

# SMART IDEAS



2008 Annual Report



SOLUTIONS EXIST!

## Our Mission

The Alliance for Affordable Energy is committed to creating fair, affordable, environmentally-responsible, community-based energy policies for Louisiana and the nation.

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Content compiled by **Elizabeth Shephard**  
Report designed and arranged by **Eileen Hays**

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## A Letter from the Board President

May 3, 2009

Dear Alliance Members, Board, Staff, Advisory Committee, Supporters and Elected Officials,

It is with great pride and satisfaction that I step down from the role of President of the Board of the Alliance for Affordable Energy. It's taken 23 years to create a new organization, establish its mission, hone its messaging, establish its brand, make sure that it builds itself on facts, diverse inclusion, open and transparent structure and carefully work to build and improve upon its integrity and weather two major crises. It has been a life's work. Doing it with a small team of extremely loyal and committed staff and fellow founders, such as Betty Wisdom and Tom Lowenburg, made it doable at all. But doing it with Gary Groesch, also a founder and our executive director for the first 17 years, made it exhilarating.

I am so grateful to have been a part of the tremendous growth of the Alliance since Katrina. I happened to be in a position to just let it expand into new areas, new 'headquarters', new sources of income, and new staff to guide it, shape it, and lead it. My job, as I saw it, was to keep up with the regulatory issues and then make sure these new directions, such as sustainable rebuilding and workforce development, and our new, bright loyal and committed staff stay on course with our mission to promote fair, affordable, environmentally responsible, community based energy policy for Louisiana and the nation.

We are particularly fortunate to have Forest Bradley-Wright as our most senior staff now. He is not only a visionary, he brings an understanding of organizational development and management to the table so that we can continue to move toward a more professional level of operation. And now, Sallie Davis, who volunteered for the Alliance for years, then joined the board enthusiastically six years ago, will take the reins. With a newly reconstituted board, including a new one-year position on the board for a young person, and our wonderful staffers, she will lead the board well.

I will continue as Regulatory Affairs Director/Consultant and be an honorary board member. New leadership in our nation's capitol is putting an emphasis on addressing global warming, being energy secure and smart, energy efficient, developing green jobs and renewable energy – everything the Alliance has been working toward for over two decades. The City Council of New Orleans and the state Public Service Commission are now also working on these same things. They are the regulators who develop and enforce energy policy. With a new impetus from all areas of government, science, the press and the public, I can see the Alliance and its leadership will have no trouble keeping its eye on the prize – to mitigate global warming while keeping utility bills more affordable with environmentally responsible energy policies.

At this point it will cost a great deal for the earth's environment to be saved. If the US's leaders and lawmakers had started on this effort 10 years ago, it would also be more affordable. New technologies and creative problem solving will surprise us, though, in how we can reduce the costs of stopping and containing greenhouse gases and create whole new industries and new jobs around avoiding them in the first place. Solutions Exist!

The rest of this annual report is only a basic review of our work in 2008 and the 1st quarter of 2009 and yet it is astounding. Gary used to say, "The Alliance accomplishes more with fewer staff and less money than any other non-profit in the country". He was right then and still is, but let's make a goal of doing it with 'enough' money! Like me, he would be so proud and satisfied with the work of the Alliance through these 23 years.

With affection,

*Karen F. Wimpelberg*



# New Beginnings

## A Letter from the New Board President

May 1, 2009

Greetings from your new Board President:

It is with a great deal of excitement and an abiding respect for the organization that I accepted the nomination as President of the Board of the Alliance for Affordable Energy for the coming year.

I have known the work of the Alliance since it formed, worked with founder Gary Groesch on sane energy policy back in the seventies, and joined the board six years ago with the hope of seeing the organization continue and grow in wake of Gary's untimely death.

I first met Karen Wimpelberg in her capacity as Board President when I returned to New Orleans in 2000, and have been mightily impressed by all of her incredible efforts to keep the doors open and the organization growing. Karen has served as President for several years and during that time saw the Alliance win major victories for ratepayers, expand the scope of its mission to embrace climate change and sustainable rebuilding, and rekindle the strong community ties for which the Alliance has long been known.

Though stepping down from the Board, Karen will continue her work in the regulatory program and I think would agree that she is part of a bright, talented, and exceptional staff that has coalesced since Katrina. I think the Alliance's future is extremely bright, and I believe that with the support of an active and engaged Board, the continued interest of Alliance general members and advisory board this terrific staff will make that future a reality.

With this letter I offer my personal thanks to Karen for her steadfast commitment to the Alliance for Affordable Energy, and my personal promise to "take good care of the baby."

Sincerely,  
*Sallie E. Davis, J.D.*



# Developing Smart Policies

## For our City: Energy Smart

On March 26th, New Orleans ratepayers won a major victory when the city council dedicated a source of funding for Energy Smart, a program designed to make energy efficiency available to all residents of our city. The Alliance for Affordable Energy both played an integral role in the development of Energy Smart, and has promoted this program as an approach to energy efficiency based on national best practices.

Energy Smart will provide funds to weatherize 300 low- and fixed-income homes each year, and an additional 2,800 homes over three years, reducing demand for electricity per home by 20-30% in the process. The program will do this with no up-front charges to ratepayers; instead the cost of the program will be paid for through the savings in customers bills. Under the terms of the program, beneficiaries will borrow from a fund in order to make home energy efficiency improvements and will pay off those improvements automatically, either through their energy bills or a third party financier.

By harnessing the power of energy efficiency, Energy Smart transforms our greatest environmental challenges into opportunities for economic growth, helping to spur the development of the local energy efficiency industry. And by lowering energy bills, Energy Smart will make New Orleans neighborhoods more resilient to volatile energy prices. This will also lead to an overall reduction in demand for electricity, thereby reducing “peak demand,” which drives up fuel prices.

In addition to the economic benefits of Energy Smart, the program will deliver significant environmental benefits. The reduction in demand will lead to lower greenhouse gas emissions from power plants, reducing the carbon footprint of our city.

### A Brief History:

The Energy Smart program in its multiple forms has been nine years in the making; patience, pushiness, and persistence pays off for the Alliance! It began in 2001 when the Alliance urged the city council to set aside \$6 million for an energy efficiency program, from a \$54 million Entergy overcharge case. In order to gain support for the program, the Alliance formed a coalition to develop the technical details of this plan, which was named NOEEP (New Orleans Energy Efficiency Program). After Hurricanes Katrina and Rita hit, the utility infrastructure was ruined and the money allocated to NOEEP was given to Entergy New Orleans to fix the problem. After regularly attending the City Council utility committee meetings and meeting individually with Council members, the Alliance secured buy-in from the utility committee chair for the creation of a new energy efficiency program, to be called Energy Smart. Since then, the Alliance has been a leading participant in the Energy Policy Task Force, helped build grassroots support and analyzed pertaining rate cases and an Intergrated Resource Plan (IRP) docket.

Today, AAE and others are preparing a 75 day campaign to promote Energy Smart to be as useful as possible in reducing people’s utility bills as well as greenhouse gas emissions, resulting from more efficiency in their homes and businesses.



# Developing Smart Policies

*In 1931, the same year he died, Edison told his friends Henry Ford and Harvey Firestone: "I'd put my money on the sun and solar energy. What a source of power! I hope we don't have to wait until oil and coal run out before we tackle that."*

## **For our State: Renewable Portfolio Standard**

On January 14, 2009, the Louisiana Public Service Commission re-opened an investigation of a renewable portfolio standard (RPS) for the state of Louisiana. If passed, Louisiana will join 28 other states in requiring regulated electrical utilities to purchase a set and increasing portion of their power from clean, safe, renewable sources and not dirty fossil fuels.

While this campaign is far from over, the January decision was the culmination of years of work by the Alliance in educating both the public and the Public Service Commission about the benefits of renewable energy and the need for policies that will spur industry development. In December of 2008, we got our chance to make this change when Commissioner Lambert Bois-siere requested that the Alliance produce draft language for an RPS.

After attending the first ever National RPS Collaborative in Chicago and researching diligently the "best practices" for RPS policies, the Alliance produced a draft RPS that would require electric utilities to produce or purchase 5% of their energy in 2010 from renewable sources such as biomass, wind, solar and tidal energy. This requirement increases 1% each year, reaching 20% in 2025.

An RPS will deliver both economic and environmental benefits. The obvious environmental benefits are reductions in greenhouse gas emissions and other sources of pollution, including Nitrogen Oxides (NOx), as well as mercury pollution indirectly caused by purchasing power from out-of-state coal-fired power plants. The economic benefits will include both stabilizing volatile fuel prices by hedging our fuel costs and creating jobs in the development of renewable energy.

To reach our goal, we have developed relationships with diverse interests including: sugarcane growers, local environmental organizations, solar providers and other renewable energy providers who employ a variety of technologies including rice hull combustion and offshore wind power.

The LPSC Staff hosted the first technical conference under this docket on March 24, 2009 in order to determine the scope of issues. Now, the real work begins. We will need your help as this campaign goes forward to put pressure on the LPSC to pass a strong RPS for Louisiana in 2009.



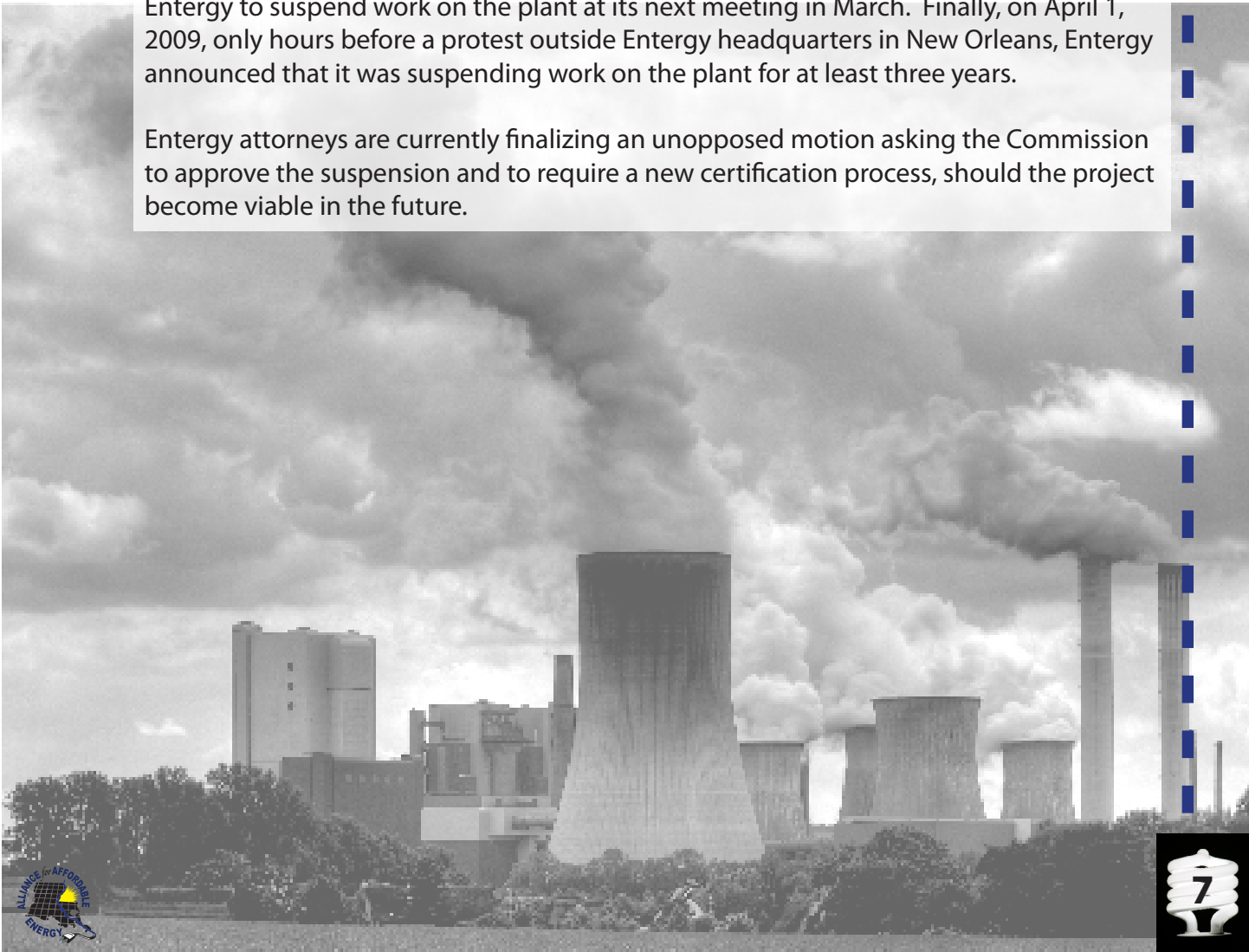
# Developing Smart Policies

## Stopping Little Gypsy

As our third major victory this Spring, the project to convert a natural gas-burning power plant to burn coal and petroleum coke outside of LaPlace, Louisiana has been stalled for years, if not stopped permanently. The Alliance, along with our allies in the “Say No to Coal, Say Yes to Clean Energy” coalition, includes the Sierra Club, Gulf Restoration Network, and Louisiana Environmental Action Network, opposed the conversion of the Little Gypsy power plant since its inception. With the assistance of our allies and the hard work of the Tulane Environmental Law Clinic, we were able to put the brakes on this conversion.

In February of 2009 the Alliance commissioned a report by economist James Metzger of Histecon Associates to expose the real costs of the conversion, including the increased costs of burning coal and petroleum coke under various scenarios of carbon regulations. The report showed that coal and petroleum coke are not cheap, and that the \$1.76 billion price tag of the conversion would be an onerous burden to ratepayers for decades to come. Following the presentation of this report to the LPSC, the commission ordered Entergy to suspend work on the plant at its next meeting in March. Finally, on April 1, 2009, only hours before a protest outside Entergy headquarters in New Orleans, Entergy announced that it was suspending work on the plant for at least three years.

Entergy attorneys are currently finalizing an unopposed motion asking the Commission to approve the suspension and to require a new certification process, should the project become viable in the future.



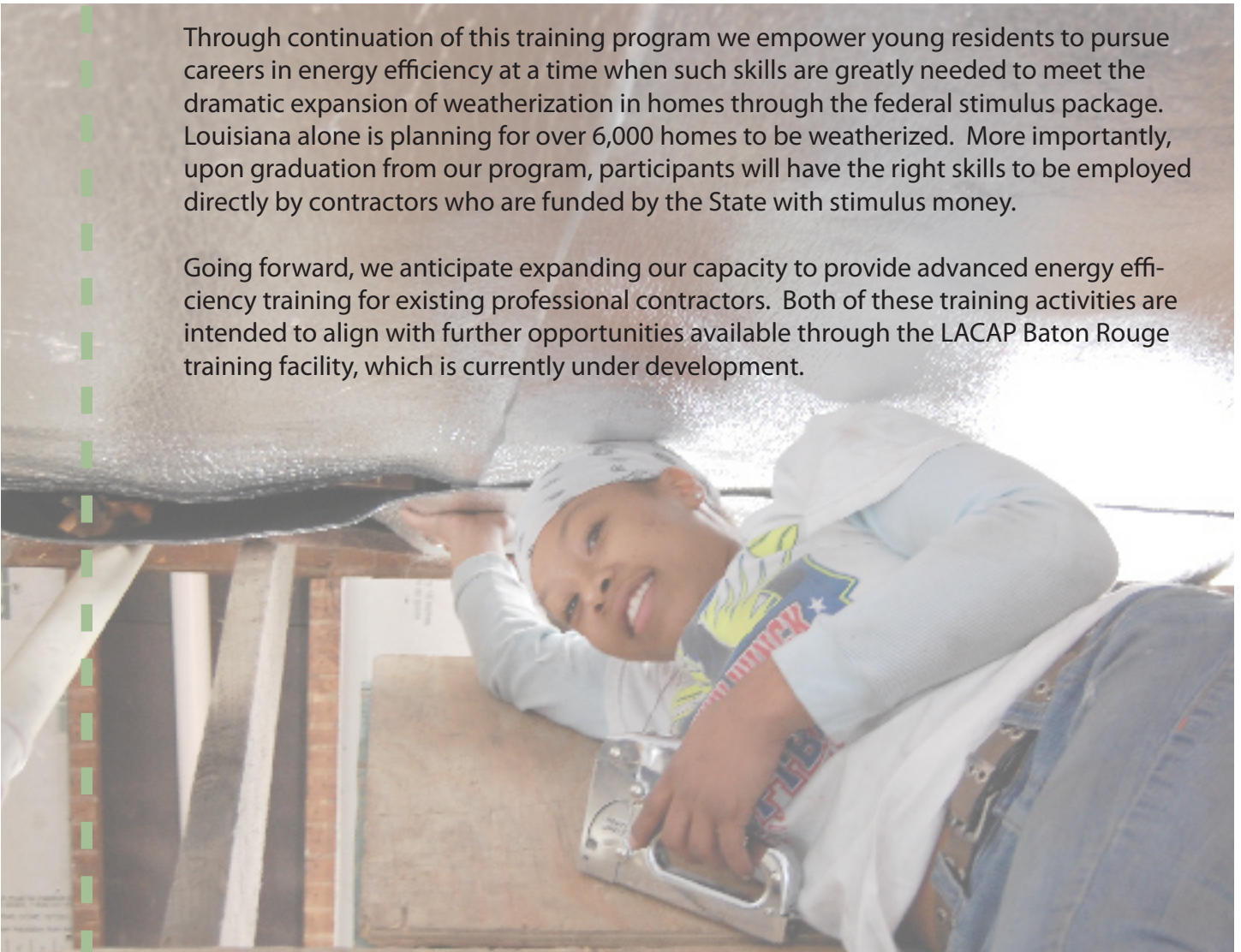
## Investing in a Smart Future

### Louisiana Green Corps Workforce Training Program

At the Alliance, we not only build a sustainable future through policy and home-owner education, but also educate our youth to participate in this transformation. In 2008, we developed a 14-week program to teach basic energy efficiency techniques to youth between the ages of 16-24, and are now in our fourth cycle. In addition to skills training and job readiness preparation, participants work extensively in the community improving the energy performance of low income homes through weatherization, installing insulation, radiant barrier, and solar hot water systems. The grand opening of our BuildSmart Learning Center allows workforce training participants to practice skills on-site before working in the field. Additionally, this space also serves as an educational center for any community member interested in energy efficiency home-improvements.

Through continuation of this training program we empower young residents to pursue careers in energy efficiency at a time when such skills are greatly needed to meet the dramatic expansion of weatherization in homes through the federal stimulus package. Louisiana alone is planning for over 6,000 homes to be weatherized. More importantly, upon graduation from our program, participants will have the right skills to be employed directly by contractors who are funded by the State with stimulus money.

Going forward, we anticipate expanding our capacity to provide advanced energy efficiency training for existing professional contractors. Both of these training activities are intended to align with further opportunities available through the LACAP Baton Rouge training facility, which is currently under development.



*"We cannot always build the future for our youth, but we can build our youth for the future" -- Franklin D. Roosevelt*





# Investing in a Smart Future

## Results that Speak for Themselves: A Testimony from Jordan Walters

The LA Green Corps gave me the opportunity to build a platform for my career, and help rebuild my city. I attended the program with the intent to learn more about solar power and its placement in our future. The staff helped me to get a job with a company called South Coast Solar. I now install solar photovoltaic systems in residential homes, as well as for non-profit organizations such as The Make It Right Foundation of New Orleans.

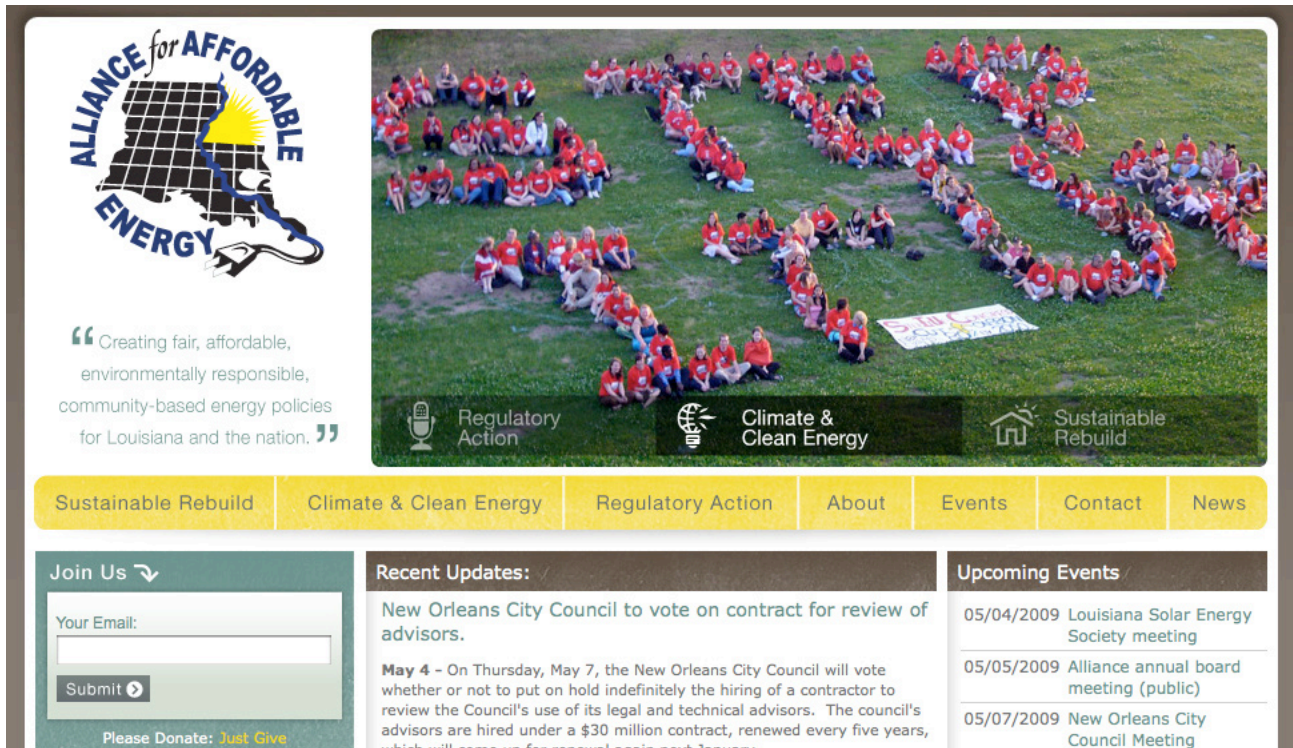
In the Green Corps, I received classroom training, interview skills, and on site training in weatherization and energy efficient practices. I was also granted an educational award of about \$1350 which I can use within the next 7 years. My instructors were eager to help me succeed and were very resourceful in making this a fundamental, yet fun experience. It was **empowering** to be among one of the first groups of trainees to be equipped with the skills of a future industry.

This is a **much needed resource** for young adults in my city. Not only would I recommend this program to others, I actually sent two of my friends to attend the program.

*Jordan E Walters*



# Investing in a Smart Future



**ALLIANCE for AFFORDABLE ENERGY**

“Creating fair, affordable, environmentally responsible, community-based energy policies for Louisiana and the nation.”

Regulatory Action | Climate & Clean Energy | Sustainable Rebuild

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**Recent Updates:**

New Orleans City Council to vote on contract for review of advisors.

**May 4** - On Thursday, May 7, the New Orleans City Council will vote whether or not to put on hold indefinitely the hiring of a contractor to review the Council's use of its legal and technical advisors. The council's advisors are hired under a \$30 million contract, renewed every five years, which will come up for renewal again next January.

**Upcoming Events**

05/04/2009	Louisiana Solar Energy Society meeting
05/05/2009	Alliance annual board meeting (public)
05/07/2009	New Orleans City Council Meeting

## A New Website for a New Future

One of our successes in these last six months has been our move to a new, expanded website at [all4energy.org](http://all4energy.org). The new site was designed by ace web designer Sean Clark of Plankton Interactive. Besides being graphically beautiful, the new site features a calendar of Alliance events, a news feed, an archive of Alliance regulatory comments, a map of products showcased in our BuildSmart center and other features.

With our new site, we look forward to being better able to inform our members and supporters about both our work and pressing issues in energy regulation, energy efficiency, climate legislation, green building and other issues. If you have any suggestions or ideas for the website, do not hesitate to email Alliance Communications Director Christian Roselund at [christian@all4energy.org](mailto:christian@all4energy.org)

## Expanded Media Presence

For the last six months, we have renewed an active pursuit of media coverage of our activities and our stand on issues, from media outlets across the state. As part of this strategy we have been tracking our media coverage, and the results of our efforts have been beyond our expectations. Since the beginning of the year we have been mentioned in various media 75 times, or on average, more than once every other day.

We look forward to similar successes in the future!



## Hiring Smart Staff

*In the past year, the Alliance has been fortunate to hire many new employees to support our programmatic efforts. It is through our combined and coordinated efforts that we are able to reach our goals.*

**Karen Wimpelberg**, Board President and Regulatory Affairs Coordinator, co-founder with the late Gary Groesch and four others, is currently coordinating all regulatory activity, including preparing formal intervener comments on utility rate issues and energy policy, and testifying before regulatory bodies, as well as supervising numerous legal interns. She is also serving in an oversight and administrative capacity for the Alliance, supporting the Alliance's passionate, sacrificing and determined staff. Her BA is from Vanderbilt University's Peabody College of Education. A mother, former teacher and personal assistant to a N.O. philanthropist, Karen has also served numerous local organizations in various capacities including the League of Women Voters, Independent Women's Organization, Louisiana Environmental Action Network, PTO for Lusher School, Appleseed, and the Louisiana Children's Museum.



**Forest Bradley-Wright** is the Sustainable Rebuild Director. Since Hurricane Katrina, he has advanced a broad set of programs to catalyze market transformation in the areas of energy efficiency, green building, and solar technology. As part of the team that got New Orleans awarded as a DOE Solar America City and as an active participant in the development of Energy Smart, he's has been a leader in major policy initiatives. Starting with the organization of the annual BuildSmart Expo as a showcase for energy efficiency, green building and solar technology, an event that has drawn thousands of interested homeowners and builders, he has transformed it into an educational facility called the BuildSmart Learning Center that the Alliance operates year round. Utilizing volunteers, he directed a project to install radiant barrier, weatherization, and other efficiency improvements in over 100 homes in low-income households throughout the city. While working to advance the development and implementation of energy efficiency policies, he is working to connect participants from the Alliance's workforce development program to work opportunities created by federal stimulus funds and Energy Smart.



**John Atkieson**, Climate and Clean Energy Director, is a campaigner, publicist, and lobbyist in the energy policy arena. Global Warming and the resulting climate changes are his primary focus. John has worked professionally as a campaign manager at the congressional level, a publisher, and an information technology consultant. He has served as a volunteer television producer for the cable news magazine GreenViews and volunteer producer for the troupe Climate Action Theatre, both of which he initiated. He has also served as a speaker for community education and organizing efforts, union negotiator, and has been a candidate for public office. John has returned to the Gulf Coast from Washington DC, Los Angeles and Philadelphia.



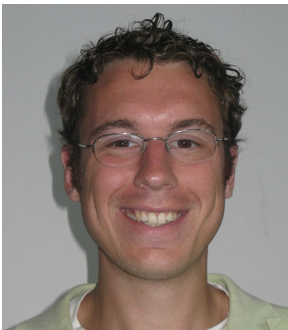
# Hiring Smart Staff



**Jesse S. George**, Attorney, is a Lake Charles native, a lifelong Louisiana resident, and an avid outdoorsman. In May 2005, he graduated from Louisiana State University with a B.A. in Philosophy, concentrating in Religious Studies. Unable to earn a living as a professional philosopher, he applied and was accepted to Tulane Law School. Two weeks after he moved to New Orleans, Hurricane Katrina flooded his apartment and put his studies on hold. Returning in January 2006 with a renewed commitment to tackling the environmental issues facing Louisiana, he focused his studies on environmental law and policy and went on to graduate with a J.D. in May 2008. He is a member of the Louisiana State Bar Association.



**Ray Guidry**, LA Green Corps Workforce Program Manager has a BS in Economics from Xavier University. Moved to Detroit, Mi after college and worked as a systems analyst for General Motors. Returned to New Orleans and sold computers for NCR and Sun Microsystems. Moved to Houston, TX with Sun Microsystems and became a sales manager, eventually managing a 22 state area. Sold software for Veritas and Symantec covering major accounts. Ray most recently attended the Chevron Project Management Academy and obtained a Masters Certificate in Project Management from George Washington University. Ray returned to New Orleans in 2008 and project managed the construction of steel frame homes and several renovations of Katrina damaged properties.



**Rick Yelton**, Field Supervisor for the LA Green Corps, is originally from Chicago, but is proud to call himself (though some true locals scoff) a New Orleanian. He received his bachelor's degree in Music Therapy from Loyola University New Orleans, and just recently earned a master's of Urban Studies from the University of New Orleans. He has been committed to social justice for as long as he's lived here, and is committed to an equitable revitalization of this city. He worked at Loyola University from 2006-2008 as Director of the Loyola University Community Action Program (LUCAP), a student organization focused on service and social justice work. He has worked with the LA Green Corps since September 2008, and he loves it! Though there are challenges every day, we know we're doing something here that has never been done before: connecting the environmental movement with clear pathways out of poverty, and preparing people for Green-Collar jobs!



**Amber Parker**, Workforce Crew Leader, After serving four honorable years in the U.S. Marine Corps, Amber graduated with highest honors in sociology and Holistic Health Practitioner and Massage Therapy Certification from the University of California, Santa Cruz. While living in San Francisco, she was Director of Activities, for a nonprofit group home servicing Severely Emotionally Disturbed (SED) youth. After traveling through Mexico for a year as a tour guide, Amber relocated to New Orleans to assist with the rebuilding efforts. She is currently a Crew Leader for the Louisiana Green Corps at Alliance for Affordable Energy here she teaches local youth energy efficient home renovations so they can take pride in contributing to the rebirth of their city.



## Hiring Smart Staff

**Kelvin Hewitt**, Workforce Crew Leader, is a Crew Leader for the Alliance for Affordable Energy. He mentors and leads crews to weatherize homes, install radiant barrier, and has worked with a team to install solar hot water heating systems in homes of low income and elderly residents. He is a native New Orleanian and has owned several businesses in the past while also working as a vibrant volunteer in the Holy Cross Community. Leading rebuilding work is his passion; Kelvin has been in the Construction field for over 20 years.



**Eric Julian**, Workforce Crew Leader, Eric Julien, a New Orleans native, is thrilled to be working with urban and at risk young adults. Eric wants to be a positive role model in each Corpsmember's life. He believes that by coupling green job training with life skills training, the Louisiana Green Corps is directly impacting both the physical and the emotional environment of the New Orleans community. Eric's prior construction experience has afforded him the opportunity to share with his crew essential skills to working in a professional environment. Eric is an accomplished photographer whose work traces the cultural connections of France, Senegal, Haiti, and New Orleans.



**Christian Roselund**, Communications Director. Originally hailing from Northern California, discovered upon migrating to New Orleans in the summer of 2002 that he is, in fact, a Yankee. He spent the first two years after Hurricane Katrina working as a freelance writer and reporter, covering the difficult reconstruction of the city for a variety of national shows, periodicals and networks. Following on this work, since 2007 he has worked as a communications specialist, helping organizations develop core messaging, craft and implement media strategies, and create their own media in order to organize members and supporters to be active, engaged participants.



**Eileen Hays**, Sustainable Rebuild Program Coordinator, has recently adopted New Orleans as her new home. Originally hailing from Chicago, Eileen got her BA in Urban and Regional Planning from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. With a specific interest in affordable housing issues, she worked with numerous organizations, including Part of the Solution (POTS) and People Advocating for New Solutions (PANS) in Bronx, NY as a research specialist and the City of Champaign Township, creating a short documentary about local poverty. Moving to New Orleans has since inspired her to pursue a career in equitable environmental policies and sustainability.



# Hiring Smart Staff



**Elizabeth Shephard**, Office Manager, hails from the other end of the Mississippi River, where she attended Carleton College in Northfield, MN. She received her BA with Honors and Distinction in Psychology with a minor in Educational and Technology Studies. She served as her school Sustainability Coordinator the year after she graduated, where she helped her school establish an off-campus program in New Orleans. Inspired by the sustainability challenges in NOLA, she decided to teach middle school Earth Science through Teach for America. After teaching, Elizabeth worked as a field manager for the Gulf Restoration Network, and was hired thereafter to complete research for GRN's Clean Up Your Act, Gulf State Report Card, measuring how well states along the Gulf implement the Clean Water Act. Currently, Elizabeth is on the Board of Social Entrepreneurs of New Orleans (SENO) and is interested in supporting green entrepreneurs in eliminating waste in the city. Elizabeth is excited to be a part of the educational, environmental, musical, and social movements so present in New Orleans.

Passing the Torch! Thank you Hunter for a GREAT year at the Alliance!



**Hunter Savard**, Americorps VISTA Volunteer, received her Professional Bachelor of Architecture degree from the University of Texas at Austin in 2005. A non-traditional student, Hunter received a GED at the age of 27 and soon after began studying building construction with an emphasis on "sustainability." She previously worked as a disabled student attendant, election precinct worker, sane/freeze canvasser, receptionist, assembly line worker, barista, bike messenger, mail order clerk, wine bottler, baker, book buyer, book seller, construction laborer, customer service representative, bookkeeper, office manager, legal assistant, wood shop assistant, sculpture studio assistant, computer lab technician, doorman, bartender, short order cook, and house painter. Hunter served as an Americorps VISTA for Tulane's Center for Public Service at the Alliance for Affordable Energy this past year. She believes the goal of sustainable, affordable, energy efficient and healthy homes for all New Orleanians is achievable and she wouldn't trade living in this time and place for any other. In a few weeks, we are proud to say that Hunter will be joining us to help develop a fee for service weatherization program at the Alliance.

Welcome Matt Sweeny, our new Americorps VISTA!



**Matthew Sweeney**, Americorps VISTA, was born in Baton Rouge, but raised in Chicago. He received his BA in General Business Management and Justice & Peace Studies from the University of St. Thomas in St. Paul, MN. Running from the cold, he returned to Baton Rouge shortly after graduation to work as a carpenter. He is currently serving as an Americorps VISTA Volunteer Coordinator for the Tulane Center for Public Service at the Alliance For Affordable Energy.

## 2008-09 Accomplishments

### Regulatory Work

Played an integral role in the passage of Energy Smart, a citywide energy efficiency program, to be launched in 2009 in New Orleans.

Continued to monitor and encourage the development of Integrated Resource Planning with both city and state regulators.

Intervened in nine dockets at both the New Orleans City Council Utility Committee and the Louisiana Public Service Commission — including system agreement issues regarding Energy Arkansas and Mississippi, green tariffs, and the present rate case before the New Orleans City Council.

Continued to promote the establishment of a Renewable Portfolio Standard (RPS), including speaking before the Louisiana Public Service Commission, working with members of National Renewable Energy Laboratory, and participating in the first ever National RPS Collaborative. Our efforts resulted in the Commission's opening a docket to investigate the implementation of an RPS, with the goal of achieving 20% renewable energy by 2025.

Helped raise awareness of the need for ethics reform at the level of the Louisiana Public Service Commission, which resulted ultimately in the Commission's prohibition of utilities providing meals and other gratuities to commissioners.



### Climate and Clean Energy

Commissioned a report by a nationally recognized economist showing the increased costs of burning coal and petroleum coke under incoming carbon regulations, and presented this report to the LPSC, contributing to and LPSC decision to review the Little Gypsy conversion.

Brought the issues of Global Warming, coal as a power plant fuel, and progressive energy policy to 30,000 voters in Louisiana Public Service Commission and New Orleans City Council districts through a special edition of Bright Ideas.

Brought the public vital information on the positions of candidates in the 1st district Louisiana Public Service Commission race.

Integrated the incentive of avoiding Global Warming into Alliance activity, including Energy Smart, a Renewable Portfolio Standard, and in meetings with regulators.



## 2008-09 Accomplishments



### Sustainable Rebuild

Completed three cycles of our workforce training program with the LA Green Corps to teach young adults from New Orleans to make energy efficiency improvements in homes of low-income, elderly residents, to date training roughly one hundred young adults for jobs in the emerging green economy.

Opened the New Orleans BuildSmart Learning Center, a permanent, multi-faceted facility where homeowners, builders and local businesses can learn about energy efficiency, residential solar and environmentally appropriate building techniques in a hands-on environment.

Launched New Orleans Solar America Cities program with the US Department of Energy and various local partners to educate citizens about solar technologies and help stimulate the local industry. Visit [solarpowernola.org](http://solarpowernola.org) to see how you can power your home with the sun!

Installed radiant barrier in 70 homes and weatherized 30 homes for low-income and elderly with the help of Americorps NCCC volunteers in the Lower 9th and Broadmoor neighborhoods.

### Other

Launched a new, expanded website at [www.all4energy.org](http://www.all4energy.org)

"Abode", co-directed by Justin Fernando Valls and James Ofsink, featuring, in part, the Alliance and its contribution toward to the movement to try to "green" New Orleans in the 3 years since Katrina. It is currently being circulated to film festivals at this time. [www.Abode-film.org](http://www.Abode-film.org)

## Contributors

The Alliance for Affordable Energy would like to thank the following organizations for helping to make our ongoing work on behalf of Louisiana citizens and ratepayers possible:

ARC of Greater New Orleans, Azby Fund, Booth-Bricker Fund, Civil Sheriffs Reserve Deputies Association, Corps Network, Doerr Furniture, Ella West Freeman Foundation, Energy Foundation, Fertel Foundation, Greater New Orleans Foundation, Gulf Coast Fund, Rockefeller Philanthropy Advisors, Louisiana Association of Non-profit Organizations (LANO), Louisiana Department of Labor, Lowenburg Family Foundation, Mary Freeman Wisdom Foundation, Mercy Corps, New Orleans Neighborhood Development Collaborative, Oreck Vacuum Cleaners, Prentice Foundation, RosaMary Foundation, Sharp Solar, Sierra Club, Sun Power, Surdna Foundation, The Occasional Wife, Train-2-Build, Union of Concerned Scientists, US Department of Energy





# JOIN US: We Need YOUR Smart Ideas

**As you can see, we've been very busy** so far and we have a lot more work to do this year. But we couldn't do it without the support of our members, and without knowing that you are behind us in our work. If you have not yet joined the Alliance for Affordable Energy, join today. A donation of \$25 or more will make you a member for one year.

As you may have heard, the Louisiana Public Service Commission is currently investigating a renewable portfolio standard (RPS) for the State of Louisiana, that would require that utilities purchase a set portion of their power from renewable sources such as wind, solar, biomass and tidal energy. However, the big utilities and fossil fuel interests are fighting us every step of the way. It will take concerted efforts from many sources - including grassroots pressure, to make sure that the Public Service Commission not only passes an RPS, but passes one that is strong enough to give renewable energy the support it needs to succeed in Louisiana.

## We need your support.

Join the Alliance today so that you can be part of this historic change for our State.

## Membership Categories and Benefits

Amount	Category	Benefits
<input type="checkbox"/> \$25-249	Advocate	All Alliance members can pick up a BuildSmart T-shirt, attend workshops for FREE, and will receive Alliance stickers/ buttons.
<input type="checkbox"/> \$250-999	Energy Star	Invited to VIP special events. Can choose a FREE book of your choice, including <i>Thin Ice</i> , <i>The Green Collar Economy</i> , and <i>Democracy and Regulation</i> .
<input type="checkbox"/> \$1000 +	Megawatt	Megawatt members are listed on our web site, are invited to VIP special events, receive the book a Green Collar Economy. and as a special service, receive a free energy consultation from Alliance staff.

Name/Buisness \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_



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# NOTES



# Smart Board Members

## 2008 Board Members

Karen Wimpelberg, President  
Sallie Davis J.D., Secretary/Chair of Board Development Committee  
Miriam Brown, Treasurer  
Charles Reith Ph.D., Chair of Sustainable Energy Committee  
Una Anderson  
Pam Dashiell  
Tina Freeman  
Doug Meffert  
Thomas P. Lowenburg  
Amelia L. Ravin  
Lea Young

## Honorary Board

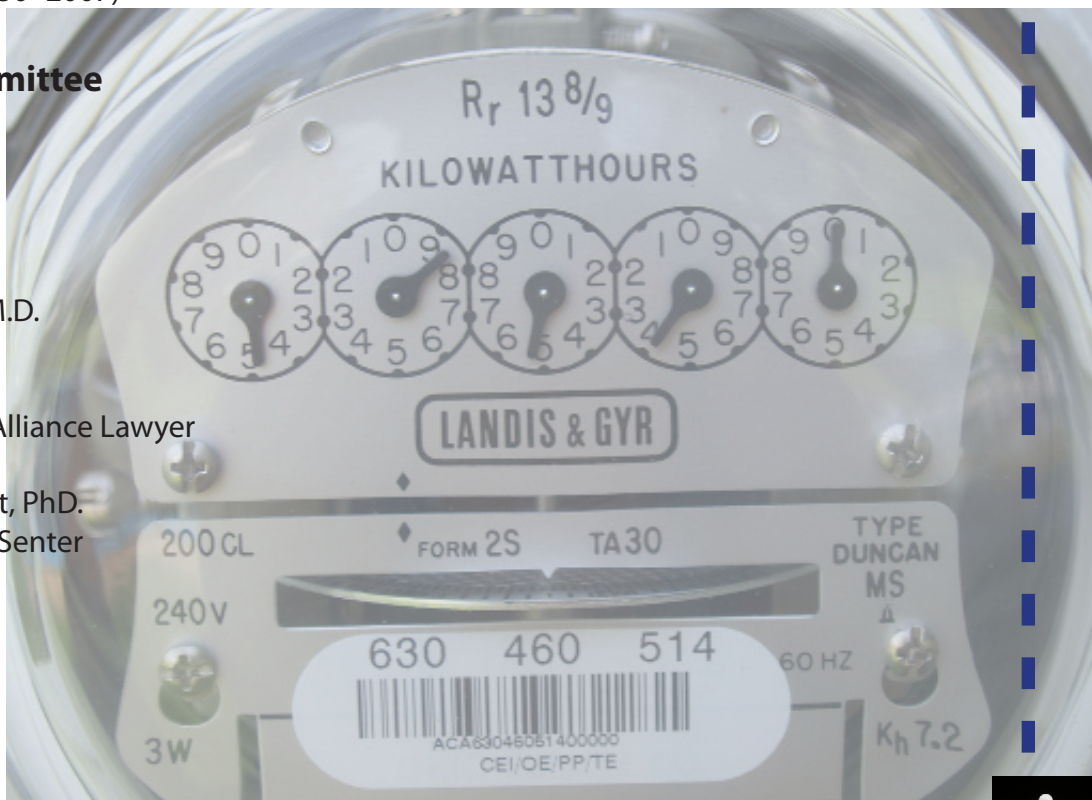
Gayle Gagliano Honorary  
Irwin Isaacson  
Secretary Honorary  
Rev. Climon J. Smith Honorary  
Gary Groesch (1952 -2002)  
Betty Wisdom (1930 -2007)

## Advisory Committee

Vern Baxter, Ph.D.  
Geoff Baldwin  
John Koefel  
Mildred Fossier  
Mark Gonzalez  
Stuart I. Phillips, M.D.  
Steven Lindsley  
David Marcello  
Thomas Milliner, Alliance Lawyer  
Marylee Orr  
Juiliana D. Padgett, PhD.  
Katherine "Kit" B. Senter  
Jessie Smallwood

## Welcome 2009 Board Members!

Sallie Davis, J.D., President (2003)  
David L. Dalia (new)  
Pam Dashiell (2007)  
Tina Freeman (2007)  
Tom Lowenburg (1985)  
Doug Meffert (2007)  
Julianna Padgett (new)  
Cherylyn L. Tompkins (new)  
Lea Young (2001)



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