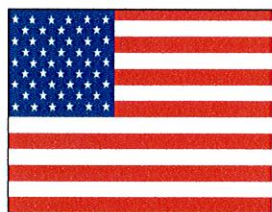


### THIS EDITION

- ◆ Members Mixer this month
- ◆ Fifth Annual Business Luncheon December 3<sup>rd</sup>
- ◆ Time to order new Membership Directories
- ◆ 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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[www.aaccwp.com](http://www.aaccwp.com) DORIS CARSON WILLIAMS, PRESIDENT

### NOVEMBER 2003

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

November starts a busy period for your Chamber Office. Remember, there will not be a Power-Breakfast Meeting in November.

**Members Mixer  
Monday November 24,  
Crawford Grill  
Station Square  
5:00 – 7:00 PM**

Wear your logo pin for free admission & bring a guest for \$10 each. Enjoy an evening of networking to jazz. R.S.V.P. to the office by Nov. 20<sup>th</sup>.

The Fifth Annual Business Luncheon will have F. Michael Langley, the new Chief Executive Officer for the Allegheny Conference on Community & Economic Development as the guest speaker:

**Wed. December 3<sup>rd</sup>  
Omni William Penn  
Hotel  
12:00 Noon**

It would be nice to have as many members present to hear his plans for our region. NOVA Chemicals will be the Sponsor.

The press conference, held by Secretary Donal Cunningham-Department of General Services on Governor Rendell's new plans for W/MBE's, was well received. The Secretary presented the new initiative to reduce the

State's purchasing costs by consolidating the 15 state purchasing departments into one & taking advantage of bulk pricing for multiple agencies. He also announced plans to retrain their agents in commodity-specific areas & plans to hold on-line auctions to get the best deal. Before starting the Public Hearing, Member Dr. Edmund Effort made a presentation to the State Representatives or behalf on the Minority Dental Association. The public hearing with State Representatives Joe Preston & Jake Wheatley then began. Over 65 members & guests filled the 7<sup>th</sup> floor Theatre to make recommendations & highlight issues & obstacles encountered when trying to do business with the state. The transcript will be distributed upon request.

Members Connie Barren & Murry Gerber did an great job presenting the merits of requesting the free business briefcase, customized for each firm by the United Way. If you would like to have one developed for your firm, call Connie Barren @ 412-456-6807.

It's time to prepare for the 2004 Membership

Directory. Please complete the Profile Form & return it (by fax or mail) to our office by Nov. 15<sup>th</sup>. Don't forget to list your certification! It is our intent to have the directories ready by mid-January.

Member Toni Silva prepared a very comprehensive Financial Seminar at PNC's FirstSide Building for Chamber & Minority Purchasing Council Members. Both organizations were quite pleased and the feedback was rewarding.

Member Keith Kinard is having a How To Do Business With Housing Authority of the City of Pittsburgh, November 6<sup>th</sup> @ the Wyndham Garden Hotel (Oakland) Forbes A Room, 3454 Forbes Avenue, from 2:00 - 5:00 PM. RSVP: to Jerry Okoko at 412-456-5020 x 113.

Your writing letters to support increasing the overall DBE goal in the Depart. of Transportation's federally assisted contracts was well received. The goal has been expanded to 14.85% of which 14.12% will be attained thru race-conscious means & .73% thru race-neutral means expanding capacity. Currently the increase is being chal-



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lenged by a contracting group in Central Pa. We'll keep you posted.

It was exciting to have so many of our members publicly acknowledged for their sub-contracting work at the Breakfast Meeting on the new South-Side Works Project.

Member John Garth is looking for a Teacher Assistant for Mother's Touch Day Care & learning Center near the H20 in Homestead. A BA or an Associate Degree with 2 years of experience is necessary. Fax your resume to Victoria Garth at 412-462-6011.

Member Esther Bush is busy preparing for The Annual Ronal H. Brown Leadership Banquet is scheduled for Thursday, November 20<sup>th</sup> at the Westin Convention Center.

Member GlaxoSmith-Kline is recruiting a Category Development Manager. Resumes can be faxed to Linda Guest @ 412-249-4505.

The Center for Minority Health at the University of Pittsburgh is creating a directory of health programs targeting African Americans in Allegheny County. If you know of programs, email the info to Angela Ford at

[afford@cmh.pitt.edu](mailto:afford@cmh.pitt.edu).

Duquesne Univ. is holding their final Lecture Series Breakfast for 2003 on Nov. 11<sup>th</sup>. Financial Responsibilities of the Board: Monitoring Non-Profit Finances. Call 412-396-6231 to register.

The 93 year-old Homewood Branch of Carnegie Library is re-opening in early November, having been restored to its original grandeur.

Pitt's Katz Graduate School of Business is offering special classes on family owned business development.

The US Postal Service is accepting applications for Casual Employment at the California Avenue office.

The Mayor's Commission on Public Education released their Executive Summary & full Report on Keeping the Promise: The Case for Reform in the Pittsburgh Public Schools. It's also on-line at:

[www.educationcommission.org/reports.html](http://www.educationcommission.org/reports.html).

The Pennsylvania Chamber of Business & Industry is holding a Business Tax Conference on Nov. 20<sup>th</sup> at the Harrisburg-Hershey Marriott. They have also finished their 13th Annual Economic Survey. Business taxes were again listed as the top issue that would drive business out of state. For more information on both, visit their website at:

<http://www.pachamber.org/AC/economicsurvey.asp>.

November 8<sup>th</sup> is the Eighth Annual Sister to Sister: Take Wellness to Heart Conference. Dr. Gwendolyn Goldsby Grant, Psychologist & columnist for Essence Magazine is the speaker. Call 412-243-5393 for more info.

Supporting Member Slippery Rock is looking for Elementary Ed. & SASW Instructors. Visit their web-

site at [www.sru.edu](http://www.sru.edu).

Member the Pittsburgh Downtown Partnership is inviting everyone to the unveiling of an exciting new twist for the holidays, Thursday, Nov. 20<sup>th</sup> at 6:15 PM, Smithfield Street, between Oliver & Sixth Avenues. Be there!

Member Tom Burley is having 'KENIA', Brazilian & Latin Jazz, perform at Crawford Grill at Station Square on Wednesdays. They're offering 1/2 price on Margaritas & 1/2 price on appetizers.

Supporting Member Sally Mizerak's firm is now The Mizerak Group, Inc.

### Correction

Member Marimba Millions name was misspelled in the October Newsletter.

### CONGRATULATIONS

Chairman Robert Agbede on completing the purchase of Chester Engineers, making Advanced Technology Systems one of the largest African American Engineering Firms in the country!

Member Ty Alexander appointed to the Board of Directors for the Institute of Supply Management.

Members Curtis Aiken & Jason Matthews on the feature article in the Business Times about eSGS.

Presidential Roundtable Member Citizens Bank was recently named the top small business lender in Western Pa. by the US Small Business Administration.

Member Ronnie Bryant on a successful Transatlantic Business Summit with Prince Andrew-The Duke of York.

Member Ben Butler on a successful MED week program & luncheon.

Member Joyce A. Bender has been selected by Labor Secretary Elaine Chao, as one of five of this year's New Freedom Initiative Award winners that recognizes businesses, organizations and individuals who have demonstrated exemplary and innovative efforts in furthering the employment objectives of President George W. Bush's New Freedom Initiative.

Member James Moreland on being featured in Black Enterprise this month.

Member Barbara McNeese on being nominated for a 2<sup>nd</sup> term on the CCSC Board of Directors.

Member Aaron Walton as an honoree for the National association off Black Law Enforcement Executives.

Member Oscar Worthy featured in Black Enterprise Magazine this month.

### WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

**Billy Jackson**  
NOMMO Productions

### Associate Member

**Betty Arenth**  
Senator John Heinz  
Pittsburgh Regional  
History Center

**Selina Moyo**  
Continental Office  
Environments

~  
**Remember to vote  
November 4<sup>th</sup>!**  
**Good Luck to Members  
Twanda Carlisle &  
Valerie McDonald  
Roberts**