

The Florida Chapter of the American Association of Blacks in Energy goal is to enter into dialogue with the Florida Black Caucus of the Florida Legislature to establish our chapter as an subject-matter energy resource expert for black elected State Legislators in Florida. In addition, the chapter participated in an Energy Workshop held in Tallahassee, Florida on March 20, 2008 at the Center for Plasma Research on the campus of Florida A&M University. In February 2008, the Chapter launched a fund-raising initiative which promises to raise money for our chapter programs including energy education and awareness for our key constituents. This project will be on-going and will function as a standing committee within the Chapter's Leadership Structure.

Currently the Chapter has spearheaded a membership drive aimed principally at augmenting our membership base by seeking new members and re-claiming those members whose membership has lapsed. This initiative is critical since Florida will be the host state for the 2009 National AABE Conference. At the 2008 National AABE Conference in Houston, Texas the Florida Chapter provided a creative choreographic overview about the 2009 AABE National Conference which will take place in Orlando, Florida. The positive feedback from the audience suggests our fellow AABE members anxiously await next year's annual conference.

Gregory Owens
President - AABE/FL