



# Sistahs' Business Network Newsletter

October/November 2006

Volume 1, Number 3

## A Message From The President

### UPCOMING SBN EVENTS

#### **SBN NOVEMBER MEETING “ A Season of Thankfulness”**

**Tuesday, November 28, 2006  
Linden Hall  
4765 Dorsey Hall Drive  
Ellicott City, MD 21042  
6pm to 8pm**

**Join us for a wonderful  
presentation on strategic  
business planning by  
Ms. Octavia Caldwell of  
ROC Consultants.**

**Pre-register and get in for half  
off our regular admission of  
\$35 as our way of saying  
“thank you” for supporting us  
in our inaugural year!!**

**Also included:  
SBN Member Holiday Market  
–come vend and buy**

**SBN MEMBERS ONLY  
CHRISTMAS PARTY!!  
Tuesday, December 26, 2006  
6pm to 9pm**

**Location: Home of Sistah  
Shannon Taitt  
(Columbia, MD)**

### **‘De Net Done Broke’**

Luke 5:4-6 (NIV)

*“Put out into deep water, and let down the nets for a catch.” Simon answered, ‘Master we’ve worked hard all night and haven’t caught anything. But because you say so, I’ll let down the nets. When they had done so, they caught such a large number of fish that their nets begin to break.’*

In this life with so many commitments competing for your time, money and energy, it is easy to feel like there is never enough. However, over and over again the bible reminds us that there is only one path to abundance. It is called **obedience**. Just ask the widow about her oil (II Kings 4:1-7); Ruth about Boaz (Ruth 2:11-12); and the people of Tyrus (Ezekiel 27 and 28) about the importance of obedience.

This has been an abundantly blessed year for Sistahs’ Business Network. What started out as a conversation among a few women has blossomed into a non profit organization with over 20 members, a successful Conference and Retreat, and a citation from the Governor’s Office! De net done broke! God is Good!

Now we need to be like Simon. The SBN board recognizes that we have a responsibility to care for the abundance that has been given to us. And God directs us to remember that natural abundance is just a prelude for spiritual abundance. Simon had to leave dem nets to follow Christ!(Luke 5:10-11) We thank God for this reminder and ask for an opportunity to serve Him better.

As you enter this season of thanksgiving and harvest, keep SBN in your prayers. Ask the Lord how we can be more obedient over what we have been given and what is next for us as Sisters in Christ.

In Him,  
Nellie PM

**Cost: A covered dish and one business goal for 2007.**

**RSVP Absolutely Required by December 15, 2006.  
Call (410) 300-7343 to RSVP and for more details.**

**CONTACT SBN**

Phone: 410-300-7343

Address:

P.O. Box 1592

Columbia MD 21044

[www.sistahsbusinessnetwork.com](http://www.sistahsbusinessnetwork.com)

[info@sistahsbusinessnetwork.com](mailto:info@sistahsbusinessnetwork.com)

## September/October SBN Meeting Summaries

### September – African American Business Women’s Conference and Retreat

Wow! Where do we begin? Thanks to God and all of you, Sistahs’ Business Network’s first African American Business Women’s Conference and Retreat was a huge success! On Saturday, September 30, 2006 over 35 attendees gathered at Linden Hall in Ellicott City for a day of inspiration and information.

Pastor Deborah Evans of Emmanuel Covenant Church opened our meeting as our spirit speaker. Next our keynote speaker, Special Secretary Sharon R. Pinder of the Governor’s Office of Minority Affairs, encouraged us and reminded us to be more aggressive in business. She also informed us of the wealth of state resources that are available to minority owned businesses. Secretary Pinder also presented SBN with a beautiful citation from the Governor’s Office!!

Our body speaker, Dr. Marion Smith-Waison, blessed us with a reminder that the reason why we must take care of our bodies is that it is the temple where the holy spirit resides. Then, our own Sistah Patricia Austin of Spa Escape treated conference attendees to a “mini-spa” in our seats with hand and shoulder massages. Sistah Patricia reminded us that we are “too blessed to be stressed.”

Next, we had a wonderful buffet lunch and a fashion show featuring custom designs by seamstress Cheryl Land and ready wear by Nesa Chappelle-Coombs of Champagne and Peaches, LLC.

The Conference and Retreat afternoon also included marketing tips on how to make contacts, not just clients, from Ms. Brenda Peyton of Divas on The Go, and advice on different types of business financing from Mr. Michael Mobley, Executive Director of the Jim Rouse Entrepreneurial Fund.

SBN also wishes to extend a big thank you to Ms Hazel Rayford, President of the Columbia Chapter of the National Association of Negro Business and Professional Women for their generous co-sponsorship.

Thank you too to all of our vendors:

- Ms. Alexis Brooks – Mia Bella Candles ([www.candlebiz.net](http://www.candlebiz.net))
- Ms. Debbie Cathorne – Warm Spirit ([debbiecarthorn@msn.com](mailto:debbiecarthorn@msn.com))
- Ms. Chappelle-Coombs – Champagne and Peaches ([champeaches@aol.com](mailto:champeaches@aol.com))
- Ms. Bonny Davis - Ameriprise Financial ([bonny.x.davis@ampf.com](mailto:bonny.x.davis@ampf.com))
- Ms. Julie Williamson – A Good Book ([www.agoodbook.biz](http://www.agoodbook.biz))

Please remember to support our vendors by shopping with them for the holidays!!

[If you missed the Conference and Retreat, or just want to relive it all over again, thanks to SBN Photographer Venetia Boyd you can view pictures and purchase a CD of the event.](#) Visit V’s website at [www.veebphotos.net](http://www.veebphotos.net) to see an absolutely beautiful rendering of a wonderful day!!

## SISTAHS' BUSINESS NETWORK BOARD OF ADVISORS

Nellie Pharr-Maletta

President

AM-N-PM Computer Services,  
Inc.

mspm@am-n-  
pmcomputers.com

Brenda Graham

Vice President

Ideal Health

brendagraham@comcast.net

Shannon Taitt

Grant Writer

Connect The Dots Locator  
Service

staitt@comcast.net

Ms. Monica Hilliard

Chaplain

Bantu Flair

monicahilliard@bantuflair.com

### October Meeting Summary

"A Salute to Brothers in Business"

What do you get when you cross a new non-profit women's organization with a room full of handsome men? A blessed time!!

SBN's Salute to African American Business Men was a harvest of blessings. Reverend Patrick Grant, Minister to Men at Shiloh AME Church, was the spirit speaker for the evening. Reverend Grant reminded the brothers of their God given roles as priests, providers and protectors of our homes. Minister Grant's credentials include over 42 years of marriage, and remembering the little things that make his wife happy! He and his wife co-teach a marriage ministry course.

Our mind speaker was the wonderful Andrew Maletta, Programming Manager, of AM-N-PM Computer Services. Mr. Maletta reminded us of the importance of protecting our computer systems against viruses, power surges, and identity theft with simple, low cost deterrents like anti-viruses that update daily (AVG and Zone Alarm), UPS (Uninterrupted Power Supply) devices, and firewalls.

Finally, SBN Vice President Brenda Graham had to "pinch hit" as our body speaker. Sistah Brenda, the owner of a multi-level health marketing company, is always ready with good advice for men and women on how to maintain optimal health.

Thank you also to Mr. Michael Burgess of 66 Apparel who attended and displayed his wonderful Christian artwork on children and teen apparel.

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## November 2006 Networking Events



Fall is a great time to reflect upon the abundance of our blessings from God. In John 4: 35 Jesus reminds us that there is plenty of work to be done to advance his kingdom.

What can you do this month to assure a "harvest" in your spiritual, business, and personal life?

***Sunday, November 12, 2006***

### **Bridal Luncheon & Workshop**

Sponsored by Beginning Two End DOTG's resident event planner. Contact Sevela Brantley at 301-672-2892 or info@beginningtwoend.com for more information.

***Monday, November 13, 2006 5:30pm to 8:30pm***

### **Columbia Chapter of the American Business Women's Association Monthly Dinner Meeting**

**Location: Sheraton in Columbia, MD**

Second Monday of each Month. Meeting Fee: \$25

Call 443-756-5467 or visit [www.abwa-columbia.com](http://www.abwa-columbia.com) for more information.

## SBN MEMBERSHIP

(As of November 1, 2006)

### Gold Members

#### AM-N-PM Computer Services, Inc.

Nellie Pharr-Maletta  
301-596-7431 am-n-pm@am-n-pmcomputers.com

#### Bantu Flair

Monica Hilliard  
301-509-9447  
monicahilliard@bantuflair.com

#### Connect The Dots—Locator Service And Silpada Jewelry

Shannon Taitt  
202-345-0154  
staitt@comcast.net

#### Ideal Health

Ms. Brenda Graham  
888-992-3890  
brendagraham@comcast.net

#### Photos by Arnee

Arnee Simmons  
301-748-6256  
photos@byarnee.com

#### Your Wedding Your Way

Felecia Pharr Johnson  
301-203-4419

*Monday, November 13, 2006 from 5:30pm to 7pm*

#### Monthly Meeting of the Maryland Association of Women Executives

Contact Donna Fellows for more information at  
mdwomenexecutives@yahoo.com.

*Tuesday, November 14, 2006 10am to 12pm*

#### Mom's Inc

**Location: Linden Linthicum Church, Clarksville MD**

The monthly meeting of the networking and support group designed for women with home-based businesses. Meets the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of each month. For more information, contact Nancy Daniels 301-854-2369 at or visit [www.momsinc.org](http://www.momsinc.org).

*Thursday, November 16, 2006 6pm to 8pm*

#### Networking at A Good Book Bookstore

**Location: 2101 Gwynn Oak Avenue Baltimore, MD 21207**

Network, meet local authors and other business professionals on the third Thursdays of each month. Receive a 10% discount on all bookstore purchases. Cost \$10.00. Contact Ms. Julie Williamson at 410-944-5565 or [agoodbook@juno.com](mailto:agoodbook@juno.com) to RSVP.

*Saturday, November 18, 2006 9:30am to 11:30am*

#### Women Walking in Wisdom Monthly Prayer Meeting

**Location: Odenton, Maryland**

Take time to be refreshed and empowered with WWW's devotional on the third Saturday of each month. A wonderful opportunity to connect with other Christian women. Contact Ms. Alegria Hassan at 410-674-2661 or [info@womeninwisdom.org](mailto:info@womeninwisdom.org) for more information.

*Saturday, November 25, 2006 5am until...*

#### A "NEW YORK STATE OF MIND" - Shopping Trip

Buses will depart at 5am from Glenridge Plaza Shopping Center near Giant Food and Chevy Chase Bank at East-West Hyway and Annapolis Road and from Francis Scott Key Mall at 6 am near the Sears parking lot. Arrive at 27th & Broadway, and Jamaica Avenue and the Acqueduct. Cost: \$40.00. Tickets must be purchased in advance. For more information call Dena at (301) 694-5515.

## Basic Members

Laquashia Anderson  
Visual Appeal

Mary Atwood  
Real Estate Management  
Services, LLC

Venetia Boyd  
Décor and You

Dina Jolley  
Warm Spirit

Julie Williamson  
A Good Book

## NEW SISTAH MEMBERS!!

The SBN African American Business Womens' Conference and Retreat brought us a "bumper crop" of new members! Join the SBN board in welcoming the following new Sistahs *and* a Brotha!

Welcome new member

Ms. Nesa Chappell-Coombs  
Champagne and Peaches LLC  
301-599-0316  
champeaches@aol.com

Welcome new member

Pastor Deborah Evans  
Victorious Living Now Ministries  
301-523-3149;  
deborah.evans@eccsaints.org

Welcome new member

Ms. Cheryl Land  
Seamstress  
410-238-7795  
cheryl1222@verizon.net

*Tuesday, November 28, 2006 6pm to 8pm*

## **Sistahs' Business Network's Monthly Meeting**

**Location: Linden Hall 4765 Dorsey Hall Drive, Ellicott City 21042**

Take time to reflect, give thanks and plan for next year. Join SBN for "A Season of Thankfulness" - with strategic planner Octavia Caldwell of ROC Consultants.

**As our way of saying thank you for supporting us in our first year, take half off the regular admission price of \$35 if you pre-pay for this event.**

Also included - Holiday Member Market: Each SBN member will have 12" to 18" of display space in our holiday "market." Come prepared to vend and to shop!

For more information, contact Nellie Pharr-Maletta at (410)300-7343 or info@sistahsbusinessnetwork.com.

*Thursday, November 30, 2006 12pm to 5pm*

## **A Good Book Holiday Expo**

**Location: Catonsville Community College**

For more information contact Ms. Julie Williamson at 410-944-5565 or agoodbook@juno.com to RSVP.

*Thursday, November 30, 2006 - VIP reception at 11am; Lunch at 12Noon*

## **Thirteenth Annual Women of Excellence Luncheon**

**Location: Hyatt Regency Baltimore, MD**

Featuring guest speaker, Madame Jahen Sadat, wife of the late Egyptian President, Anwar Sadat. Sponsorships and table purchases available. Call 410-783-8225 or go to [www.network2000md.org](http://www.network2000md.org) for more information.

Welcome new member

Ms. Kiristan Leftwich  
Orchid Business Concepts  
301-785-8984  
kiristanl@comcast.net

Welcome new member

Mr. Michael Mobley  
Executive Director  
Jim Rouse Entrepreneurial Fund  
410-313-6170; mmobley@jref.org

Welcome new member

Ms. Brenda Peyton  
Divas On The Go  
301-379-4128;  
brenda@divasonthego.net

Welcome new member

Special Secretary Sharon R. Pinder,  
(Honorary SBN Membership)  
Governor's Office of Minority  
Affairs  
410-767-8232;  
spinder@mdminoritybusiness.com

Welcome new member

Dr. Marion Smith-Wason, MD  
410-730-5959;  
smithwason@verizon.net

Welcome new member

Ms. Maxine Williams  
Williams Insurance Services  
443-253-5142  
insurance4uall@msn.com

## Upcoming Events

***Tuesday, December 26, 2006 6pm to 9pm***

***Sistahs' Business Network's MEMBERS ONLY Christmas Party!***

**Location: Home of Sistah Shannon Taitt (Columbia, MD)**

'Tis the season to celebrate and get to know each other better. Bring a covered dish and one business goal for 2007. **RSVP Absolutely Required by December 15, 2006.** Call (410) 300-7343 to RSVP and for more details.

***Tuesday, January 23, 2007 6pm to 8pm***

**Sistahs' Business Network's Monthly Meeting**

**Topic: New Year, New You!**

**Location: Linden Hall Ellicott City, MD**

Stop Procrastinating! It is time to follow your dream of starting and growing your own business. To register and for more information, please contact Nellie Pharr-Maletta at (410)300-7343 or info@sistahsbusinessnetwork.com.

***Saturday, January 27, 2007***

**Global Diversity's Success Tour**

**Location: Washington DC Renaissance Center**

SBN has been invited to speak at this wonderful promotional tour for minority businesses. Mr. Earl Graves of Black Enterprise Magazine is the keynote speaker.

Visit [http://www.mpbnetwork.com/tour\\_washingtondc\\_06.asp](http://www.mpbnetwork.com/tour_washingtondc_06.asp) for more information. Fee \$30.00