

AABE®

All ABout Energy

American Association of Blacks in Energy® – Atlanta Chapter
Vol. 8 ♦ October 2007
<http://aabe.org/atlanta>



SEPTEMBER HIGHLIGHTS:

ELECTION RESULTS

The Atlanta Chapter is pleased to announce its new Officers/Board of Directors for 2008-2009...

President – **Cordell Carter** (AGL)
Vice President – **Eric Arnold** (GPC)
Secretary – **Monica Reese** (GPC)
Assistant Secretary – **Jennifer Henson** (GPC)
Treasurer – **Cherryl Harris** (GPC)
Assistant Treasurer – **Olivia Parks-Woods** (SCS)
Parliamentarian – **Tiffany Callaway-Ferrell** (AGL)

Special thanks to the Nominating Committee -- **Valerie Searcy**, **Richard Holmes**, **Randy Cobb**, and **Dorothy Herring** – for their work on this effort.

Atlanta Chapter Monthly Meeting

The “*State of Energy in Georgia*” meeting on September 13th called to action AABE members to get involved in energy policy decisions on a local level. Held at AGL Resources’ Corporate Headquarters, the meeting featured **Commissioner Stan Wise**, from the Georgia Public Service Commission (GPSC) and **Kevin Kelly**, Deputy Division Director from the Georgia Environmental Facilities Authority (GEFA). Both men served on **Governor Sonny Perdue’s** Georgia Energy Council.



Dr. Sonja Ebron, CEO of BlackEnergy LLC served as moderator for the program.



were also discussed. Director Kelly stressed how the strategy will be maintained through a series of checks and balances. More education of the public about the plan is needed. Dr. Ebron also recommended that AABE members get involved in the review process of this plan and bring African-American concerns to the state energy council.

Wendell Dallas, AGL’s VP and General Manager also provided a corporate welcome to the members and guests in attendance.



The Historymaker presentation of Internet creator **Philip Emeagwali** was given by Communications Chair **Wayne Young**; and an announcement of election results by **Valerie Searcy**, Nominations and Elections Committee Chairperson. **President Eric Duncan** and **Vice President Cordell Carter** also spoke at the event.

Philip’s biography can be found at the end of this newsletter. Kudos go to **Dr. Sonja Ebron**, Legislative & Regulatory Affairs Chairperson **Mickey Wade** (AGL), Officers **Monica Hart-Reese** (GPC) and **Tanya Ligons** (SCS) for developing an educational and important

The meeting outlined the guidelines of the *State Energy Strategy for Georgia*, and discussed how it promotes the development of renewable energy resources such as biofuels and ethanol, coal and LNG reserves, Georgia’s population growth and demand projections, the current water crisis and steps the government will take in ensuring that utility rates stay low for the next decade.

Commissioner Wise stated how other states’ energy policies and recommendations do not meet Georgia’s needs based on our climate. Georgia’s rates are lower than the national average but we tend to be more wasteful of our energy resources. Tax incentives

program. For a detailed description of the *State Energy Strategy for Georgia*, please visit their website at www.georgiaenergyplan.org.

ATLANTA CHAPTER NEWS:

October Monthly Meeting

AABE's annual Black Energy Awareness Month (BEAM) program will occur twice in October. The BEAM Committee will present an interactive educational program to students at two local area high schools. The programs will teach students about the production of electricity and gas, as well as educate them about careers in various energy fields. The first BEAM program will be held Thursday, October 11th at Redan High School in Stone Mountain, GA and the second program on Thursday, October 18th at South Atlanta High School. AABE members are encouraged to attend and/or volunteer to assist with the programs. Please contact BEAM Committee Chair **Gregory Kendrick** (Southern Company Generation) for more information about volunteering at gkendric@southernco.com.

25th Anniversary Gala

This year marks the 25th Silver Anniversary of Atlanta Chapter's founding. The chapter will celebrate with an end-of-year extravaganza open to the entire membership with a reception and dinner program. Guest speakers include AMR inventor **Clayton Webb** and AABE National Chairman **Wilton Cedeno** (Con Ed – NY Chapter). Harriette Watkins (Spelman College) will serve as emcee. National Board members and others from various AABE Chapters will be in attendance. To assist with planning this signature event contact event chairperson **Olivia Parks-Woods** (GPC) at opwoods@southernco.com.

The event will be held in Georgia Power's auditorium on Friday, November 30th, with the reception from 5:00-5:45pm and the dinner program from 6:00-8:00pm. **RSVPs are required by November 5th** to 404-506-7808, or to Mickey Wade.

GPC Remembers Jim Davis **(Appeared in the GPC Citizen Online News 9/6/07)**

LEGACY OF RETIRED OFFICER THRIVES AND INSPIRES --



(Photo caption: The family of the late **Jim Davis** recently toured the conference center at Georgia Power Company headquarters that is named in his honor. The visit to the conference center was a first for the entire family: wife **Glenda Davis**, son **James K. Davis III**, daughters **Jackie Davis** and **Rose Neal**, and grandsons **William Frink** and **Nicholas Davis**.)

Twenty-seven metro Atlanta-area students were awarded **James K. Davis** scholarships for the current school year by the Atlanta Chapter of the **American Association of Blacks in Energy** (AABE).

Jim was Senior Vice President of GPC Corporate Relations when he retired in 2003 after 31 years with the company. He was a popular and influential executive, well-known within the company and throughout the state. He died in 2005.

Jim founded the Atlanta Chapter of AABE in 1982. The scholarship program, now in its 13th year, was renamed in Davis' honor in 1998 in recognition of

his service and financial support of AABE's mission, goals and programs.

The scholarships are funded through corporate donations and an annual fundraising event, the **James K. Davis** Scholarship Golf Outing.

This year's tournament - held earlier this summer at the Summer Grove Golf Club in Newnan -- raised more than \$45,000, said **Tangela Martin**, chairperson of the Golf Fundraising Committee.



...are in order to the following...

Mickey Wade (AGL) has been promoted to Utility Operations Liaison in the Regulatory Group at AGL. In this position she is responsible for governmental relations with the City of Atlanta.

GEORGIA NEWS:

Georgia's Annual Tax Free Holiday

2007 marks the 3rd annual Georgia sales tax holiday on ENERGY STAR products. From October 4th through the 7th, consumers can save money on local and state sales taxes with purchases of energy efficient products such as fluorescent bulbs, dishwashers, programmable thermostats, and air conditioners. All products must be less than \$1,500 and meet ENERGY STAR guidelines. Please visit www.energystar.gov for a listing of qualifying products.

Green Power in Schools

Green Power EMC, a non-profit consortium of various Georgia electric municipal cooperatives, has begun a successful renewable energy program in the state of Georgia. Named "Sun Power for

Schools,” the program educates students about renewable energy and its impact on the environment. Since 2005, Green Power EMC has partnered with 10 local middle and high schools to install a 1 KW photovoltaic solar harnessing system and on-line data monitoring. For more information, please visit their website at

www.greenpoweremc.com.

Benjamin Franklin at the Atlanta History Center



GE Energy presents an international exhibit - ***Benjamin Franklin: In Search Of A Better World*** - at the Atlanta History Center. The exhibit chronicles **Benjamin Franklin** and his achievements through 240 original artifacts, 40 hands-on activities and interactive displays. The exhibit ends on October 14th and costs \$15 for adults and \$10 for children.

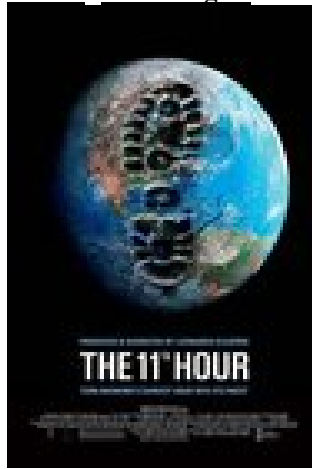
Cobb Arts Center Opens



The Cobb Energy Performing Arts Centre (www.cobbenergycentre.com) celebrated its grand opening on September 15th with a free tour

and jubilee celebration. The Centre is located at 2800 Cobb Galleria Parkway near the Cumberland Mall.

The 11th Hour Begins



Leonardo DiCaprio narrates this documentary about the current state of the environment and recommendations to restore Earth's ecosystems. The film is in limited release in Atlanta and across the country.

AABE NATIONAL NEWS:

Chairman Cedeno Honored

AABE National Chairman, **Wilton Cedeno** will receive an award from the Hispanic Digital Network (DTM). Wilton is honored for his work with the community and corporate excellence in his position as Director of Information Resources at ConEd. The 6th Annual Latino Trendsetter Awards will be held on October 1st at the United Nations in New York City. For more information, please visit www.dtmag.com.

AABE National Conference Planning Committees

Volunteers are needed to serve on subcommittees for two AABE National Conference Planning Committees:

AABE 31st Annual Conference

Dates: April 15 – 19, 2008

Location: Hilton Americas, 1600 Lamar St., Houston, TX
The Conference is hosted by the AABE Southwest Region Chapters: Houston (host chapter), Dallas/Ft. Worth, Arkansas, Louisiana, Central South West Louisiana, Mississippi and Oklahoma.

Keynote speakers include **Peter Robertson**, Vice Chairman of the Board for the Chevron Corporation, **Michael Williams**, Texas Railroad Commissioner, **Dr. Julianne Malveaux**, President of Bennett College, **Dr. Mae Jemison** of NASA, and **Dr. Randal Pinkett**, CEO of BCT Partners and winner of **Donald Trump's The Apprentice Season 4**. The conference will provide energy related sessions, an entrepreneur's forum, Lean Sigma training session, golf tournament, health & career fairs, young adult forum and scholarship & **James E. Stewart** awards banquets.

2008 Conference Chairpersons:

Gilda Joseph (SW Regional Coordinator – Chevron, Houston Chapter) and **Sheila Wright** (Arkansas Chapter).

Email contact info:

gjoseph05@yahoo.com

swright@entergy.com

AABE 32nd Annual Conference

Date: April 2009

Location: Orlando, Florida

The Conference is hosted by the AABE Southeast Region Chapters: Florida (host chapter), Birmingham, Atlanta, Gulf Coast, Savannah, North Carolina, South Carolina and Tennessee.

2009 Conference Chairperson:

Corlene Williams (SE Regional Coordinator – El Paso/Southern Natural Gas, Birmingham Chapter) Email contact info:

corlene.williams@elpaso.com

Volunteers from AABE are needed for both conferences' subcommittees to serve in development and planning. AABE members do not

necessarily need to belong to each region in order to serve.

Subcommittees include:

- Finance;
- Volunteer;
- Publicity, Promotion & Marketing;
- Computer Support Specialists;
- Administration & Correspondence;
- Graphics & Program Booklet;
- Fundraising;
- Gifts & Souvenirs;
- Conference Program;
- Hotel Logistics;
- Special Events & Entertainment;
- Youth Forum;
- Exhibits, Career Fair & Healthcare Forum;
- Transportation;
- First Time Attendees Reception;
- And any miscellaneous duties.

For more information, please contact the conference chairpersons or the AABE Board Member and National Conference Planning Committee Chairperson, **Polly Rosemond** (BOD – Entergy-NO, Louisiana Chapter) at prosemo@entergy.com.

HIGHER EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES:

The PhD Project™

The PhD Project is an alliance of foundations, corporations, universities, professional and academic organizations dedicated to increasing minority representation in the business world. Since 1994, the PhD Project has increased the number of minority business professors from 294 to 842 and has 380 minority doctoral students in the pipeline. For more information, visit: www.phdproject.org.

Join Us For a Debate --

Participate in Chevron's online energy debate at www.willyoujoinus.com.

Employment Opportunities:

Energy-Related Job Search Engines and Websites

www.live.aabe.org
www.careerbuilder.com
www.diversejobs.net
www.energyvortex.com
www.energycentraljobs.com
www.energyjobsnetwork.com
www.energyjobsportal.com
www.ecojobs.com
www.greenengineeringjobs.com
www.globalenergyjobs.com
www.sustainablebusiness.com/jobs/
www.monster.com
www.powermarketers.com
www.utilityjobsonline.com

Atlanta Chapter Committees:

Volunteers are needed to support the following AABE committees:

BEAM – (Black Energy Awareness Month) Manage the Career Day event presented to area high school students.

Communication –

Preparation of the *All About Energy* newsletter & website.

Fundraising – Development of our Golf Outing to finance our scholarships.

Membership – Recruitment of new members.

Program – Creating quality monthly meetings.

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

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

Mentoring – CHOICES:

Monthly peer and life skills advice for 9th graders.

Philanthropic/Charitable – Donations for needy families.

Energy Education – Enlighten the community about energy.

Legislative & Regulatory

Affairs – Lobby AABE's agenda with governmental agencies.

For more info, contact AABE Secretary **Cherryl Harris** at cmharris@southernco.com.

Member Company Websites:

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

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 info.

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) 325-3559

Atlanta Chapter Address:

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

Atlanta Chapter Website:

<http://aabe.org/atlanta>

GOT NEWS?

Please send all
comments,
suggestions,
AABE



information, energy-related news
and announcements to Communi-
cations Committee Chair **Wayne
X. Young** at

wayne.young2@honeywell.com.

The deadline for the next monthly
newsletter is **Monday, Oct. 29th**.

Thoughts to ponder...

*"The haves and the
have-nots can usually
be traced back to the
did and the did-nots."*

-Author Unknown

*"Sometimes if you
want to see a change
for the better, you
have to take things
into your own hands."*

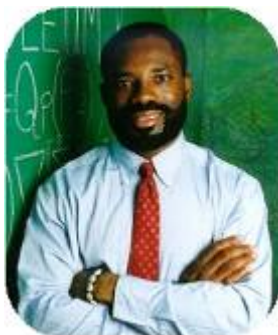
-Clint Eastwood

*"Every passing day is
one that is gone
forever. Make sure it
is one in which you
have done something
for others, especially
those who cannot do
for themselves."*

-Source: Good Stuff

HISTORY MAKER BIOGRAPHY –

PHILIP EMEAGWALI



Philip Emeagwali was born on
August 23, 1954, in Akure,
Nigeria. In April 1967, he was
withdrawn from school as his
family hid in refugee camps
during an ethnic cleansing in
which 50,000 Igbos indigenes
were killed. At the age of 14, he
was conscripted into the Biafran
army as a child-soldier in one of
Africa's bloodiest conflicts. After
six months in the army, the civil
war ended and he was reunited
with his family. He attended
school briefly and then dropped
out again because his parents
could not afford to pay his school
fees.

He earned his first diploma from
the University of London
(through self-study) in 1973 and,
subsequently, won a scholarship
to Oregon State University. From
1977-93, he did graduate study,
professional practice and
academic research at Howard
University (civil engineering),
Maryland State Highway
Administration (transportation
engineering), George Washington
University (environmental, ocean,
coastal and marine engineering),
United States Bureau of
Reclamation (civil engineer),
University of Maryland
(mathematics), University of
Michigan (scientific computing),
University of Minnesota
(supercomputing), and Army
High Performance Computing
Research Laboratory (research
fellow).

For six years, he served as a
distinguished lecturer of both the
Institute of Electrical and
Electronics Engineers (the
world's largest technical
organization) and the Association
for Computing Machinery (the
oldest computer society). He has
delivered many major
lectureships all over the world,
including the Massachusetts
Institute of Technology, the
United Nations Educational,
Scientific, Cultural Organization
(UNESCO, Paris) and the
International Congress on
Industrial and Applied
Mathematics.

In 1974, Emeagwali read a 1922
science fiction article on how to
use 64,000 mathematicians to
forecast the weather for the whole
Earth. Inspired by that article, he
worked out a theoretical scheme
for using 64,000 far-flung
processors that will be evenly
distributed around the Earth, to
forecast the weather. He called it
a HyperBall international
network of computers. Today, an
international network of
computers is called the Internet.

Initially his proposal to use
64,000 computers to form an
international network was
rejected by peers on the grounds
that it would be "impossible."
Denied funding and employment
for a decade, he quietly
developed and wrote up his
calculations in a thousand-page
monograph which described the
hypothetical use of 64 binary
thousand --- the equivalent of
65,536 --- processors to perform
the world's fastest computation.

In 1987, an experimental
hypercube computer with 65,536
processors became available at
the Los Alamos National
Laboratory, the United States
government's prime nuclear
weapons research center.
Frustrated by their inability to
program 65,536 processors to
simulate nuclear blasts, the Los
Alamos officials had a hunch to

allow physicists simulating problems similar to theirs.

Fearing that the lab officials will not accept him if it was known that he was Black, Emeagwali decided to submit his proposal remotely. The Lab officials approved his usage of its computers and he remotely programmed 65,536 processors in Los Alamos (New Mexico) while living in Michigan.

"It was his formula that used 65,000 separate computer processors to perform 3.1 billion calculations per second in 1989," said CNN. "That feat," CNN continued, "led to computer scientists comprehending the capabilities of supercomputers and the practical applications of creating a system that allowed multiple computers to communicate."

His success in using 64 binary-thousand processors gave credibility and renewed interest in his formerly rejected proposal to use 64 thousand far-flung computers to forecast the weather for the whole Earth. Because the topology of his rejected international network of computers was similar to, but predated that, of the Internet, it was rediscovered and called an "idea that was ahead of its time" and "a germinal seed of the Internet." For his contributions, the book *History of the Internet* profiled him as an Internet pioneer, was voted one of the twenty innovators of the Internet, and CNN called him "A Father of the Internet."

A measure of his impact is that he was rewarded with the 1989 **Gordon Bell Prize** (supercomputing's Nobel Prize) for his contributions which, in part, inspired the petroleum industry to purchase one in ten supercomputers.

Emeagwali's use of 65,000 processors to perform 3.1 billion

calculations, in part, inspired:

1. Apple Computer to use his multiprocessing technology to manufacture its dual-processor Power Mac G4, which had a peak speed of 3.1 billion calculations per second;
2. IBM to manufacture its \$134.4 million supercomputer, which had a peak speed of 3.1 trillion calculations per second;
3. IBM to announce its plan to manufacture a 65,000-processor supercomputer, which will have a peak speed of 1,000 trillion calculations per second; and
4. Every supercomputer manufacturer to incorporate thousands of processors in their supercomputers.

During his career, Emeagwali has received more than 100 prizes, awards and honors. These include the Computer Scientist of the Year Award of the National Technical Association (1993), Distinguished Scientist Award of the World Bank (1998), Best Scientist in Africa Award of the Pan African Broadcasting, Heritage and Achievement Awards (2001), Gallery of Prominent Refugees of the United Nations (2001), profiled in the book *Making It in America* as one of "400 models of eminent Americans," and in *Who's Who in 20th Century America*. In a televised speech, as President, **Bill Clinton** described Emeagwali as "one of the great minds of the Information Age."

More information about Philip can be found on www.emeagwali.com.

OCTOBER BLACK HISTORY **ENERGY MOMENTS**

October 1, 1996 – **Lt. General Joe Ballard** becomes the 1st African American to head the Army Corps of Engineers.

October 10, 1901 – **Frederick D. Patterson**, founder of the United Negro College Fund, is born.

October 14, 1964 – **Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.** is awarded the Nobel Peace Prize.

October 19, 1936 – **Dr. Johnnetta Cole**, 1st black female president of Spelman College is born.

October 23, 1886 – **Wiley Jones** opens the first streetcar line in Pine Bluff, Arkansas.

October 28, 1981 – **Edward M. McIntyre** is elected the first African American mayor of Augusta, GA.