NSBE BIRMINGHAM PROFESSIONALS NEWS LETTER

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Initiatives: Michael Gordon
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ABOUT NSBE BIRMINGHAM

The National Society of Black Engineers (NSBE) Birmingham Professionals Chapter is a 501(c) (3) non-profit association dedicated to the academic and professional success of African American engineering and technical students and professionals.

Our mission is to increase the number of culturally responsible black engineers, who excel academically, succeed professionally and positively impact the community. NSBE-Birmingham fulfills the mission of NSBE by organizing, sponsoring, and attending an array of workshops, community activities, scholarship funding, mentoring, and networking events.

We facilitates the development of strong technical professionals and leaders, encourages minority students to eagerly seek out degrees in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics related fields, and empowers the community with the knowledge and foresight to strengthen the very foundation that enables our community as a whole to achieve greater heights.

CHAPTER OBJECTIVES:

- Stimulate and develop student interest in the various engineering disciplines.
- Encourage and advise minority youth in their pursuit of an engineering career.
- Strive to increase the number of students studying engineering at the undergraduate and graduate levels.
- Encourage members to seek advanced degrees in engineering or related fields and to obtain/maintain professional engineering registrations.
- Promote public awareness of engineering and the opportunities for blacks and other minorities in that profession.
- Function as a representative body on issues and developments that affect the careers of black engineers.

Visit us at www.nsbebham.org

Follow us on Twitter, LinkedIn, YouTube, and Facebook

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2014-2015 Executive Board

President

William Harden
- B. S. in Software Engineering from Auburn University
- System Administrator for Blue Cross Blue Shield

Vice-President

Christopher Whitfield
- B. S. in Electrical Engineering from Tuskegee University
- Sr. Engineer with Southern Nuclear Company

Communications Secretary

Cedrick Moore
- B. S. in Computer Science from Alabama State University
- Masters in Engineering from University of Alabama at Birmingham
- Quality Program Manager for Hewlett Packard

Treasurer

Kamisha Quates
- B. S. in Materials Engineering from University of Alabama at Birmingham
- M.B.A. from University of Alabama at Birmingham
- Principle Engineer with Southern Company

Parliamentarian

Paul Sims
- B. S. in Electrical Engineering from Auburn University
- M.B.A. from University of Alabama at Birmingham
- Project Manager with Southern Nuclear Company

Pre-College Initiatives Chair

Julian Grant
- B. S. in Civil Engineering from Alabama A&M University
- Distribution Engineer for Alabama Power Company

Pre-College Initiatives Co-Chair

Michael Gordon
- B.S. in Electrical Engineering from University of Alabama at Birmingham
- Masters in Engineering from University of Alabama at Birmingham
- Engineer Specialist for Honda of Alabama

Finance

Adrienne Newton
- B. S. in Chemical Engineering from Howard University
- M.B.A from University of Alabama at Birmingham
- Sr. Engineer with Southern Power

Membership/Programs

Deidra Garrett
- B. S. in Mechanical Engineering from University of Alabama at Birmingham
- Masters in Engineering from University of Alabama at Birmingham
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MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

Major and Cassandra Wheeler
NSBE Birmingham would like to send best wishes to Major and Cassandra Wheeler as they venture to the Peach State.

Cassandra is taking on the role of Plant Manager at Georgia Power’s Plant Hammond Steam Plant.

Major is moving into the role of Senior Engineer with Georgia Power’s Design I&C in downtown Atlanta.

We will miss them and their leadership.

FAST FACTS

1 in 6
Older Americans live below the poverty line, which is $22,350 for a family of four, according to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

35%
Of Americans say they don’t contribute to retirement accounts like a 401(k) or IRA, according to a 2009 CareerBuilder survey

MORE NSBE SITES

NSBE National
http://www.nsbe.org

NSBE Region 3

NSBE Montgomery
http://www.nsbe-mae.org

NSBE of North Alabama
http://www.nsbe-northalabamae.com

Thomas E. Hampton Book Scholarship

In 2015, NSBE Birmingham will begin issuing the Thomas Hampton Book Scholarship.

The $250.00 scholarship will be offered to High School seniors entering into a field of Engineering.

Funding for this award is made possible due to the continued support of Thomas Hampton for NSBE and the Birmingham community.

Thomas Hampton is a Financial Services Executive for MetLife and has assisted many NSBE members in the creation of financial strategies.

In Mr. Hampton’s words… “As a Financial Adviser, my goal is to help you make informed decisions about issues that affect your financial wellbeing so you can achieve financial freedom.”

Products and Services offered by Mr. Hampton’s MetLife Office include:

- Annuities
- Auto Insurance
- Disability Income Insurance
- Financial Planning
- Financial Planning for College
- Home Insurance
- Life Insurance
- Mutual Funds
- Planning Your Estate
- Term Life Insurance
- Universal Life Insurance
- Variable Universal Life Insurance
- Whole Life Insurance.

Thomas E. Hampton
Financial Services Executive
205 440 4625
thampton@metlife.com
3800 Colonnade Parkway, Suite 600, Birmingham, AL 35243.
Samford University will host a Minority Youth Science Academy July 6-9 to help prepare outstanding minority high school students who aspire to careers in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM).

The rising 10th-12th grade students will live on Samford’s campus as they participate in:

- experiments in biology and engineering/technology
- college application counseling
- study skills and test preparation
- social activities
- networking and mentoring
- Q&A with minority scientists and college science students

Chemistry professor and Samford Director of Diversity Denise Gregory said she and biology professor Drew Hataway created the program to help address a nationwide dearth of minorities in STEM fields. “From the creative and innovative experiences and hands on experiments planned, we hope to spark an interest in the participants that will lead them to strongly consider science education as a course of study which will lead to a career path in science,” Gregory said.

MYSA registration is $350, including tuition, room and all meals. A small number of need-based scholarships are available.

Information on scholarships can be obtained by contacting Denise Gregory at dgregor@samford.edu

Visit http://howard.samford.edu/mysa to learn more and register.
Company Focus:
A.G. Gaston Construction

The A.G. Gaston Construction Company, Inc. was founded in 1984 by 20th century visionary, Dr. Arthur George Gaston. Dr. Gaston founded the company at the request of the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and the Housing Authority of the Birmingham District (HABD) to participate in a pilot program. The goal of the program was to combine renovations of several Birmingham Alabama public housing properties with job training in the construction trades for the residents of those properties. Over the next 25+ years the Company grew from a small residential contractor to one of Central Alabama’s premier providers of construction and program management services.

Soon after becoming the sole shareholder of A.G. Gaston Construction in 2009, Walter Howlett decided that the Company’s two brand names: “A.G. Gaston” and “A.G. Gaston Construction” were important assets, He put together plans to: 1) to focus on the companies experience in providing quality construction management and program management services and 2) to license the brand name “A.G. Gaston” for use in business enterprises that did not compete with the Company’s core business.

During 2010, Mr. Howlett negotiated with Saber Construction, Inc., a Birmingham based firm that provided primarily civil engineering services and some construction management services; and Keith Design, a Birmingham architectural and design firm, to license the brand name “A.G. Gaston” to each of them for use in their respective businesses.

In 2012, A.G. Gaston Engineering, LLC (formerly Saber Construction, Inc.) was merged into A.G. Gaston Construction allowing the Company to increase the scope and depth of its engineering expertise, as well as add a new line of professional consulting services, water resources management planning and related project implementation.

NSBE is proud to watch Charles and A.G. Gaston Construction move forward to improve and renovate the landscape of the Birmingham. Currently the company is partnering with Brassfield and Gorrie in the completion of the nearly one-million-square-foot hospital on Highway 280 that will be known as Grandview Medical Center.

Expected to open in early 2016, Grandview Medical Center will be one of the most technologically advanced hospitals in the county and will serve residents of Birmingham, Ala., and the surrounding region. Among the many services that will be available to Grandview Medical Center patients are: general surgery; cardiology, cardiovascular and thoracic surgery; orthopedic care and joint replacement; gastroenterology and GI surgery; oncology; neurology; emergency services and trauma care; gynecology, obstetrics and beautifully appointed labor and delivery suites; neonatal intensive care; bariatric surgery; intensive care; sleep center; radiology; urology; pulmonology; otolaryngology; behavioral health; respiratory care and an advanced wound care center.

A.G. Gaston welcomed Charles Lewis as its CEO. Mr. Lewis is a former Executive Board member of NSBE Birmingham.

It is so important for career professionals to have a profile photo that distinguishes them as a top performer in their field.

NSBE Birmingham is providing its members with an opportunity to have professional portraits taken on July 27, 2014 between 1:30 and 3:30 pm at ALOFT Birmingham Hotel.

Cost to members and guest is $25.

Please email the Programs/Membership Chair at membership@nsbebham.org to make a reservation.

Appointments are on a first come first serve basis.

Photography provided by Quez Shipman

Quez Shipman
eQs Photography
Hoover, AL 35236
http://eqsphotography.com

ALOFT Birmingham
1903 29th Ave S
Homewood, AL 35209
NSBE Birmingham Family Fun Day - July 20th at Regions Field

Join us as we celebrate summer and welcome in our new Executive Board. Sunday July 20, 2014, we will have the annual NSBE Family Fun Day at Regions Field. Members and their families will enjoy watching the Birmingham Barons take on the Mississippi Braves from the scenic view of a covered box suite. Catered entrée’s and drinks will be provided. To reserve your family’s attendance please contact the Membership/Programs Committee chair by June 30th! There is no cost to members. The first 25 to sign up will be admitted.

New NSBE Energy Special Interest Group

NSBE National (www.nsbe.org) is launching the Energy Special Interest Group (SIG).

The NSBE Energy SIG will serve as an extension of the NSBE-Professional brand dedicated to the career development of NSBE members in the energy industry. In addition, the technical research and program results will help solidify the NSBE-Professional brand as the premier organization for talented minority engineers.

Mission: To support the career development of NSBE Professionals in various sectors of the energy industry by creating opportunities for technical development, professional networking and mentoring, and collaborative learning

The Energy SIG Informational Webinar took place on Thursday, June 26th.

Save the Date

The 34th Annual Scholarship Banquet will be held on Saturday, May 2, 2015 at 6 p.m. at the McWane Science Center. The featured speaker will be the president of Alabama State University, Dr. Gwendolyn Boyd.

Dr. Gwendolyn Boyd
Give Us Your Feedback!

What can we do to improve your membership experience?
Please send comments and suggestions to our Programs/Membership Chair at membership@nsbebham.org

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Contact us:

- President: president@nsbebham.org
- Vice President: vicepresident@nsbebham.org
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- Treasurer: treasurer@nsbebham.org
- Pre-College Initiatives: pci@nsbebham.org
- Membership: membership@nsbebham.org
- Finance: finance@nsbebham.org

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- Google+: https://plus.google.com/100495389032254699579