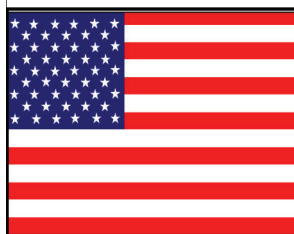


Dates for your Calendar

- ♦ February 10th
Mentoring
Workshop
- ♦ February 18th
PowerBreakfast
- ♦ February 22nd
Business Plan
Workshop
- ♦ February 26th
Ice Skating Party
- ♦ 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 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

(412) 392-0610

FAX: (412) 392-0612

Email: information@aaccwp.com Website: www.aaccwp.com

DORIS CARSON WILLIAMS, PRESIDENT AND CEO

February 2011

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

February is National Black History Month

Thanks to Corporate Sponsor Randall Dearth/LANXESS for a very concise & candid PowerBreakfast presentation.

Members truly appreciated our new Supporting Members Pete Dailey & Ty Gourley/Renewable Manufacturing Gateway for hosting a great networking mixer.

New & existing members took advantage of our Members Orientation that reviewed the Chamber history, how it operates, & how to access opportunities to advance your business.

SCORE Workshop

Thursday, February 10th

11:30 AM – 2:00 PM

Regional Enterprise Tower

425 Sixth Avenue

23rd Fl., Fetterolf Room

Join SCORE's Chairman Stephen Cohen, & his team on their offer to be Mentors. RSVP.

PowerBreakfast Meeting

February 18th - 7:30 AM

Rivers Club

Kathryn Z. Klaber

President and Executive

Director

Marcellus Shale Coalition

Join us as we learn more about Marcellus Shale, & possible procurement opportunities for your firm.

Developing a Winning

Business Plan

February 22nd

11:30 AM - 1:30 PM

Regional Enterprise

Tower - 23rd Floor

Fetterolf Room

This Business Institute Workshop will acquaint you with the vital components of a well written plan. Our guest instructor will be Raymond Vargo, Director, University of Pittsburgh's Small Business Development Ctr.

Annual

Ice Skating Party

February 26th

1 PM - 3 PM

PPG Ice Skating Rink

Come celebrate our 10th year for the Annual Ice Skating Party. Bring the whole family for two hours of fun; your first cup of hot chocolate is on the Chamber.

Diabetes:

The Silent Killer

March 10th

3- 4:30 PM

Manchester Bidwell

Corporation

You are invited to participate in this **free** workshop, the first in a series of quarterly sessions over the next 2 years, on the awareness, prevention & treatment/management options of this disease. The meetings will be held throughout the area. All diverse groups are welcome: Diabetes can impact all business owners & their healthcare cost.

PowerBreakfast Meeting

March 25th - 7:30 AM

(the 4th Friday)

Rivers Club

Dr. Linda Lane

Superintendent

Pittsburgh

Public Schools

Join us as we welcome Dr. Linda Lane, newly elected Superintendent of Pittsburgh Public Schools. Learn about her plans for our public schools, & changes we can expect. RSVP by 3/23.

Networking Mixer

March 28th

5 PM - 7 PM

Citizens Bank

525 William Penn Place

Join us as we are welcomed by Member Scott Brown & his team for a fun mixer at Citizen's Headquarters.

Annual Meeting-11:00

Luncheon-12:00Noon

Friday May 13th

Omni William Penn Hotel
Dr. Jared Cohon, President Carnegie Mellon University, will be the guest luncheon speaker. We will elect officers for the Chamber during our Annual Meeting & introduce our event sponsor, & why you should be supportive, Don't miss it!

Save the Date
June 23rd
The Pittsburgh
Symphony Orchestra
&
Boyz II Men

Your Chamber is once again a Community Partner for this special performance. Watch for details & how you can help support your Chamber by attending.

Members Events
WQED has a number of programs airing for Black History Month. Visit their website, www.wqed.org for details.

Black Angels
Over Tuskegee
February 27th & 28th
Bynum Theater
Sponsored by WQED, this is one show you don't want to miss. Call: 800-920-7584

SBA Federal
Contracting Workshop
March 30th
9 AM - 12 PM
700 River Ave., 1st Floor
Northside
MBE/WBE & Veteran-owned businesses are encouraged to attend: **free** to the public. Call 412-395-6560 ext. 109. to register.

Contractor & Supplier
Training
March 16th
West Virginia University

Purchasing, Contracts & Payment Services will hold a Contractor Training Seminar. Small contractors & suppliers are encouraged to attend.
No registration fee.
For location information call 1-304-293-0372.

Celebrate
Women's History Month
At Carlow University
Advocate Kemba Smith
Pradia
March 22nd 7 PM- 9 PM
Kresge Theatre
For more info, call Barbara Johnson @ 412-578-6021.

New Tax Credit
Your small business could qualify for a new tax credit: go to www.irs.gov.
Doing Business with
Allegheny County
Apply for certification, search commodity contracts, view open bids & proposals, or register as a new supplier. Go to: www.alleghenycounty.us/businesses.aspx.

Help For Women & Minority Businesses
Senator Bob Casey has introduced 2 new bills aimed @ helping women & minority owned firms. Go to <http://casey.senate.gov>; Click Press Releases.

SBA
New Loan Programs
The SBA is rolling out 2 new programs aimed at increasing the flow of credit to businesses in low income areas, as well as minorities & women. The programs feature a streamlined loan application process for loans up to \$250k thru the SBA's flagship 7(a)

program. The programs are expected to be up & running by March 15th. For information contact the SBA @ 412-395-6560.

New Location
Member James Cooper has a new location. Sterling Contracting LLC 3325 Saw Mill Run Blvd. Pittsburgh, PA 15227 412-881-6001 Phone 412-881-6009 Fax

Three Rivers Park
Three Rivers Park, number 6 in the city's network of regional parks, is a 13 mile interconnected loop of waterfront parks & water landings throughout Downtown Pittsburgh. The project is about 70% complete.

Congratulations
Member Robert Hill on his presentation of The Intractable Career of Jim Crow III @ the Center on Race Relations. Corporate Sponsor Dr. Alex Johnson/CCAC receiving \$3 million from R.K. Mellon Foundation, the largest single gift in the school's 45 year history; Member Melanie Harrington of Vibrant Pittsburgh on her interview with KQV News.

New Pittsburgh Courier
Members Deryck Tines/One Church featured in Lifestyles opening his new clothing store; Andrew Lee/ Executive Cigars featured in Business on plans for his business; Rhonda Carson Leach/ Savvy Consulting & Winifred Torbert @ the Delta's Red Carpet

Event. Corporate Sponsor Randall Dearth/LANXESS Corporation @ our PowerBreakfast Meeting. **Members** Melanie Harrington/Vibrant Pittsburgh, Winifred Torbert/UPMC, Chauncey Smith/Heinz, Jackie Dixon/Giant Eagle & State Representative Jake Wheatley @ Coro's MLK awards dinner.

Whirl Magazine
Corporate Sponsor/ Member Bill Strickland/ Manchester Bidwell featured in Corporate Whirl; Members Eric Mann/YMCA @ the Season of Giving Gala; Esther Bush/Urban League @ the Fairwell Tribute to Mark Roosevelt; & your Chamber President @ the Pittsburgh Heart Ball; & with Chamber Chairman Sam Stephenson/Parente Beard & Roundtable Chairman & Speaker Randall Dearth at the Chamber's Annual Business Luncheon.

Welcome New Members

Regular Members

Norman L. Chandler
Oaktree Financial

Cory McGhee
McGhee Moving & Logistics

Larry Smedley
Prudential Preferred Realty

Supporting Members

Steve Shivak
American Diabetes Association

Happy Valentine's Day