



"Lifting As We Climb"

The Cramer Account
National Association of Black Accountants, Inc.
Official Newsletter of the Metro-Washington, DC Chapter



"Lifting As We Climb"

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE...

Greetings,

On behalf of the National Association of Black Accountants, Inc. Metropolitan Washington, DC Chapter (NABA Metro DC), welcome back to all our members renewing their membership for the 2009 fiscal year. A special welcome to the new members joining our local chapter. Joining NABA is a first step to pursuing professional development; it is also a great place to increase your network, strengthen your personal development, and enhance leadership skills. We hope that you will find many opportunities to volunteer with different committees throughout the current fiscal year.

I am very excited to announce that we exceeded our membership goals in FY08 and I am looking forward to exceeding our membership goals again this year. The year has already gotten off to a great start! We started the year with our NABAQue in late July. Although rain storms came through, we still found a way to celebrate our unity with almost 80 members, friends and their family. The food was great, complimented with activities including arts and crafts for the children.



*Monica Brame, Chapter President
Metropolitan Washington, DC*

If you attended one of the three membership receptions which we hosted in Maryland, Virginia and DC, you already know we have a lot planned for this fiscal year, including our 30th Annual Evening with NABA scheduled for May 2009.

Thank you to our corporate partners for your continued support. We all know there are many economic challenges right now, but your contributions to the organization is a testament to your commitment and we sincerely appreciate it.

The NABA Metro DC Chapter is leading the way to great opportunities in the accounting and financial disciplines. We are building a great network to enhance your NABA experience and to ensure NABA continues to be the strong body it stands for today. Make plans to be a part of the excitement.

Monica Y. Brame
President
NABA Metropolitan Washington, DC Chapter

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CONTINUING PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION (CPE)

By: Nicole C. Brizan, CIA, CFE

Are you one of the many professionals that are short of CPE credits? Or maybe you are starting a new project and/or job and would like to brush up on a topic. With our often hectic schedules and constant struggles to maintain a work-life balance taking CPE courses are often inconvenient and costly. Below are four great options that are both economical and convenient to meet your CPE needs:

◆ **American Institute of Certified Public Accountants offers CPEExpress**

CPEExpress, is the AICPA's premium online learning solution. The award-winning library offers over 900 online courses and over 1200 hours of CPE. For additional information and to purchase CPE materials please visit: <http://www.cpa2biz.com/search/results.jsp?N=4294967148+4294964596>

◆ **Maryland Association of CPA's offers CPEExpress Select**

The AICPA has designed specific online interactive self-study training for MACPA members. For additional information and to purchase a subscription please visit: <http://www.macpa.org/public/products/ProductDetails.aspx?ProductID=PSAOL>

◆ **Virginia Society of Certified Public Accountants (VSCPA)**

Through partnerships with Smart Pros Ltd. the VSCPA offers a variety of self-study options designed to fit your budget and schedule. You'll also benefit from downloadable course materials, instantly graded exams and easy CPE credit tracking. For more information or to register for any Smart Pros subscription, please visit: <http://education.smartpros.com/main1/welcome.asp?qs=vscpa>

◆ **MIS Training Institute Online**

Misti-Online courses build on the expertise MIS Training Institute has gained in training over 200,000 delegates across five continents. Misti-Online makes it possible to bring expert training methods directly to your desktop when you can't go to the classroom. To register for a course and/or obtain additional information, please visit: <http://misti-online.com/index.learn?action=welcome>

RALPH GRANT INSTITUTE DC Convention

Presented by NABA's Division of Firms

This is a great opportunity to earn a series of CPE credits.

Date: November 24 - 26, 2008

Location: Four Points By Sheraton
1201 K Street, NW
Washington, DC 2005

You can find additional information on this professional education program at the NABA DOF website at www.nabadof.org

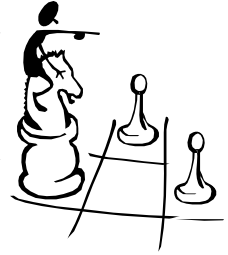
ANNOUNCEMENTS

Members on the Move

Please join us in congratulating these members on their recent accomplishments and other significant events.

Nicole Brizan – passed the CFE examination on her first attempt.

Andrea Smith – accepted a position as an Auditor with Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation in the Standard Termination & Compliance Department & Audit Branch.



Tennyle Walker, CPA - has been promoted to Manager in the Washington, DC office of KPMG, LLP.



Lakeecia and Tony Rogers - Congratulations on the birth of their baby (Taylor Iman Rogers), on July 11th. Weight: 7lbs 6 oz. Length: 20 inches. Both parents are Metro DC Chapter members.

The Cramer Account is the official Quarterly Newsletter of the NABA - Washington, DC Metro Chapter. The newsletter was dedicated on March 6, 1987 in memory of Dr. Joseph Cramer, Jr., distinguished accountant, administrator and scholar. Copyright June 1992 National Association of Black Accountants, Inc. Metro Washington, DC Chapter. All rights reserved.

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The 30th Annual Evening with NABA

"YOUR THEME GOES HERE"

We are in the planning stage for the 30th Annual EWNABA and are looking for ideas to generate a first class theme. Do you have ideas for a theme you would like to share? If so, please email us your idea at info@nabametrodc.org

NABA - MEMBERSHIP RECEPTIONS 2008

By: Patrice Wilson

The NABA Metro DC Chapter hosted three Membership Receptions during the late summer throughout the area. The first reception was on July 28, 2008 at Gallery Restaurant and Lounge in Silver Spring, MD. The second reception was on August 14, 2008 and was held at eCitie located in the Tyson's Corner area of Mclean, VA. The third and final reception was on August 28, 2008 at Lounge 201 in the Capitol Hill section of Washington, D.C.



Monica Brame, President of the Metro DC Chapter introduced the executive board at each of the receptions and

also talked about upcoming events and committees. Members were encouraged to get involved and volunteer with the Membership, Programming, Student Relations, Newsletter, and Corporate Membership committees. In addition, opportunities were presented to give back to the community by volunteering with D.C Income Tax Assistance Program and the Congressional Black Caucus.

The three membership receptions were also an excellent opportunity for old and new members to network in a social atmosphere. It was also an opportunity for members to talk "politics" since the reception at Lounge 201 occurred the same evening in which Barack Obama accepted the presidential nomination at the Democratic National Convention.

At Lounge 201 reception, the Membership Committee began selling NABA t-shirts. T-Shirts will continue to be available at events throughout the fall. To order your shirt or to learn more about getting involved in the Metro D.C Chapter please e-mail us at info@nabametrodc.org.



MEET THE BOARD

By: Tanya Davis

We are pleased to welcome five new faces to the local Executive Board. We are also pleased to welcome Rodney Green on board as our new website Administrator. Take a few minutes to learn more about the new leaders in our Chapter.

Membership Co-Chair, A. Michelle Nicholson has been a NABA member for five years and has contributed her services to the EWNABA program book as well as to other committees. She graduated from University of Maryland with a B.A. in Accounting. Currently, Michelle is a Finance Manager at Marriott International, Bethesda, MD.

Membership Co-Chair, Kristina Bacon has been a member of NABA since 2003. She graduated from Virginia Tech in 2001 and is currently working as a Senior Associate at SC&H Group in Mclean, VA.

Programming Director, Patrice Wilson, CIA, CFE, CAMS has been a member of NABA since 2007 and quickly became an active volunteer for the NABA Metro DC Chapter. Patrice is currently a Risk and Controls Director for the Investments and Capital Markets accounting division at Freddie Mac. She graduated from the University of Virginia with a B.S. in Finance and Marketing.

Student Membership Services Co-Chair, Brandon Feagin is an Accountant and Financial Planning & Analysis Analyst at BAE Systems. Brandon graduated from Norfolk State University with a B.S. in Accounting in December 2007. He has been a member of NABA since 2006.

Finance Director, Leroy Haynes is an Operational Risk Management Director at Freddie Mac where he currently leads the End User Program Office. Leroy has been a member of NABA since 2003. Leroy earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Finance/Economics from Towson University.

Website Administrator, Rodney Green, CPA, CIA, CISSP, CISA, is the President of Certeza IT Consulting, an information technology audit and security consulting firm. He holds a Bachelor's Degree in Accounting as well as a MBA.

Renew your Membership NOW!

Don't forget to renew your FY09 membership dues!

You can renew your membership online at www.nabametrodc.org

DO YOU HAVE YOUR ELEVATOR SPEECH READY?

By Victoria Richardson, CPA, MST

I attended the NABA meeting in September hosted at Marriott International office in Bethesda, MD. I found the topic to be very enlightening and useful. I've heard of the phrase "elevator speech" numerous times, however, never really thought that I would need one until after the meeting concluded.

But by the end of the meeting, I knew the phrase "elevator speech" was a task at most. The question becomes, how do you market yourself in a succinct manner – with very few words and time?

What exactly is an "elevator speech"? According to Wikipedia, an elevator speech is an overview of an idea for a product, service, or project. The name reflects the fact that an elevator pitch can be delivered in the time span of an elevator ride (between 1-2 minutes and including no more than 250 words).

Why prepare an "elevator speech"? An elevator speech can be prepared for a job search or just for a simple networking opportunity. An elevator speech should be clear, concise, and committed to memory.

Where and when do I use this "elevator speech"? An elevator speech can be used, in an elevator, at a conference/convention, at the mall, during an interview, at the gym, at church or even on the Metro. It can be used almost anywhere – even on vacation – that's why it's imperative to identify your selling points. Don't miss out on your opportunity to grow!

To whom do I present my "elevator speech"? An elevator speech can be presented to anyone. The more you practice it, the more comfortable you get speaking about yourself.

How do I craft my elevator speech? In order to effectively develop an elevator speech, you need to know what your purpose is and your target audience.

I'm prepared to present my elevator speech in front of anyone. How about you?



This article has been shortened for publishing. For more information, please visit the entire article on the web at www.nabametrodc.org/news.

STUDENT MEMBER SERVICES

By: Andrea Smith

The Student Member Services (SMS) Committee would like to invite you to become involved with the student members of our organization. Starting a new career can sometimes be a challenge, but with the leadership and guidance of current professionals, students can gain the knowledge and skills necessary to begin a successful career in the Finance and Accounting discipline. The Metro DC Chapter has oversight responsibility for student chapters at Howard University, University of Maryland College Park, University of the District of Columbia, Bowie State University. In addition, we are currently in the process of starting a new chapter at George Mason University.

Volunteers are needed to assist with Student Conferences, campus workshops, student chapter meetings, fundraising, helping the student chapters maintain their quarterly compliance, and

Selecting the recipients for the year-end scholarship program.

On September 20, 2008, the SMS Committee kicked off the year by hosting their annual Pre-Eastern Region Student Conference Workshop to prepare the Metro DC student chapter members for the Eastern Region Student Conference (ERSC) held in Norfolk, VA on October 2-5, 2008. Ninety (90) students were in attendance. The workshop was a great way to build the students momentum and excitement for the ERSC. The SMS Committee would like to extend a special THANK YOU to all of the professional members that attended and assisted with the workshop!

Members interested in volunteering are asked to email the Co-Directors at studentservices@nabametrodc.org.

Upcoming Chapter Events

Date	Time	Event	Location
October 15, 2008	6:30 – 8:30 pm	Joint Meeting with ALPFA "How is Your Career P.I.E.?"	Freddie Mac McLean, VA
November 12, 2008	6:30 – 8:00 pm	General Body Meeting "International Financial Reporting Standards"	KPMG, LLP Washington, DC
November 22, 2008	Various	Project Giveback Community Service Outreach	Bell Multicultural High School 3101 16th St. NW Washington, DC
December 2008	7:30– 11:30 pm	Holiday Event	TBD Washington, DC