

## A Message from Paula Jackson, AABE President and CEO: 50 Years Ago...A Look Forward

On August 28th we celebrated the 50th anniversary of the March on Washington for Jobs and Freedom. 250,000 Americans stood together in 1963 to raise awareness about disparities in unemployment, income inequities and limited opportunities in business. Today minority communities face many of the same issues. However, just by leveraging its resources the AABE working with the energy industry is in the unique position to make a difference and provide opportunities which will help to close the gap.

The AABE is also poised to make a difference because we understand how to answer the following questions: "What role do we play" and "What role should we play"? We will continue to work with industry companies, community leaders and key stakeholders to promote initiatives that create opportunities in our communities. At the National Office we will be implementing programs that will strengthen our members and our chapters. Because where we have strong chapters and strong members, our association is better prepared to do our work.



Next week the association will host its September board meeting and other events at the same time as the [Congressional Black Caucus Annual Legislative Conference](#). On September 18th, the AABE will host a session entitled **"Promoting Energy Development and Partnerships within the African Diaspora"**, as part of the Ronald H. Brown African Affairs Series sponsored by [Constituency for Africa](#). This session will explore the President's "POWER AFRICA" initiative which has committed \$7Billion to bring energy sustainability throughout the continent of Africa by bringing together industry and regional experts to discuss challenges and opportunities to build energy infrastructure in Africa. I believe this session will also allow us as an organization to better understand the role that we should and can play in this area. To find a full schedule of events for the week, visit us at [www.aabe.org](http://www.aabe.org). I hope that you'll be able to join us on the 18th.

As always our association will continue to be a voice for equity, for equality and for opportunities – very much like those 250,000 who marched on Washington 50 years ago. And we, like them, understand that we must have a shared commitment to make a real difference. I am anxious to hear from you with your thoughts and ideas.

**Paula R. Jackson**  
President  
American Association of Blacks in Energy



Follow Paula on Twitter: [@prjackson](#)

## The AABE Mentorship Program: You Will Make a Difference

The [AABE Professional Mentoring Program-Pilot](#) is finally here! One of the objectives of the program is to foster leadership development, expand mentees' knowledge, skills, abilities, and broaden their understanding of the energy industry and beyond.

The mentoring program will roll-out during the first week of September. The mentoring program is open to all AABE members. We encourage everyone to participate in what promises to be an outstanding program! The success of the program depends on each and every one of us.



Start today. Download an application below.

[Mentor Application](#)

[Mentee Application](#)

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### A Message from Your Member Services Department

As Summer comes to a close, we wanted to take this opportunity to highlight an important event that will shape the future of AABE.

The election of members to the AABE Board of Directors for the 2014-2016 term of office will be held at the General Membership Meeting during our next Annual Conference. Seven officers and seven directors are up for election.

If you are interested in running for the Board of Directors or want to nominate a fellow member, please submit the name(s) and biographic sketches of qualifications to the Governance Committee, c/o the national office, by September 15, 2013.



**LaKeesha Wilson**  
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## Latest Energy Industry and Scholarship News

### What can Barack Obama's "Power Africa" program achieve?



Seven billion dollars is a lot of money—**except when it goes into infrastructure.**

Then, \$7bn, the sum that the US has committed to spend over the next five years on the Obama administration's newly-announced **Power Africa** initiative, does not sound like so much at all.

Even considering that Power Africa will roll out in only six countries (Ethiopia, Ghana, Kenya, Liberia, Nigeria and Tanzania), the project's funding feels slender.

Announced by **President Obama** himself during his recent Africa tour, Power Africa arrives with the pomp of a legacy-building initiative; measured against these industrial costs, it risks appearing tentative and small-bore, like much of the administration's Africa policy.

[Learn more](#) about the Power Africa initiative by reading the White House blog.

### Global Village Energy Partnership: Helping Global Communities of Color



**The Global Village Energy Partnership** helps markets to work and small energy businesses to grow, so that energy products and services can be delivered in increasing quantities long after our involvement is over.

AABE is involved to help promote the mission of the GVEP to you. The GVEP's approach to helping markets work is called the **Enterprise Approach**, and it helps to deliver long-lasting change and improvement.

The lack of access to modern energy services condemns billions of people in the developing world to live in absolute poverty.

Today, almost one third of humanity have no lights in the evening, unhealthy cooking equipment, limited access to modern communications, inadequate education and health facilities and not enough power for their work and businesses.

[Learn more](#) about how you can help the GVEP achieve its mission.

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Click Here to View and Download  
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(Registered Members Only • Login Required)

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## Latest Energy Industry and Scholarship News

### Minority Business Association Connects With Shale Industry

In the heart of Ohio's Utica Shale play some folks from the oil and gas industry held a joint event with the **Minority Business Association** in Stark County (aka the Utica Capital). The purpose was to discuss connecting the growing natural gas industry with the strong and diverse minority-owned businesses of Stark County.

The idea for this meeting came from a meeting between API and the **Stark County Oil and Gas Partnership**.

The idea being the oil and gas industry continuing to reach out and make connections in local communities all around Ohio. Connecting with the MBA is a great example of that effort.



[View the YouTube clip here.](#)

### American Money: The Energy Sector Can't Grow Without You Will minorities get left behind as this industry moves forward? by **BET News**

Although growth in the energy sector continues to drive our economy forward, experts are concerned minorities might get left behind. Earlier this year, the American Association of Blacks in Energy's (AABE) Energy Policy Summit focused its discussions around increasing minority participation in the energy sector. While 40 percent of energy consumers are non-white, minority workers are still largely underrepresented in the industry, with very little corporate representation at the top.

One example of this disparity is in the solar industry, a growing source of job creation in the U.S. Data shows job growth in this field is six times the growth rate of the overall job market. Unfortunately women and people of color are not well represented in this growth.

The **U.S. Energy Department** is trying to close the gap with several programs that train and mentor minorities studying STEM fields, including a research program that helps fund development of affordable, solar technologies. The department also lists links to clean energy job databases you can search.

### Ignoring Environmental Justice Concerns is Risky Business by **AABE Member Diedre Sanders**

In a recent article, AABE Member Diedre Sanders explored the challenges and the opportunities for the energy industry as it confronts the issues surrounding the environmental impact on our community:

*The Environmental Justice movement seeks to ensure that minority and low income communities are environmentally and economically sustainable. The movement arose when members of such communities concluded that their towns and neighborhoods were disproportionately likely to host high impact industrial land uses that, from their view, did not benefit their communities. How can the business community respond to such claims?*

[Read the full article here.](#)

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## Entrepreneur's Corner

### Volt Energy Installs Largest Solar Energy Project at High-performing D.C. Charter School - KIPP DC

**Volt Energy** recently announced that 755 solar panels will be installed at **KIPP DC's Douglass Campus** located in the Anacostia neighborhood of Washington, D.C and is the city's most underserved area. Upon completion, KIPP DC will represent the first charter school in the area to be run by a 227 kW solar energy system consisting of both solar carports and rooftop solar. Under a Power Purchase Agreement (PPA), KIPP DC will cut its electricity costs by purchasing solar electricity generated at a predetermined lower rate.



Over the life of the PPA, KIPP DC's Douglass Campus will eliminate more than 6,664 tons of carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) emissions, the equivalent of planting more than 33,456 trees or taking more than 13,382,400 car miles off the road.



"We are thrilled to partner with Volt Energy to bring solar power to our Douglass Campus. The Power Purchase Agreement will help us keep our energy costs down while allowing us to have a positive impact on the environment," said Alex Shawe, director of real estate, KIPP DC. "Even more exciting is the tremendous example we are setting for our students."

Volt Energy will work closely with KIPP DC staff to enhance the students' STEM based educational learning experience. This will include engaging students through interactive workshops detailing the benefits of renewable energy and discussing career opportunities in the energy sector.

"Volt Energy is proud to support this KIPP DC and the students at the Douglass Campus," said Gilbert G. Campbell III, co-owner, Volt Energy. "We believe this project serves as a catalyst to spark their interest in alternative energy, which is important as these are the very students who will one day be tasked with solving the world's complex energy challenges."

Volt Energy is the developer of the project and selected Green State Power to install the solar system that will be owned by Washington Gas Energy Services. The project is currently under construction and is slated to be completed by September 2013.

[Click here for more information about VOLT Energy.](#)

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The AABE Job Board is always open for business. [Click here](#), login and discover your next step to success.



## Members and Chapters on the Move

### Warner Williams Honored



Warner Williams was recently honored as a member of the **Class of 2013 Young Leadership Council of New Orleans' Role Model of the Year!**

[Read more about Warner's role with the YLC New Orleans here.](#)

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## Upcoming AABE Events

- September 16, 2013 reff West
- September 19, 2013 AABE Board of Directors Meeting
- September 19, 2013 Open House
- September 19, 2013 Mississippi Chapter 1st Annual Golf Tournament
- September 19, 2013 AABE Virginia Chapter General Body Meeting
- September 27, 2013 Atlanta Chapter Golf Tournament
- November 14, 2013 AABE Virginia Chapter General Body Meeting



## Members and Chapters on the Move

**The Atlanta Chapter of the American Association of Blacks in Energy®**

*Presents the*

**11<sup>th</sup> Annual James K. Davis Scholarship Golf Tournament**

*Flat Creek Country Club*

*100 Flat Creek Road, Peachtree City, GA 30269*

**FRIDAY, September 27, 2013**

8:00 a.m. registration; 9:00 a.m. shotgun start

**Early Registration Deadline:** *Friday, August 30, 2013*

\$135 **early** entry fee (\$500 per team of four)

\$160 after Aug. 30<sup>th</sup> (\$600 per team of four)

**Includes:** Cart, Green Fees, Range Balls,  
Lunch, Snacks, Awards & Door Prizes

**Format:** Four Man Best Ball (Scramble)

**Make checks payable to:**

AABE Atlanta Chapter

c/o Willie Palmer

P.O. Box 55216

Atlanta, GA 30308

404-572-7603 (P) ■ 404-572-7607 (F)

**For more information, [click here](#) to view  
the AABE Atlanta Chapter Golf Tournament Flyer**

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