

December 2006 Issue

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Board of Directors

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Scholarship Luncheon

Thursday, May 10, 2007

Noon

Renaissance Grand Hotel Downtown

This fiscal year's scholarship luncheon promises to be a spectacular event. Our speaker will be Kimberly Griffin-Hunter, past NABA National President and partner with the Miami office of Deloitte.

Michelle Simmons, Immediate Past Chapter President and Central Region Treasurer is the chair of this year's luncheon and is looking for committee people to assist her with this task. A combination of experienced hands and new ideas and enthusiasm is needed to make this event a success.

Please email Michelle at msimmons@naba-stl.org if you are interested in serving on this committee.

SAVE THE DATE !!!



Upcoming Events

VITA Tax Workshop (9 am – 1 pm)
Comprehensive Health Center
5471 Martin Luther King Drive
Feb. 3 – Apr. 7 (Saturdays only)

Scholarship Luncheon
May 10, 2007 (Thurs.)
Renaissance Grand Hotel - Downtown
Crystal Ballroom

36th Annual Nat'l Convention & EXPO
June 19 – 23, 2007
Downtown Marriott - Philadelphia, PA

NOVEMBER MEETING CANCELED

Due to severe weather, our November Chapter Meeting on *Taxes – What's New for 2007* was canceled.

We will definitely be looking to reschedule this meeting soon. We apologize for any inconvenience this may have caused and will communicate the rescheduled date soon.

Monthly Meeting:

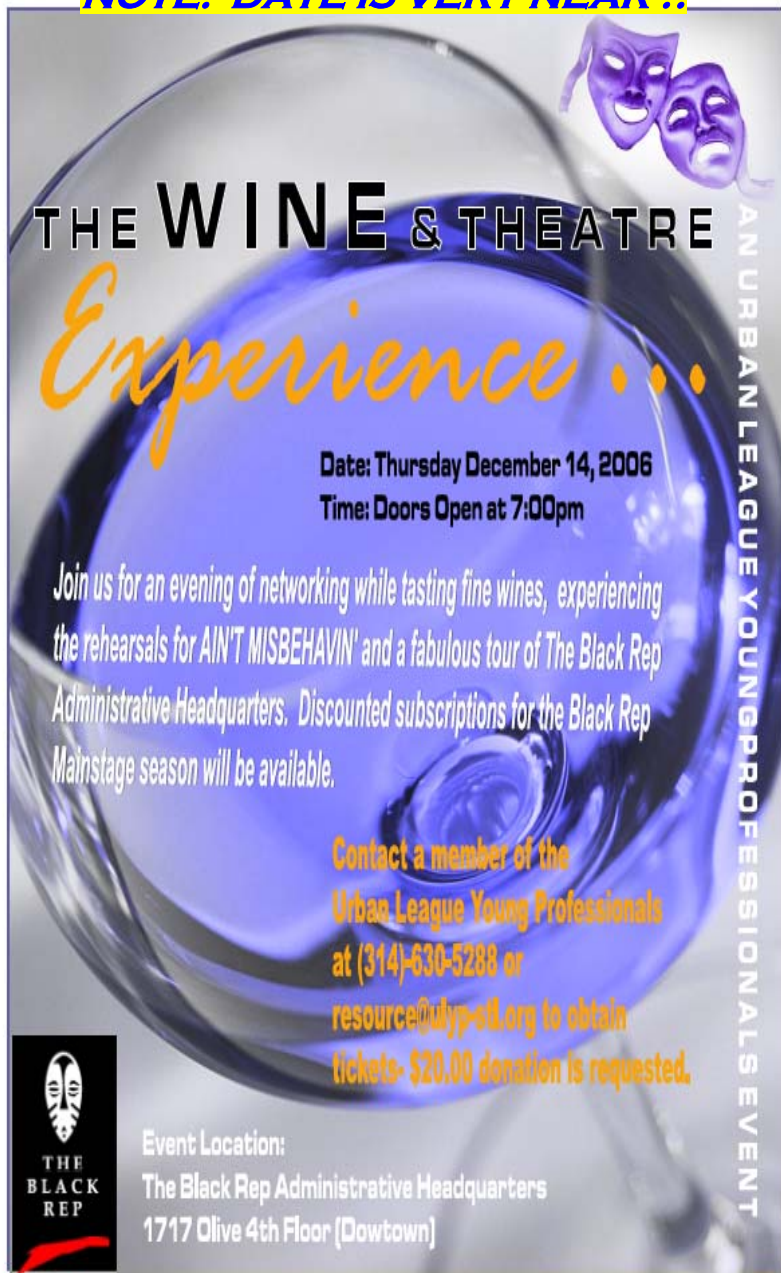
No meeting held in December. Happy Holidays !!!

Our monthly meetings are held the last Thursday of every month, excluding December, April, June and July. We offer presentations and discussions on topics applicable to the accounting, finance and business industries.

Meetings are an excellent way to earn CPEs, stay current on developments in the industry, and to network with other professionals, and corporate and community partners.

Won't you join us?

NOTE: DATE IS VERY NEAR !!



THE WINE & THEATRE
Experience ...


Date: Thursday December 14, 2006
Time: Doors Open at 7:00pm

Join us for an evening of networking while tasting fine wines, experiencing the rehearsals for AIN'T MISBEHAVIN' and a fabulous tour of The Black Rep Administrative Headquarters. Discounted subscriptions for the Black Rep Mainstage season will be available.

Contact a member of the Urban League Young Professionals at (314)-630-5288 or resource@ulyp-stl.org to obtain tickets- \$20.00 donation is requested.

Event Location:
The Black Rep Administrative Headquarters
1717 Olive 4th Floor (Downtown)

AN URBAN LEAGUE YOUNG PROFESSIONALS EVENT



THE BLACK REP

**Herbert Hoover Boys and Girls Club's
“ All That Jazz “**

On Saturday, November 11, 2006 Herbert Hoover Boys and Girls Club held its "All That Jazz" 2006 Gala at the Ritz Carlton, St. Louis.

Guests enjoyed a cocktail reception while viewing and bidding on all the wonderful silent auction items. At 7:00 pm, a lovely dinner in the ballroom all decked out in Cardinal Red began. The theme for this year's gala reflected "Take Me Out To The Ball Game." Special guest for the evening was Fredbird! After dinner, the program continued with a rowdy oral auction that offered guests many special packages to purchase, followed by dancing to Honeyvox.

Designed to bring new friends and funds to the Club, All That Jazz was introduced in 1994. Proceeds for All That Jazz are designated to Educational and Cultural Programs and the Club. Since its inception, over \$1 million has been raised through All That Jazz. For at least the past 7 years, NABA, Inc.—St. Louis has partnered with Herbert Hoover to provide cashing services for this fundraising event.

The Mission of Herbert Hoover Boys and Girls Club comprises to inspire and enable youth ages 6 to 18 to realize their full potential as productive, responsible and caring citizens. HHB&GC represents a chartered member of Boys & Girls clubs of America, the nation's oldest and largest organization with a primary mission of service to young people from disadvantaged circumstances. And it has become the fastest-growing youth agency in America today. Richard Amberg, then publisher of the St. Louis Globe Democrat, founded HHB&GC in 1966 as a 501(C3) organization. A 49-member Board of Directors governs HHB&GC.

The Board of Directors and standing Committee are responsible for setting policy and direction for the organization. The responsibility for converting those policies in to action lies with the HHB&GC staff. In addition to their day-to-day responsibilities, some staff members serve as resources to the Board of Directors and the standing committees. To augment staff, HHB&GC relies on consultants, contractors and adult volunteers.

For more information about Herbert Hoover Boys and Girls Club, please call Stephanie Garvey, Special Events Coordinator, at 652-8300, ext. 131. or visit the website at www.hhbhc.org.

Heating Assistance Resource

- Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) is a federally funded program to help low income individuals pay their heating bills during the time period of Nov. 1, 2006 – Mar. 31, 2007. Grants are based on household income and the number of people in the household and are paid directly to the utility company.
- A disconnect notice from the utility company is not required when applying for this program.
 - St. Louis & Wellston residents – Contact Human Development Corporation (HDC) at 314-535-7607
 - St. Louis County residents (excluding Wellston) - Contact Community Action Agency of St. Louis County, Inc. at 314-863-0015
 - St. Charles County residents – Contact North East Community Action Corporation (NECAC) at 636-272-3477
 - Jefferson County residents – Contact Jefferson/Franklin Community Action Corporation at 636-789-2686



Steven Harris, Michelle Simmons, Danielle McPherson at the “All That Jazz” event for Herbert Hoovers Boys and Girls Club.



MEMBER
SPOTLIGHT

Ashley Jackson

Ashley Jackson is the current President of the St. Louis Metro Student Chapter of NABA. Having only been a part of the organization for a year when it came time for officer elections, she was excited to become a leader in the organization and give back as much as she received and more from being a member.

Her vision for the student chapter is to make it a "go-to" organization for all minority students dedicated to succeeding in business, but particularly those interested in accounting and finance. She wants students to see our organization as a support system that provides an abundance of resources, connections, and wisdom, particularly through the relationship with the professional chapter. One of her primary goals is to increase chapter membership. However, it is important to her that current and potential members realize the importance of NABA's motto "Lifting as we climb".

The tremendous benefits that students gain from being members mean nothing, if they do not contribute back to this organization on a local, regional, or national level. The success cannot stop with you; it is all about giving back and helping those that are coming behind you. Some of her other goals for the chapter include: establish effective transition plans, increase community service activities, develop working relationships with other Black pre-professional organizations, and increase corporate involvement with the student chapter.

Ashley is in her third year at Washington University where she is pursuing a Bachelors Degree in Business Administration in conjunction with a Masters of Science in Accountancy. She plans to graduate in May 2008 and sit for the CPA exam. Currently she is employed at Centene Corporation where she is an Accounting Intern.

From being a member of NABA, Ashley has had the opportunity to gain valuable work experience. This past summer, she did internship with Deloitte in Chicago. She was given the opportunity to work on a variety of clients including an airline company, a private university, and a mutual fund company. She completed numerous control tests in payroll, fixed assets, treasury, and many other specialized areas. Although she enjoyed her experiences at Deloitte, Ashley has decided to join General Mills in the summer of 2007 for a Financial Analyst Internship. She hopes to leverage the two internships and determine which area of accounting is the best fit.

In her free time, Ashley enjoys community service and spending time with friends and family.

Committee Chairs

Career Planning & Placement

Cheryl McNeil
cmcneil@naba-stl.org

Community Affairs

Peter Aje
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Corporate Involvement

OPEN
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Nominating

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Professional & Technical

Brittani Lee
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Fundraising

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Scholarship Luncheon

Michelle Simmons
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"Lifting As We Climb"

PLEASE
REMEMBER
OUR
MOTTO
AND
VOLUNTEER

NABA
"Lifting As We Climb"



IRS Announces 2007 Standard Mileage Rates

The Internal Revenue Service today issued the 2007 optional standard mileage rates used to calculate the deductible costs of operating an automobile for business, charitable, medical or moving purposes.

Beginning Jan. 1, 2007, the standard mileage rates for the use of a car (including vans, pickups or panel trucks) will be:

- 48.5 cents per mile for business miles driven;
- 20 cents per mile driven for medical or moving purposes; and
- 14 cents per mile driven in service to a charitable organization.

The new rate for business miles compares to 44.5 cents per mile for 2006. The new rate for medical/moving purposes compares to 18 cents in 2006.

IRS Announces Online Payment Agreement Application

Many individuals who owe delinquent federal income taxes will now be able to apply online for a payment agreement, the IRS announced today.

The Online Payment Agreement (OPA) application, now available on IRS.gov, provides an easy way to voluntarily resolve tax liabilities.

Paying taxes on time and in full avoids unnecessary penalties and interest. However, taxpayers who cannot pay in full may request a payment agreement.

This new Web-based application allows eligible taxpayers or their authorized representatives to self-qualify, apply for, and receive immediate notification of approval.

Taxpayers must have filed all required tax returns in order to use the online application. They should also have the following information available:

- Balance due notice from the IRS.
- Social Security number or Individual Taxpayer Identification Number.
- Personal identification number, which can be established online using the caller identification number from the balance due notice.

Three payment options are available online:

- Pay in full. Taxpayers who pay within 10 days save interest and penalties.
- Short-term extension. Receive a short-term extension of up to 120 days. No fee is charged, but additional penalties and interest will accrue.
- Monthly payment plan. A \$43 user fee will be added to amount owed, and interest / penalty will continue to accrue on the unpaid balance.

To access application, go to IRS.gov, and use pulldown menu under "I need to..." and select "Set Up Payment Plan." Applications available Mon-Fri (6 am - 12:30 am), Sat. (6 am - 10 pm) and Sun. (4 pm to midnight) *All Eastern time

Courtesy of IRS Newswire



CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

Corporate Partner Edward Jones has the following openings:

Manager, Regulatory & Operational - CPA preferred with five years combination Public & Industry experience. Responsible for leading a team for the US Operational Reporting functions, including trade revenue and inventory analysis and reporting as part of the month end financial statement closing process. Responsible for participating in special projects which impact operational and/or regulatory reporting as necessary.

Senior Accountant (various) - 1st Position: BA in accounting with 5 years payroll experience. Responsibilities include keeping informed of recent changes to regulations, projects, & assisting in development of overall payroll procedures. 2nd Position: CPA strongly preferred. Responsible for monthly process of recording, controlling, analyzing & reporting on the firms results of operations and financial condition. Reconciling and reviewing account activity for proper reporting and analytical financial trends & issues for both domestic & international operations

Senior Auditor - CPA/CIA strongly preferred with two or more years public accounting experience with Sarbanes-Oxley compliance and/or business risk assessment in a regulated environment preferred.

For detailed information on these or other positions please go to www.edwardjones.com or contact Cheryl McNeil.

The following positions are available with other Companies:

Controller - CPA a plus with three to five years combination Public & Industry experience. Responsible for day to day management of area. Ability to review audit and tax work with a budgeting background. Local. Salary \$80K.

Senior Accountant- BA in accounting. 2 – 4 years experience. CPA a plus. Responsibilities include Monthly balance sheet and income statement consolidations. Local; Salary N/A

Tax Senior (2 positions) - BA in accounting with CPA. 2 - 4 years experience. Completion of Tax returns for high net worth clients of a Financial Planning firm. Assisting clients with tax planning needs. Local; Salary N/A

Staff Auditor - CPA/CIA or other certification preferred with one or more years experience with Sarbanes-Oxley compliance and/or business risk assessment in a regulated environment preferred. Local; Salary N/A

Financial Specialist (2 positions) – CPA, MBA preferred. Perform variance analysis; Instruct management on proper application of accounting and budgeting rules or procedures; act as liaison regarding testing and implementation of accounting systems; complete Performance Management packages on a quarterly basis for Ameren's business lines. Local; Salary N/A

Staff Accountant – BA in Accounting with 2 years experience. The Accounting Assistant is primarily responsible for the accuracy and timely processing of material supplier payments; the tracking, monitoring and subsequent reporting of manufacturing cost variances; and the preparation of numerous account reconciliations or control schedules. Local; Salary N/A year and actual-to-budget comparisons. Local; Salary low 50's.

N/A – Not Available

Note: The above is just a sample of Career Opportunities available to NABA members. For further information on above or similar positions or to place your resume on file for future positions, contact C. McNeil at cheryl.mcneil@edwardjones.com

Membership Committee News

Pictures Needed

Wanted, pictures that you may have of NABA events they can be from any year or event. We do ask that you provide a little information about your pictures for the caption.

The membership committee is in the process of creating a photo album with events and activities that took place in our chapter. We want to show potential members and sponsors the different diversity of events. If you have any pictures please sent them to Sam Jones @ P.O. Box 2184 Florissant, Missouri 63032. Thank you for your help on this project.

MEMBERSHIP RECRUITMENT EFFORTS

The membership committee is working hard to recruit new members, as well as, remind last year's members to renew for this year. A membership packet has been e-mailed to past and potential members, as well, as letters have been mailed with an application for renewal to last year's members.

We would like to invite you to pay your membership dues early in order to take full advantage of NABA's benefits. Also, if you would like a copy of our recruitment packet, it can be downloaded off the homepage of our website at www.naba-stl.org (Membership Information).

Kristi Walls, Membership Chair
National Association of Black Accountants, Inc.
St. Louis Metropolitan Chapter
P.O. Box 2184
Florissant, MO 63032



HERE ARE MORE BENEFITS WITH MEMBERSHIP !!!

- Volunteer opportunities, including VITA – Volunteer Income Tax Preparation for low to moderate income tax payers.
- Encourage and assist minority students in entering the accounting profession
- Access to a national Online Career Center (OCC)
- Spectrum Magazine – annual publication includes technology updates, conferences and events, and updates relative to industry standards