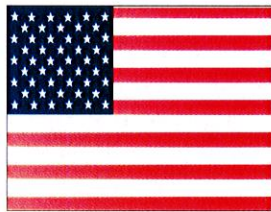


THIS EDITION

- ◆ Member satisfaction survey mailed
- ◆ Business Institute Application ready
- ◆ Business Briefcase ready for installation
- ◆ 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
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DORIS CARSON WILLIAMS, PRESIDENT & CEO

April 2004

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

Allegheny County Chief Executive Dan Onorato addressed Members and guests at our March PowerBreakfast Meeting. He spoke of his appointments to date and plan to identify services that the county and city can share in the cost. One item of major significance was his commitment to having the Bonding Program for small business owners.

A big thank you is also extended to Members Bill Strickland & Jesse Fife for hosting our Networking Mixer at the Manchester Bidwell Corp. Members welcomed our guests & exchanged information. The orchid cuttings for ladies were an extra treat!

Members Joe Preston & Jake Wheatley & Rep. Michael Diven spoke to a full house at the Chamber's Candidates Forum. Addressing on a wide array of issues impacting small business, Rep. Preston focused on the Governor's Economic Stimulus Package & the potential for Western Pa. Rep. Wheatley challenged members to become more vocal on small business issues while Rep. Diven discussed broader economic development issues and the Blight Bill on abandon housing.

Thank you also goes to the students of Urban Youth Action who participated in the Forum.

April 16th

PowerBreakfast Meeting

7:30 AM Rivers Club

Rev. James Mead

The Pittsburgh Presbytery
Our Breakfast Sponsor & new Chamber Member will present their current & planned projects & discuss how you, as Members can do business with the Presbytery.

April 29th

Members Mixer

Sponsored by:

Highmark Caring Place
Join us to network & tour the center for grieving children & families.

Monday, MAY 10th

ANNUAL MEETING & 10th Anniversary

Members Meeting

11:00 AM

Luncheon: 12:00 Noon
Convention Center Hotel

Guest Speaker:

United States Senator
Arlen Specter

Now, in our tenth year since our Charter was enacted, join us & pay tribute & celebrate a decade of working to achieve economic parity. A members survey has been mailed to you.

Please complete the survey & fax it back to us ASAP. The results will be

reported at the Annual Meeting.

The Business Institute Application is complete, thanks to your input.

You'll receive a copy at our Annual Meeting & learn more about how you can participate in the program.

We are planning a delegation from our Chamber to join our National Black Chamber on their trade mission to Paris, London, Accra, & Ghana: June 10 – 17th. Cost: \$3800 all-inclusive. Our President/CEO Harry Alford has been appointed to the United States - Ghana Economic Council, the result of a request from Ghana Minister of Trade and Industry. View the agenda & register online ([click here](#)), or call 202 - 466-6888. Deadline to register is May 1st.

Your Business Briefcase is ready to be installed. Logon to: www.businessbriefcase.org. To request your toolkit. Member Connie Barren is available to assist you.

Thanks to those who are now part of Campos Market Research's Regional Opinion Panel. To date, four members have joined. There is still time to sign up. Email Sara Rucker @: srucker@campos.com.

The 2004 Membership

PAGE 2

Directories are available for \$35 each. Call us @: 412-392-0610.

Member Granderson Glenn's Spirits Embodied Gallery of Fine Art is having a fiber arts exhibit starting April 17th to May 15th. It's the first African American exhibit in a Black Art Gallery in Pgh. For more info, call 412-322-2223. Let's support him!

Don't forget The Pittsburgh Cultural Trust presents 'Los Hombres Calientes' Latin Jazz sensations:

April 20th 7:30 PM

Byham Theater

For ticket info, call 412-456-6666. There is only one performance!

If you are looking for office space near downtown, call Member Ebony Development about Williams Square. Their amenities include free parking, cleaning & maintenance, 24-hour service. Call 412-434-6571 for a tour.

Member Cecelia Griffin Golden invites you to join in the Tribute to Women Celebration, May 13th. For tickets, call 41

2-255-1237. The Y is seeking 100 college & professional women to mentor 100 girls ages 11-13 as part of the Female Leadership & Mentoring Endeavor Program. Call the Teen Services Department @ 412-361-1933.

The Center for Minority Health kicked off National Minority Health Month on Saturday. For information on their numerous programs & events, call 412-624-3402.

'A Reason For Hope'

April 22nd 6:30-8:30 pm
UPMC Cancer Center will sponsor a free educational program, focusing on major advances in radiation therapy to treat breast, prostate, & lung cancers. You must register. Call: 412-623-3651.

May 1st is the Ebony & Ivory Ball. Call 412-392-0610 for tickets & info.

Member Duquesne University's Small Business Development Center has a number of training workshops planned, including their Entrepreneur's Growth Conference, June 17th. For more info, call: 412-396-6233

A word of caution about Spam email. NEVER send sensitive info such as your password, credit card #s, social security #, etc. in an email. NEVER click directly on links in an email that requests sensitive info. Always type the Web address directly into your browser's address bar. ALWAYS confirm that a Web site is legitimate before submitting sensitive information. It will help minimize problems.

The U.S. Department of Education Center for Faith-Based and Community Initiatives will conduct three free workshops in Pittsburgh: Tuesday, April 20th 1:00 pm - 4:00 pm
Learn how your organization can receive funds to tutor children in math & language arts, visit:

<http://www.ed.gov/about/initiatives/list/fbci/grants.html#sup>

p. Thursday, April 22nd 9:00- 12:00 pm. How your organization can receive funding for the academic & social needs of at-risk youth, visit:

<http://www.ed.gov/about/initiatives/list/fbci/grants.html#safe>

& April 22nd 1:00 - 4:00 pm
Learn how to access funds to create or expand community technology centers. Organizations should be prepared to meet the requirement of at least \$250,000 in matching funds, visit:

<http://www.ed.gov/about/initiatives/list/fbci/grants.html#community>. All three work-

shops will be at the David L. Lawrence Convention Center, Rooms 319-321.

Don't forget the Minority Purchasing Council's 28th Annual Business Fair. Call 412-391-4423 for tickets.

SBA celebrated their 50th Anniversary at a Luncheon & Economic Growth Summit March 9th in Morgantown W. Va.

Your Chamber was honored by Regional Administrator Allegra McCullough, as a Supporting Partner. Members Al Jones & Don Carter were part of the session.

CONGRATULATIONS

Member Malik Bankston on the Governor committing \$1.4 million to constructing the Lincoln Larimer Community Center.

Member Joyce Bender on her interview with former Gov. Dick Thornburgh & his wife Ginny on 'Disability Matters'.

Member Rhonda Carson Leach on being elected to the Board of Directors of the American Society for Training & Develop, Pgh Chapter.

Supporting Member Joe McGrath on a successful Annual Meeting of the Convention & Visitors Bureau. Honored was **Supporting Member** Linda Casper.

Member Jackie Dixon honored by Pgh City Council for community service.

Supporting Member Lt. Governor Cathy Baker Knoll on being honored by Zonta International of the Pittsburgh Chapter.

Member Cathy McCollom awarded a Tribute to Women award in the category of civic contribution.

Member Weida Tucker on receiving the contract to recruit a new County Jail Warden.

Associate Member Michael Langley as one of the judges for the Ernst & Young Entrepreneur of the Year Award. **Member** Marshall Norwood of WPXI is relocating to Atlanta, GA.

Member Connie Portis on a successful Black Extravangza. Honored were Members Ben Butler, Mary Coffey, Rod Doss, Howard Graves, Glenn Mahone, Howard Slaughter.

WELCOME

NEW MEMBERS

Emmanuel Ike, CPA

Accounting & Consulting Solutions, Inc.

Carol Neyland

Mellon Financial Corporation

Darrell Smalley

Ernest & Young

Ruth Byrd-Smith

Allegheny County Dept. Minority & Disadvantaged Women Enterprise

Associate Members

Deborah Moses

PowerLink

Correction

Roosevelt Stower Buttons & More