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New Members

Nina Caldwell
Katricea Charley
Jason Delfaye
Yolonda Dunnigan
Dennis Edwards
Raquel Henderson-Crowell
Raymond Hill
Paula Huggins
Nicole Miller
Edward Pruitt
Ronald Scott
Gail Sharpe
Brenda Simpson
Donald Taylor, Jr.
Rickie Thomas
Ericca Willis



Elite 8 Scholarship Golf Tournament Kickoff Event a Success

If you were looking to purchase a new car for a really good price, or were simply looking for something fun to do on Thursday night, then Behlmann Pontiac GMC was the place to be last Thursday. Approximately 115 people were in attendance at Behlmann Pontiac GMC (820 McDonnell Blvd.) as the St. Louis Chapter of the National Black MBA Association (NMBBAA-St. Louis) hosted its kick-off reception for the 8th Annual Scholarship Golf Tournament—dubbed “The Elite 8” in honor of eight legendary African-American golfers. Kick-off attendees included not only current NMBBAA-St. Louis members, but representatives from various organizations such as Professional Organization of Women (POW), the Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, the Urban League Young Professionals and Who’s Who in Black St. Louis.

In addition to Behlmann, Harrah’s Entertainment and GMAC served as sponsors, with Harrah’s setting up a “casino night” environment in which attendees played Blackjack. Many participants chose to hone their skills for the golf tournament by competing in the various golf competitions. In addition to the games, attendees enjoyed the music of the Ptah Williams Trio and the Cajun cuisine provided by Tim Keller, owner of Louisiana Café in O’Fallon, MO. Keller’s gumbo and “sassy shrimp” (batter-dipped) were especially popular. One lucky attendee, Jajuana Bingham, won an XM satellite radio package for her car, and numerous others won various attendance prizes. A couple of individuals not only had the opportunity to partake in the festivities, but they were able to drive off with new cars as well. Dan Behlmann stated that the event “exceeded his expectations”. Despite all of the fun and games had by all, attendees never lost sight of the evening’s purpose, to gear up for its annual benefit golf tournament later this year. *(continued on next page)*

A host of African-American legendary golfers will join NMBBAA-St. Louis at *The Elite 8* Scholarship Golf Tournament on Wednesday, Aug. 8 at Tapawingo National Golf Club in Sunset Hills. Lee Elder, the first black golfer to play in the Masters, will be accompanied by Charlie Owens, the inventor of the long putter, Black Golf Hall of Fame member Booker T. Ford, who played with the late President Gerald Ford and Bob Hope, Albert Crews, business mogul Donald Trump's *Big Break* finalist, and other local golf professionals.

The NMBBAA is a non-profit professional organization that provides support and access to college students pursuing advanced degrees and professionals with Masters Degrees, as well as entrepreneurs and individuals in mid-to-upper level management positions. Their mission is "to lead in the creation of intellectual and economic wealth in the African-American community."

The Scholarship Program is largely funded by programs and events of the St. Louis Chapter, including the Golf Tournament. Since its inception, the NMBBAA-St. Louis Chapter has given more than \$265,000 in scholarships to area high school, undergraduate, and graduate students from the St. Louis Metropolitan area.

"The tournament creates a platform for us to expose African-American youth and adults to the game and lifestyle of golf and educate them on how the golf course has become the new boardroom," said K. Kalimba Kindell, President of NMBBAA-St. Louis. Even if you missed out on the kick-off reception, you still have plenty of time to join NMBBAA-St. Louis on August 8 at Tapawingo. For more information on how individuals and corporations can become involved in the NMBBAA-St. Louis at *The Elite 8* Scholarship Golf Tournament on Wednesday, Aug. 8 at Tapawingo National Golf Club in Sunset Hills call (636) 230-2404.



St. Louis Chapter Members Participate in JA in a Day!

JA in a Day allows volunteers to present the full Junior Achievement curriculum in one day.



Relevance: Staying Current, Creative and Credible!

The 2007 National Black MBA Association 29th Annual Conference & Exposition, September 11 -16, in Orlando, responds to our member needs through access to front-edge learning opportunities, networking, social activities, new resources and fresh ideas.

The objectives of the 29th Annual NMBBAA Conference and Exposition are:

- To serve as a resource for diversity recruitment and hiring solutions
- To provide branding and imaging opportunities for our corporate partners
- To create an environment in which the corporate community is given direct access to the senior undergraduates and MBA students seeking entrance to the job market
- To further enhance the management skills and productivity of NMBBAA members through a series of focused panel presentations and workshops
- To provide a forum for prominent guest speakers
- Provide marketing and sales venue

**REGISTER FOR THE
CONFERENCE NOW**

*Registration started
April 1st!*



2007 Leadership Retreat

From March 16-18, the executive team joined President, K. Kalimba Kindell, along with several administrative team members of the St. Louis chapter, with their peers from throughout the country in Dallas, TX, for the NMBAA's Annual Chapter Leadership Retreat. Although the leadership retreat is normally restricted to the executive team, President K. Kalimba Kindell chose to open up this opportunity to administrative team members as well. This decision is consistent with her pledge to focus on professional development for all NMBAA-St Louis members.

The retreat was an opportunity for chapters throughout the country to hear from the National office and what it had in store for the organization as a whole. It was also an opportunity for the chapters to share their best practices with one another. For example, one of St. Louis' strengths is the fact that we are able to manage two career fairs in a given year, whereas other chapters have focused on only one fair per year.

Some topics that attendees were able to participate in were "membership strategies", "event management and program planning" and "intellectual property training". In addition to the various training topics, all attendees participated in a plenary session featuring inspirational speaker and former Disney executive Simon T. Bailey. Bailey is the author of "Releasing Your Leadership Brilliance", which he so generously provided autographed copies to those in attendance.

Those who attended the Chapter Leadership Retreat from the St Louis Chapter were the following: K. Kalimba Kindell, Anisha Morrell-Charles, Gail E. Holmes, Aminah Aziz-Bass, Tracy Blue, Paula Hughes, Tonya Ogden, Adrienne Thomas, Jacqui Vick, and Sam Gradford.



Our very own Sam Gradford, Immediate Past President and Parliamentarian, participated in Community Health-in-Partnership Services' (CHIPS) Seventh Annual 5 K/1 mile Run/Walk and Community Health Festival on Saturday, April 28, 2007. Sam beat out all other men in his age category for the gold medal in the 5K run. Congratulations, Sam!

Since 1990, CHIPS has been providing healthcare and social services to the uninsured. CHIPS is one of the many philanthropic organizations in which NMBAA - St. Louis members participate. If you would like to find out more about opportunities within the community, please contact Rhonda Johnson, Community Development Co-chair at ronjoh1@yahoo.com.



3rd Annual Spring Professional Mini Career Fair

Harris Stowe State University
Emerson Performance Center
3026 Laclède Avenue
St. Louis, MO
May 3, 2007

1:00 PM – 6:00 PM

Network With Hundreds of Experienced Minority Professionals
All Attendees Have College Degrees

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

www.stlbmbaa.org

May 3

3rd Annual Spring Professional Mini Career Fair

May 5

LOT/MBA Day at UMSL

June 2

CWAH Wellness Walk

June 30

Scholarship Application Deadline

