajeet Rohatgi**, (pictured above on right with CEO **John Baumstark** on left) the founding Director of Georgia Tech’s University Center of Excellence for Photovoltaic Research and Education.

Rohatgi received a patent in 2005 for inventing a new way to manufacture 25MW high value mono-crystalline solar cells resulting in superior solar-cell performance, efficiency and reduced processing time compared with other solar technologies. Suniva expects to create 100 jobs in the coming year. To view these job openings, please visit www.suniva.com.

GE Energy Lands \$500M in Saudi Deals – (Atlanta Business Chronicle June 6-12, 2008)

Atlanta-based GE Energy has won contracts worth more than \$500 million to help Saudi Arabia meet its growing energy demands and population growth. GE Energy will supply gas turbines and generators for several power plant projects owned by Saudi Electricity Company. This includes a 960MW expansion of the Rabigh Power Plant in Rabigh City on the west coast of Saudi Arabia.

Utilimetrics International Symposium in Atlanta

The *Autovation 2008* conference will be held from September 7-10 at the Georgia World Congress Center. The keynote speaker will be **David Ratcliffe** who is the CEO of Southern Company. For more information, please visit www.utilimetrics.org.

Federal and State Incentives for Renewables and Efficiency

DSIRE is a database of state incentives for renewable energy and energy efficiency projects. State, local, utility and Federal tax credits & rebates are provided. Please click the [DSIRE website](http://www.dsire.com) and select Georgia (or any state) for detailed information on residential, commercial and industrial programs for home owners and businesses in 2008.

AABE NATIONAL NEWS:



Happy Anniversary AABE!



The American Association of Blacks in Energy officially celebrates in July **31** years as an advocate for minorities affected by energy issues. The AABE organization was founded by the late **Clarke A. Watson**, President of Watson Associates (Denver), at the historic Watergate Hotel in Washington, DC from July 25th to 26th in 1977. Fourteen energy professionals attended the first meeting. AABE has since expanded to 1,600 members with 47 Chapters across the country. Mr. Watson’s biography is included at the end of this newsletter.

AABE 2008 Conference Presentations Uploaded

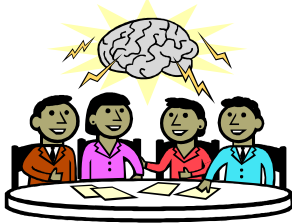
Please click the link below to view or download the 31st Annual AABE National Conference Presentations.

Website:
<http://rapidshare.com/freezone.html>

Location: Collector’s Zone

Login ID: AABE2008
Password: aabe2008
(Case Sensitive)

Volunteer in Orlando for 2009



During the AABE 31st Annual Conference's General Meeting on Friday, April 18th, the AABE Southeast (SE) Region performed a skit to announce next year's conference. The 32nd Annual AABE National Conference will be located at the Rosen Shingle Creek Resort in Orlando, Florida from April 16-19, 2009. The theme is "*Clean Energy...A New Economy.*"

The conference is hosted by the AABE SE Region Chapters of Florida (FL/AABE), Atlanta, Birmingham, Gulf Coast, North Carolina, Savannah, South Carolina (SCCAABE), Tennessee and the three new Student Chapters (GA Tech, FVSU and NC A&T). The Co-Chairs of the 2009 Conference Committee are AABE SE Region Coordinator **Corlene Williams** (El Paso/SNG-BHM), National Conference Planning Committee Chair **Polly Rosemond** (Energy-LA) and **Gregory Owens** (JEA), FL/AABE Chapter President.

Planning for the conference is scheduled for July 28th at the resort. Volunteers are needed to help create the conference in sub-committees such as agenda planning, promotions, logistics and fundraising. To volunteer for a sub-committee, please contact [Corlene](#).

June Board Meeting

AABE Chapter Presidents and National Board of Directors held

their quarterly meeting on June 19th to the 21st at the Westin Crown Center hotel in Kansas City, Missouri. The [AABE Kansas-Missouri Chapter](#) (KS-MO) hosted the quarterly meeting.

The Legislative Issues and Public Policy (LIPP) Committee's *Energy Principles* presentation took place on June 19th. The Technology Development Committee (TDC) announced that the new AABE website will be completed by August 4th. The applications deadline for AABE National and Regional scholarships will be March 13, 2009 for all Chapters.

The next AABE National quarterly meeting will take place from September 25th to the 27th in Washington, DC at the Four Points by Sheraton hotel during the annual [Congressional Black Caucus](#) event.

AABE Energy News



The 3rd quarterly issue of the *AABE Energy News* will be released in July. To download current and past issues, please visit the [AABE National Communications Committee](#) website. The national newsletter is edited by **Wayne Young** (Honeywell), AABE National Communications Committee Chairperson.

U.S. ENERGY NEWS:

ExxonMobil Sells Off Gas Station Businesses



Oil giant ExxonMobil Corp. plans to sell its company-owned gas stations, saying they aren't profitable enough even with gasoline selling at \$4/gallon. ExxonMobil plans to sell 820 owned and operated stations as well as 1,400 stations leased to dealers. The 2,220 stations make up about 1/5 of the Exxon and Mobil stations in the United States. The company says the stations to be sold will continue to sell ExxonMobil product.

Saudis Increase Oil Production



King Abdullah of Saudi Arabia announced on June 22nd that the country will raise its total daily output of oil to 9.7 million barrels per day in July. Saudi Arabia and the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) claim that there is no oil shortage but blame the falling U.S. dollar and financial speculation for the high cost of oil. Total world-wide crude production is about 85 million barrels per day, but analysts say supplies remain tight amid disruptions to production from Nigeria, Africa's largest producer.

Green Buildings on the Rise – (Environmental Protection Agency Press Release June 10, 2008)



Green building continues to gain momentum as it demonstrates numerous opportunities to improve the impacts of buildings on the environment and health. To acknowledge this growing trend and EPA's expanded role in it, the agency has released a new video on green buildings in its *Green Scene* series. The video features **Dr. Bill Sanders** (pictured), Director of EPA's National Center for Environmental Research, talking about how the EPA is encouraging & supporting green building, and how homeowners can take simple steps to green their homes.

The EPA recently issued a new green building strategy to facilitate the mainstream adoption of green building practices. The strategy builds upon and calls for better coordination among existing programs, such as *Energy Star* and *WaterSense*, which are designed to reduce the impacts of buildings and development.

The strategy also includes an increased focus on research. In fact, the EPA already has invested a significant amount of funding in green building research, including more than 80 grants and fellowships awarded by the National Center for Environmental Research. The center has also awarded more than \$5 million through its *Small Business Innovative Research* contracts.

Understanding the benefits of green building on people is important, as Americans spend nearly 90 percent of their time in buildings. Currently, buildings are responsible for nearly 40% of U.S. energy use and about 40% of U.S. carbon dioxide emissions, the primary greenhouse gas. But there are many opportunities to reduce these impacts in the

buildings where we live, work and play.

To view the *Green Scene* video: <http://www.epa.gov/multimedia/index.html>

EPA's *Green Building Program*: <http://www.epa.gov/greenbuilding>

The Simon Property Group, who owns and operates several malls in the area (Lenox Square, Mall of Georgia, Phipps Plaza and Discover Mills, etc.) have implemented "green" energy saving practices that resulted in \$11M/year in operating costs savings over its 300 nationwide properties.

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://www.grist.org).

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.

<p>Atlanta Chapter 2008-2009 Officers</p> <p>Cordell Carter, President (AGL)</p> <p>Eric Arnold, Vice President (GPC)</p> <p>Cherryl Harris, Treasurer (GPC)</p>
--

Olivia Parks-Woods, Assistant Treasurer (SCS)
Valerie Harris, Secretary (GPC – CCC)
Jennifer Henson, Assistant Secretary (GPC – CCC)
Tiffany Callaway-Ferrell, Parliamentarian (AGL)
Shelby Hall, Chapter Coordinator (GPC – CCC)
Dimitri Hughes, GA Tech Student Chapter President
Dr. Comas Haynes, GA Tech Student Chapter Coordinator
Dr. Isaac Crumbly, FSVU Student Chapter Coordinator

Board of Directors

Ralph Cleveland, AGL Resources
Dot Harris, AABE National Secretary, GE Energy
Richard Holmes, GPC

Southeast Region Coordinator

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

AABE Atlanta Chapter 2008 Program Schedule (Tentative)

1/16 – **Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.** "Day of Service" 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)
4/12 – MS Walk
4/15 to 4/18 – AABE 31st Annual Conference (Houston, TX)
4/24 – AABE General Meeting (CCC)
4/25 – Career Day Program (Redan HS)
5/2 – ACS Relay for Life

5/3 – SEM Link Career Fair (Georgia State University)
 5/9 to 5/11 – Sweet Auburn SpringFest 2008
 5/15 – 14th Annual Scholarship Banquet (GPC)
 5/16 – 6th Annual Golf Tournament (Summer Grove Golf Club)
 5/20 – AMBCC Meeting (Auburn Avenue Research Library)
 6/5 – South DeKalb Rotary Club (Fairfield Inn)
 6/7 – ABEST BizTech Summit (Hyatt)
 6/16 – 3rd Annual AABE/AAF Meeting (GE)
 6/19 to 6/21 – AABE Board of Directors Meeting (Kansas City, MO)
 6/28 – AHA Utility Forum (Georgia World Congress Center)
 7/10 – Networking Event (GPC)
 7/19 – ACS Relay for Life
 7/23 to 7/27 – NBC-LEO Conference (Atlanta)
 7/28 – AABE 32nd National Conference Planning Meeting (Orlando, FL)
 7/28 to 8/4 – Annual School Drive (CCC)
 8/14 – Career Focus Meeting (GPC)
 8/20 – General Meeting (CCC)
 9/1 – CHOICES Mentoring Program Begins (BTW & HCHS)
 9/11 – State of Energy in Georgia Meeting (AGL)
 9/25 to 9/27 – AABE Board of Directors Meeting/Congressional Black Caucus (Sheraton-DC)
 10/9 – BEAM Program (various/TBD)
 10/12 – AABE 32nd National Conference Planning Meeting (Orlando, FL)
 11/1 – CCC TOUCH Program
 11/13 – ExxonMobil Speaker
 12/1 – CCC TOUCH Program
 12/5 to 12/6 – AABE Board of Directors Meeting (Orlando, FL)
 12/11 – End of Year Celebration (GPC)

AABE Atlanta Chapter General Membership meetings are held on the 2nd Thursday of the month. Atlanta Chapter Officers & Executive Committee Meetings

are held during the 1st Monday of the month. Dates may change when necessary.

Atlanta Chapter Address:

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

Atlanta Chapter Websites:

<http://aabe.org/atlanta>

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/ABEATL> (Message Board)

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),
 Jennifer Henson (GPC-CCC)
 and Valerie Harris (GPC-CCC)

Fundraising

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

Membership

Tarece Johnson-Hassell (AGL Resources)

Programs

Fanchester Henry (GPC-CCC),
 Lillie Battle (GPC) and Faye
 Adeniran (GPC)

Scholarship

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

2009 Conference Planning

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

Taking Our Unbroken Commitment Home (TOUCH)

Mentoring

Nevada Weatherspoon (GPC)
 and John Moore, III (GPC)

TOUCH

Philanthropic/Charitable

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

TOUCH Energy Education

Cordell Carter (AGL),
 Dr. Sonja Ebron (blackEnergy)
 and Eric Arnold (GPC)

Legislative & Regulatory

Affairs

Mickey Wade (AGL Resources)
 and LaTunya Goodwin (GPC)

Georgia Institute of Technology Student Chapter

Dr. Comas Haynes (GA Tech)
 and Dimitri Hughes (GA Tech)

Fort Valley State University

Student Chapter

Dr. Isaac J. Crumbly (FVSU)
 and Ralph Cleveland (AGL)

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 and Annual Report;
- Establish a Foundation to Fund Scholarships;
- Update the Chapter By-Laws.

Check marks indicate where we met or exceeded these goals by the end of the 2nd quarter of 2008.

Member Company Websites:

www.aabe.org
www.aaf.gecompany.com
www.atlantablackchamber.org
www.atlantagaslight.com
www.aglnetworks.com

www.aglresources.com
www.aucenter.edu
www.blackenergy.com
www.burnsmcd.com
www.ch2m.com
www.fvsu.edu
www.gas-south.com
www.gasoc.com
www.gatech.edu
www.georgianaturalgas.com
www.georgiapower.com
www.greystonepower.com
www.heatga.org
www.honeywell.com
www.htsenterprise.com
www.millennium-energy.net
www.mirant.com
www.opc.com
www.psc.state.ga.us
www.scanaenergy.com
www.slking.com
www.southerncompany.com
www.southstarenergy.com
www.snowden-king.com
www.snpo.org
www.synergeticdesign.com
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 committee reserves the right
 to edit any documents provided to
 the newsletter for submission.
 The deadline for the next monthly
 newsletter is **Monday, July 28th**.

Black History Energy Moments

July 4, 1881 – The Tuskegee
 Institute opens in Alabama with
Booker T. Washington serving
 as its first President.

July 5, 1892 – **Andrew Beard** is
 issued a patent for the rotary
 engine.

July 14, 1885 – **Sarah Goode** is
 the first Black woman to receive
 a patent (for a folding bed).

July 14, 1891 – **John Standard**
 is issued a patent for an improved
 non-electric refrigerator.

July 25, 1916 – **Garrett Morgan**
 personally saves six lives in a
 Cleveland tunnel with his gas
 mask invention.

July 25 to 26, 1977 – **Clarke
 Watson** forms the American
 Association of Blacks in Energy
 at the Watergate Hotel in
 Washington, DC.

HISTORY MAKER BIOGRAPHY

**AABE NATIONAL FOUNDER
 CLARKE A. WATSON
 (1943-2003)**



Thirty-one years ago, a young
 visionary looked around him and
 saw a need. He saw a need for
 change in U.S. national energy
 policy. He saw a need for Blacks
 and other minorities to have a
 voice in energy policymaking in
 this country and an organization
 to become that voice. The result
 of this vision is the American
 Association of Blacks in Energy,
 known internationally by its
 acronym, AABE. AABE
 historian and contemporary of
 Watson, **Rufus McKinney**,
 writing in the official history
 publication of the American
 Association of Blacks in Energy
 describes Watson and that period
 setting this way:

“The decade of the 1970’s is
 likely to be remembered as the
 period in America’s post World
 War II history when the nation

actually confronted, for the first
 time, the reality of its
 vulnerability at the hands of a
 group of very small countries that
 were utterly without military
 power. The tremendous
 economic growth that occurred
 during the 1950’s and 1960’s had
 been fueled in large part by cheap
 and easily available energy
 supplies, both from domestic and
 foreign sources.

Seemingly overnight, America
 awakened to rapidly escalating
 prices for oil and natural gas.
 This, coupled with an abrupt
 shortage of these commodities,
 disrupted the entire U.S.
 economy. It was in the context of
 these growing concerns, and how
 the U.S. government undertook to
 respond to this energy crisis, that
 AABE came into being.

The idea of AABE was conceived
 in the mind of **Clarke Watson** of
 Denver, Colorado sometime in
 the spring of 1977. Mr. Watson
 owned an energy-consulting firm
 in Denver, Watson Associates, a
 division of Westland Company.
 Watson was a bright, ambitious
 young man with big ideas, an
 engaging manner and contacts at
 high levels in the National
 Association for the Advancement
 of Colored People (NAACP) and
 the National Urban League. He
 was acquainted also with a few
 local and nationally known Black
 elected officials. Many oil and
 gas producers were very active in
 the Rocky Mountain area in the
 early 1970’s in pursuit of various
 projects to develop new energy
 resources to alleviate perceived
 shortages of oil and natural gas
 supplies. Watson and his
 consulting firm had several oil
 and gas companies as clients,
 advising them on public relations
 matters.

President Jimmy Carter took
 office in January, 1977 amidst a
 heightened crisis atmosphere and
 widespread anxiety about what
 policies he would install to deal
 with the energy crisis.

Shortly after taking office, Carter established a special task force to study the energy problem and develop recommendations. Conspicuously absent from the task force were persons of color representing the interests of Blacks and other minorities.

The makeup of the Carter energy task force was a major source of concern among a small group of Blacks, most of whom worked for energy companies. There was the fear that the task force's recommendations would reflect the somewhat elitist attitude common among environmentalists and militant alternative fuels advocates.

Blacks and other minorities were not well represented in the membership of these groups and they tended to oppose most programs and policies to promote economic growth and resource development. Watson believed there was a strong correlation between energy resource development, economic growth, and expanding opportunities for disadvantaged minorities to participate more fully in the U.S. economic system. Watson called for a meeting of a core group of Blacks concerned about energy matters on July 25 and 26, 1977, at the Watergate Hotel in Washington, D.C.

The result of that meeting was the founding of AABE, now boasting a membership of 1,600 Black professionals representing every facet of the energy industry all the way to the positions as Chief Executive Officers, and also developing outreach to the international community as well.

AABE's founder, **Clarke Watson**, was indeed a man of vision. His dream a quarter century ago still lives on as a perpetual force of influence.

In 2003, the AABE family was shocked and saddened over the death of its founder.

We express our profound sympathies to his surviving relatives and friends for the void created in your lives as a result of his passing. There will be a void in the AABE organization as well. We in the AABE organization cherish the memories of the years he was among us and remain dedicated to carrying on the mission of his vision."

BLACK HISTORY QUOTE:

"No one is without knowledge except him who asks no questions"
- Central African (Fulfulde) Proverb

PHOTO GALLERY:



Golf Tournament Winning Team:
GPC - Nelson Geter, Mike Anderson, Henry Kelley and Larry Johnson

Golf Tournament Pictures:

