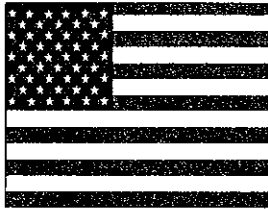


### THIS EDITION

- ◆ Don't Forget to Vote
- ◆ Special Business Briefing with the Federal Reserve Bank
- ◆ Upcoming Fourth Annual Business Luncheon
- ◆ Members in the News
- ◆ Welcome New Members



### MISSION STATEMENT

*The Mission of the African American Chamber of Commerce of Western Pennsylvania is to provide access and opportunities to African American businesses and professionals throughout the region. Guided by the core values of equity in opportunity, economic advancement, self-sufficiency and entrepreneurial excellence, we will seek to advance economic parity by ensuring full participation.*

## AFRICAN AMERICAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE OF WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA

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REGIONAL ENTERPRISE TOWER SUITE 701  
425 SIXTH AVENUE PITTSBURGH, PA. 15219  
(412) 392-0610 FAX (412) 392-0612 [aaccwp@pittsburghchamber.com](mailto:aaccwp@pittsburghchamber.com)  
[www.aaccwp.com](http://www.aaccwp.com) DORIS CARSON WILLIAMS, PRESIDENT

November 2002

This monthly newsletter is prepared solely for members, supporters, and sponsors of the African American Chamber of Commerce of Western Pennsylvania

Don't forget tomorrow is election day. Remember to go to the polls & vote!

Mr. Roger Ferguson, Vice Chairman, Board of Governors, Federal Reserve System in Wash., D.C. will give a Business Briefing to Chamber members & supporters, Tuesday, November 12<sup>th</sup> 11:30AM at the Rivers Club. Cost: \$30-Members; \$40- Non-Members. Dr. Ferguson was featured on 60 Minutes for keeping the economy going post September 11th.

The invitations to our 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Business Luncheon have been mailed. Presidential Roundtable Member, Mr. Ronald Davenport, Chairman - Sheridan Broadcasting Corp. will be the speaker. Joining us will be the Board of Directors of the PA. State Chamber of Business & Industry. We hope all members will be in attendance Thursday, December 5<sup>th</sup> at the Omni William Penn Hotel.

We are looking for members to volunteer and serve as greeters for the luncheon. Call the office if you are interested.

Thanks for everyone wanting to receive the newsletter via email. This will help to save on the increased cost of postage & provide faster delivery. Send us your comments to: [aacc@pittsburghchamber.com](mailto:aacc@pittsburghchamber.com).

Updates for the 2003 Membership Directory are coming in. We hope to enter production by the end of the month. You can receive your copy on CD-ROM!

Your Chamber was thrilled with the recent article that appeared in the Post-Gazette on the quick and effective marketing impact that a chamber of commerce can provide on a business. Next year, we plan to hold a series of luncheon meetings ranging from doing business with chamber members, to how to get the most out of your chamber membership. Chambers are about building relationships and we want to help you maximize the potential opportunities. We hope to start these boxed luncheon meetings in January.

We are planning your first Members Holiday Party, tentatively scheduled for December 11<sup>th</sup>. The Federal Reserve Bank Branch in Pittsburgh has agreed to be our sponsor. This will be yet another opportunity to network and build relationships. You will receive your invitation on the Internet by the end of November.

Sponsor Member Gregory Spencer is featured in this week's Business Times, on tomorrow's African American Senior Corp. Symposium at the IBEW Hall Southside. Call Linn Booker at: 412-490-4788 to register.

Member Esther Bush is to be congratulated for success fully bringing the 2003 National Urban League Conference to Pittsburgh! This will take the help of all of us to feature our city. The conference generally needs 500 volunteers! Call the Urban League to sign up. Having concluded another successful Annual Meeting on the State of Black Pgh, The Ron Brown Black Tie Awards Dinner will be November 22<sup>nd</sup> at the Westin Convention Center.

Did you know there are more boys interested in Urban Scouting than adults to work with them? Member James Hamlin is looking for volunteers, only one day a month, to help build the life of a young child. Call James @ 412-471-2927

**Hats off to Member Karen Davis & Nubian Sisters, Inc.** Starting the first of next year (1/3/03), the business' permanent location will be in the Century III Mall, W. Mifflin. We wish them well.

**Sponsor Member Roy Flores** opened CCAC's Fall Computer Classes & Workshops at their Downtown Center. For more info, call 412-391-1210.

**Member Keith Kinard** is busy preparing to enhance the city housing authority's self-sufficiency and home ownership program with a recent grant from the US Dept of HUD. The program is managed through a partnership with Member Cecelia Griffin Golden & the YWCA.

**Member Cecelia Jenkins** has now become the Executive Director of Pittsburgh Services, Inc., a program to eliminate poverty in Western Pa. You should know that Georgia P. Carroll Moving Co. is still in business going strong with Earl A. Jenkins at the helm.

**Sponsor Member The Pittsburgh Pirates** is looking for a Human Resource Manager. Call their office for details.

**The U.S. Postal Service** is gearing up for the holiday season and looking for temporary employees. Call 412-359-7561 to apply.

**Member Al Jones** just completed a record year of performance, approving 1,702 loans for more than \$156 million under the 7(a) loan guaranty, and MicroLoan programs. Of the top five lenders that partners on SBA loan approvals are Sponsor Members Citizens Bank and National City Bank of Pa. Call 412-322-6441 for more information on the loan program.

**New social & economic data** on Pgh neighborhoods is now available from the Census 2000 data on Pitt's website:

<http://www.ucsur.pitt.edu/benchmarks/Soc%20Economic%20Neighborhood%20ProfilesOct2002.pdf>

Other data and reports are located at:  
<http://www.ucsur.pitt.edu/>

You can download a copy of the file by clicking on the save button, print pages file, or simply view information.

**Your Chamber** is once again accepting applications for state's CED Loan Fund. This is a state loan program that small businesses can qualify to borrow up to \$100,000 at 2%! Call us to receive an application. Once completed, we will schedule a meeting for you with Exico, Inc. who will review your application and submit it to the state.

**Citizens Bank** has acquired Common-wealth Bancorp, Inc, in Norristown. This adds another 60 branches to their network and increases their asset size to \$21 billion.

**Don't forget the 16<sup>th</sup> Street Bridge** closed today and will not re-open until September 2003. Those of you who live North should find another route. Did you know that from 1987 to 1997, the number of minority owned businesses increased by 186%.

#### **Upcoming Meetings & Events**

**November 12<sup>th</sup>**  
11:30 AM Rivers Club Business Briefing with Dr. Roger Ferguson, Vice Chairman Federal Reserve System Washington, D.C.

**December 5<sup>th</sup>**  
12:00 Noon  
Fourth Annual Business Luncheon  
Omni William Penn Hotel  
Speaker: Presidential Roundtable Member Ronald R. Davenport

**Member Faye Ritter** on receiving the Lifetime Achievement Award at the Minority Enterprise Development Awards Program.

**December 11<sup>th</sup>**  
(Tentative Date)

Members Holiday Party  
Federal Reserve Bank – Pittsburgh Branch

**CONGRATULATIONS**  
**Sponsor Member Ty Alexander** was named Corporate person of the year by the Pa. Business leadership Network.

**Member Renee Amoores** of Amoores Health System on her appointment to the President's Commission for the National Museum of African American History.

**Members Theresa Johnson - Teri Johnson Training Consulting Inc. & Eustace Uku - Exico, Inc.** on receiving the Business Awards of Excellence from the Governor's Commission on African American Affairs in Harrisburg.

**Members Jackie Dixon - Giant Eagle, Inc. and Dr. Frank Sessoms - Frank E. Sessoms, MD, Inc.** were recognized as past Commissioners & presented with a gift at the same affair.

**Member Mark Lay-MDL Capital Management** on being listed in Black Enterprise as one of the top 50 African Americans on Wall Street.

**Members Faye Ritter of The Allegheny Group** on receiving the Lifetime Achievement Award &

**Dr. John Thompson, Superintendent, Pgh Public Schools** for the Leadership Award at the Minority Enterprise Development Awards Program.

**Board Member Grace Robinson** on being a Community Champion Jefferson Awardee.

#### **WELCOME NEW MEMBERS**

**Arthur L. Burt**  
Arthur Burt Electric

**Samuel Thomas**  
NuLook Restoration Services, Inc.

Have a Wonderful Thanksgiving!