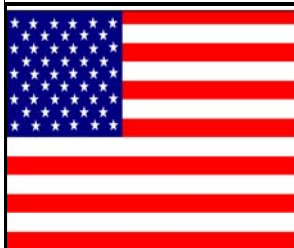


### IN THIS EDITION

- ◆ Chief Exec. Dan Onorato to speak at PowerBreakfast
- ◆ New Members' Orientation
- ◆ New Year's Celebration January 29, 2009
- ◆ Members in the News
- ◆ Welcome New Members



### MISSION STATEMENT

*The mission of the African American Chamber of Commerce of Western Pennsylvania is to continuously improve business opportunities for 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*

## AFRICAN AMERICAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE OF WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA

AFRICAN AMERICAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE OF WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA  
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DORIS CARSON WILLIAMS, PRESIDENT & CEO

### January 2009

**This monthly newsletter is prepared solely for members, supporters, & sponsors of the African American Chamber of Commerce of W. Pa.**

### *Happy New Year!*

If you would like to sponsor a PowerBreakfast Meeting or Members' Mixer, please call the office at 412-392-0610.

The Tenth Annual Business Luncheon was truly a informative & a great networking event. Roy Haley, Chairman & CEO of WESCO Distribution shared not only national statistics of the state of African American Entrepreneurs, but shared personal experiences & gave good points on obstacles to look out for when starting a new business.

Thank you to all who attended the first of our four part series on "Lead the Way to Green Buildings". Sixty-five members & guests from Columbus, Ohio & Philadelphia took part in the 4 hour workshop to learn what is involved & that the fact-people involved in the projects make the difference. Robert Kobet, guest speaker was exceptional & Stanley Salwocki/Architect - PA Housing and Finance Agency provided details

on finance opportunities through the state. Mark your calendar: the next workshop will be held March 9th to describe the details of an actual green building in the city. A big thanks goes out to our partners, Members Carl Knoblock (SBA), Mark Little (MWELA), & Brenda Wells (PHFA) for their participation.

**PowerBreakfast  
January 16, 2009  
7:30 AM Rivers Club  
One Oxford Centre  
Allegheny County Chief  
Executive  
Dan Onorato  
Sponsored by:  
Chester Engineers**

In what has become a Chamber tradition, Chief Exec. Dan Onorato will kick off the new year's PowerBreakfast series. He will give us a comprehensive update on plans for 2009. Be sure to call the office to reserve a seat.

**New Members' Orientation  
January 23, 2009  
12:00—1:30 PM  
Regional Enterprise  
Tower, Fetterolf Room  
Join us to learn about**

the benefits & resources that are available to you as a Chamber member.

**New Year's  
Celebration  
January 29, 2009  
5:00—7:30 PM  
Sen. John Heinz  
History Center  
Sponsored by:  
Prudential**

Bring a guest & join us for this festive evening, as we enjoy the exhibits, "Voices," a tribute to African American & Latina women, & "Free at Last; an exhibit on Slavery on Western PA. Don't forget to RSVP.

**PowerBreakfast  
February 20, 2009  
7:30 AM Rivers Club  
One Oxford Centre  
Regional Indicator on  
Pittsburgh.org  
John Craig, Presenter**

This meeting will highlight where our region stands & the opportunities to discuss how to use the information to your advantage.

**PowerBreakfast  
March 20, 2009  
7:30 AM Rivers Club  
One Oxford Centre  
Pittsburgh Partnership  
for Neighborhood Development**

Member - President  
Director Ellen Kight &

her staff will present the opportunities for doing business with organizations helping to develop our neighborhoods throughout the city.

**Member Events:**

**YWCA of Greater Pittsburgh's Business Training Program  
YWCA—305 Wood St. Downtown**

This program is geared for Women with low & moderate incomes. The class schedule is as follows: January 6—March 24, 2009, every Tuesday 6-8:30 PM, **OR** every February 11 thru April 29, Wednesdays from 10 AM-12:30 PM

To sign up for this 12-week course, call 412-255-6749 to request an application.

**2009 Spirit of the King Award Ceremony  
January 15, 2009  
10:00 AM  
Kingsley Center  
6435 Frankstown Ave.**

This year's Port Authority of Allegheny County honorees are the late Frank E. Bolden & Charles "Teenie" Harris. RSVP by January 8th to Evelyn Newsome at 412-566-5259.

**40th Anniversary Open House  
1:00—4:00 PM**

**Bidwell Training Center  
1815 Metropolitan St.**  
Join Corporate Sponsor Bill Strickland as they celebrate 40 years of changing lives.

**"Worlds Away:  
New Suburban Landscapes"  
Carnegie Museum of Art**

**Now thru 1/19/2009**

Think you know the suburbs? More than 30 artists & architects in Worlds Away explore the myths & realities of suburbs in America. Call 412-622-3131 or visit [www.cmoa.org](http://www.cmoa.org).

President-elect Obama & the new Congress are interested in hearing your thoughts about what needs to be done to improve transportation next year. Visit <http://www.itoldthepresident.org/> to submit a comment or a video, & make your voice heard.

The Greater Pittsburgh International Airport will begin offering direct service to Paris, beginning in June on Delta Airlines.

Allegheny County has issued a warning to property owners about a recurring scam involving home deeds. Some title & deed companies are sending letters to homeowners about the importance of having an official or certified copy of their deed, & offering to provide a copy for a substantial fee of \$70. In fact, deeds are readily available through the Department of Real Estate for \$5 in person or \$10 through the mail.

**CONGRATULATIONS**

Members Judge Joseph & Darryl Ford Williams & Edwina Kaikai, on their son & daughter, respectfully, on being presented at the Jack & Jill Ball. **Member** John Laymon served as guest speaker at the Pitts-

burgh Project YouthBuild graduation ceremony last month.

Last month, the New Pittsburgh Courier hosted its 2008 "50 Men of Excellence" Awards Reception. Among the awardees were the following Members: Bob Agbede, Ty Alexander, Neil Barclay, Oliver Byrd, David Coleman, Terry Collier, Dr. Larry Davis, James Diggs, Dr. Edmund Effort, Alex Johnson, Robert Jones, Glenn Mahone, Eric Kevin Mann, George Miles, Alexander Nichols, Sylvester Pace, Ted Roberts, Chauncey Smith, Greg Spencer, Sam Stephenson, Bill Strickland, Sala Udin, JW Wallace, Aaron Walton, the late Dwight White, & Dr. John M. Wilds. We also congratulate Member Rod Doss on hosting a successful event.

**In the New Pittsburgh Courier:**

**Member** Dr. Helen Davis received the Physician of the Year Award from Gateway Medical Society. **Associate Member** Esther Bush on The Urban League of Greater Pittsburgh's successful Ronald H. Brown Awards gala; **Member** Rod Doss of the New Pittsburgh Courier received the Corporate Leadership Award at the event. **Member** Bethel AME Church was recognized for their efforts to provide food for those in need.

**Member** PACE hosted successful panel discussions on "Resource De-

velopment in Challenging Times," & "Transformational Leadership for Organizations"; member Elise Yanders & Presidential Roundtable member Aaron Walton served as guest speakers. **Associate Member** Hill House Association announced the renovation & expansion of facilities & the renaming of their auditorium from Hill House Kaufmann Center to Elsie H. Hillman Auditorium at Kaufmann Center. **Member** NEED celebrated their 45th Anniversary.

**In the Pittsburgh Business Times:**

**Eight** Members were included in the List of the 50 Largest Pittsburgh-Area Financial Institutions: #1 PNC Bank; #2 National City Bank; #3 The Bank of New York Mellon; #4 Citizens Bank; #5 Dollar Bank; #6 First Commonwealth Bank; #7 Huntington National Bank; #26 Fifth Third Bank.

**Associate Member** Valerie Wheatley, CFO of YWCA of Greater Pittsburgh, was the named the top CFO & the subject of a feature article.

**Welcome New Members:**

**Supporting Member**

**Janice Donatelli**  
Artemis Environmental

**Presidential Roundtable Member**

**David Allen**  
Allstate Insurance

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