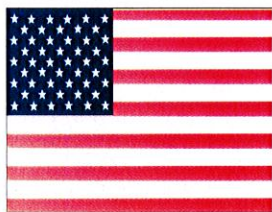


THIS EDITION

- ◆ Governor Rendell to address the Chamber
- ◆ Chamber's Business Institute announced
- ◆ Order your Business Briefcase
- ◆ 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

AFRICAN AMERICAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE OF WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA

REGIONAL ENTERPRISE TOWER SUITE 1330

425 SIXTH AVENUE PITTSBURGH, PA. 15219

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www.aaccwp.com

DORIS CARSON WILLIAMS, PRESIDENT & CEO

January 2004

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

Happy New Year! Your Chamber Office is busy preparing for a promising year of opportunity.

January 16th

PowerBreakfast Meeting

7:30 AM Rivers Club

Governor Ed Rendell

The Governor will talk about his plans for minority & women businesses & present the state of the Commonwealth as he enters his 2nd year as the state's Chief Executive. R.S.V.P. by Jan. 14th. Don't forget to pick up your copy of Connections that includes Chambers (including the AACC) at the breakfast. A sample Business Briefcase CD-ROM (demonstration) will also be distributed.

February 20th

PowerBreakfast Meeting

7:30 AM Rivers Club

Ronnie Bryant

Pittsburgh Regional Alliance Having completed a strong year in 2003, Ronnie will be our Breakfast Sponsor. He will update us on his progress recruiting firms to our region & how you can do business with the PRA.

The 2004 Membership Directory is with our creative team. The first edit should occur by mid-January.

February 21st

Ice Skating Party

1:00 – 3:00 PM

PPG Ice Rink

Back by popular demand, this is our third annual trip around the rink! We have a group rate, so bring the family for two hours of fun. Your first cup of hot chocolate is on the Chamber☺.

April 16th

PowerBreakfast Meeting

7:30 AM Rivers Club

Doing Business with the Pittsburgh Presbytery

Spearheaded by our newest member, Rev. James Mead, the Pittsburgh Presbytery will be our Breakfast Sponsor & present how you as members can do business with the churches.

The PowerBreakfast Meetings are available for companies to host in company's name. For more information about this opportunity, please call the office.

The Chamber's Business Institute Program is designed to assist you, our members, in expanding your business opportunities. It's the next logical step that builds on the successes of our Mentor Protégé Program. You will receive a planning program

questionnaire next week that will help us identify firms for active participation in the two-year review process. All members will have an opportunity to participate in the formal sessions involving lectures & presentations.

Your Chamber will again serve on the planning team for this year's annual 'Sharing the Wealth Through Participation' conference for firms in technology who are interested in the states' procurement initiatives. The conference, chaired by State Representative Curtis Thomas (D., Phila.) will be held in Harrisburg in July. We'll keep you posted.

The Pittsburgh Business Times is developing the TOP 25 Minority-owned Firms in our area. Logon to: www.bizjournals.com/pittsburgh/bol_survey, complete the survey. The deadline for submitting the survey is January 13th. The complete list will be published in the February 6th issue.

SAVE THE DATE

ANNUAL MEETING
MONDAY,
MAY 11, 2004
PLACE AND TIME TO
BE ANNOUNCED.

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The Homer S. Brown Law Association will honor Wendell G. Free-land, Esquire as this year's Drum Major for Justice – January 19th 7:30 – 10:00 AM at Mt. Ararat Baptist Church. Rev. William Curtis is the keynote speaker.

The 2004 Spirit of King Award Ceremony will be held Monday, January 12th the Kingsley Association, honoring the late Billy Eckstine & George W. Gaines, Sr. Call 412-566-5259 if you plan to attend.

The YWCA & Carnegie Mellon are co-sponsoring a Community Tribute Commemorating the Life of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. - Monday January 19th from 2:30 – 4:30 PM @ CMU. Call 412-268-4886 for more information.

A Gospel Buffet is held every 3rd & 4th Sunday at Dowe's on Ninth. This is in addition to their full week of jazz happenings. Call 412-281-9225 for reservations.

Associate Member Slippery Rock University has a number of facility and professional positions available in the arts, communications, government & public affairs. Call 724-738-2001.

Dr. Larry Davis, Dean of Pitt's Graduate School of Social Work will be having a Book Signing & Reception on the 3rd Edition of his book, 'Black and Single: Meeting

and Choosing a Partner Who's Right for You', Wednesday, January 28th 4:00 – 6:00 PM, William Pitt Union. Email lrh19@pitt.edu to confirm attending.

Fed-Ex Ground is looking for a Material Handling Project Engineer. For more information, email: en-gresumes@ground.fedex.com or check their website @ www.fedex.com.

The Roofer's Local #377 JAC is accepting applications for their June 2004 Apprenticeship Program. Call John Cummings at 412-732-9720 for details.

CONGRATULATIONS

Member Malik Bankston on his appointment to the city's Police Review Board.

Member Esther Bush sworn in as a member of the Pa. Commission on Crime and Delinquency.

Member Frank Torbert on the Courier's feature article about FLT Trading closing their deal with Presidential Roundtable Member Equitable Resources.

Member James Moreland on Jaymore Electrical Systems on receiving major contract for the Puerto Rico convention center.

Member Eric Bruce nominated by Member Nick Nichols on receiving a Kellogg Scholarship for the School of Management at Northwestern University.

Member Bill Strickland on securing Presidential Roundtable Member Giant Eagle as the outlet for selling those gorgeous orchids.

Supporting Member John Stillwagon, CPA, has been named a Partner with McGill, Power, & Bell & Associates.

Member Valerie McDonald-Roberts sworn in for her second term as Allegheny County Recorder of Deeds.

Member Mark Lewis on his feature interview story about the POISE Foundation in the Pittsburgh Courier.

The Onorato Administration appointed Member Tim Johnson as Director of Administrative Services for Allegheny County.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Zachary Coleman
Rave for Success

Dawn Turner
Our House Development

Supporting Member

Joan Ellenbogen, CPA
Crawford Ellenbogen LLC

Associate Member

Rev. James Mead
Pittsburgh Presbytery

Stephen Thomas, PhD
Center for Minority Health, GSPH
University of Pittsburgh
Start the New Year off right without: a) reinventing the wheel for payroll processing. Click here & reference the Chamber:



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