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NABA Mission

To address the professional needs of its members and to build leaders that shape the future of the accounting and finance professions with unfaltering commitment to inspire the same in their successors.

NABA National Convention June 16 -20 In New Orleans: Celebrating 40th Anniversary of NABA

NABA's 38th Annual National Convention and Diversity Recruitment EXPO will be held June 16 - 20, 2009 in New Orleans, Louisiana. The convention offers a great opportunity for NABA members and accountants to enhance their management skills, attend cutting-edge educational session and forums, network with colleagues and visit an EXPO with more than 100 corporate partners.

"I strongly encourage you to make the investment, capitalize on, and take full advantage of the many opportunities for professional development and networking, and academic, career, and professional business advancement available at our convention," says Walter Smith, National President and CEO of NABA.



Walter Smith

There will be a wide variety of technical sessions offered at the National Convention that enhance professional knowledge of industry trends and issues and provide continuing professional education (CPE) credit. Participants will be able to earn up to 19 hours of CPE credit. The technical sessions available for CPE credit include:

- International Financial Reporting Standards: An Update
- How to Respond to an Ethics Investigation
- Federal Tax Law: Current Developments You Need to Know
- Investing in

Turbulent Times

In light of the economic recession and rising unemployment, the NABA Diversity Recruitment Expo provides an excellent opportunity to enhance job prospects at the National Convention. Participants will have the opportunity

to meet face-to-face with employment representatives from major corporations, government agencies and leading accounting firms and financial institutions.

In addition to the normal array of convention activities, NABA will be honoring its founders and past national presidents with a special ceremony during the National Convention.

NABA was founded in December of 1969 by nine African Americans in New York City to address the unique challenges and limited opportunities they faced in the accounting profession.

"This year, we celebrate our rich history and legacy as we commemorate our 40th anniversary. I am honored to lead and serve our great organization as the 23rd National President and CEO under our theme and convention banner: **"40 Years, One NABA: Honoring Our Past, Investing in Our Future,"**" explains CEO Walter Smith.

For more information on NABA's National Convention go to www.nabainc.org

President's Message

We are faced with challenging times in 2009. The economy is causing everyone to be cautious and slow on spending until a certain level of results are realized. Many of our members and friends have been effected by extra job demands, changes, and unfortunately, layoffs. Never before has the NABA family been needed as much to provide support and guidance to our members, corporate supporters, friends, family, and the community at large.

Now is the best time to come together to re-think and plan our future, not disappear in depression, because our economy will turn around. By better communi-



Roger Davis, President
Austin Cen-Tex Chapter

cating between all NABA supporters, we will be best suited to take advantage

of current opportunities, as well as, future ones that will arise when the economy swings up.

A great way to start the process is to participate in our inaugural Thursday, April 23, 2009 workshop series and reception, as well as, our Friday, April 24, 2009 4th Annual Awards and Scholarship Luncheon at the newly renovated Norris Conference Center behind Northcross Mall. Please plan to attend to start, continue, or renew your support of NABA and confirming all contact info in our database is current. I am confident in the great people we have here in Central Texas coming together for a brighter future for all!!!

New SBA Initiatives

The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act contains a package of loan fee reductions, higher guarantees, new SBA programs, secondary market incentives, and enhancements to current SBA programs that will help unlock credit markets and begin economic recovery for the nation's small business sector.

The bill provides \$730 million to SBA and makes changes to the agency's lending and investment programs so that they can reach more small businesses that need help.

The bill also authorizes refinancing for certain SBA loans so borrowers can expand their businesses on favorable terms, and expands leverage capability for Small Business Investment Companies. Declines in SBA lending volume last year, which are continuing in FY 2009,

Chapter Members Man Booth at African American Heritage Festival



L-R Roger Davis, Rosheila Motley, Genord Jones

reflect problems in the broader credit markets, and present hurdles to small businesses that are seeking credit in the current economy. small businesses, and uncertainty about taking on new debt on the part of many entrepreneurs.

The bill also increases the current contract limit for SBA's Surety Bond

Guarantee program, which will help small businesses compete for contracts.

For more information on the new SBA initiatives go to www.sba.gov and click on the economic recovery link.

NABA Launches Web Page to Encourage CPA Certification

NABA launched a page on its web site, www.nabainc.org, designed to help professional and student members interested in pursuing the certified public accountant designation and other certifications. The site includes links to exam resources, articles, and details on NABA's CPA Bound initiative.

NABA's CPA Bound initiative was established in 2007 with the goal of increasing the number of African-American CPAs. According to a 2004 study by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants, the number of African-American CPAs represents only 3% of all CPAs.

"Increasing the number of African-American CPAs will lead to a stronger more diverse accounting and finance workforce which is essential for companies competing in the global marketplace," said NABA's Immediate Past President, Gwendolyn Skillern, CPA, and Chair, CPA Bound Initiative.

"We take this goal seriously and encourage members and professionals to pursue the CPA and other professional certification to derive the maximum benefits in their chosen career."

CPA Bound's four program components include:

- **Advocacy** – focusing on information gathering and sharing to help members seeking to obtain the CPA and other professional designations.
- **Ambassador Program** – an outreach effort to raise awareness about the benefits and rewards of having the CPA designation.
- **CPA Examination Summit** – jointly sponsored by NABA

and the Howard University School of Business Center for Accounting Education (CAE), this program brings together profession stakeholders at the Annual National Convention to discuss barriers to passing the CPA exam and make recommendations to eliminate those barriers.

- **CPA Examination Boot Camp** – The Howard University School of Business Center for Accounting Education (HUSB-CAE) and Becker CPA Review have entered into a partnership to provide a superior CPA review course for recent college graduates. This intensive 7-week course will be held on the campus of Howard University from May 18th to July 1st. At the completion of the course, the hope is that each participant will sit for the exam as soon as possible so that they will become certified prior to the start of busy season.

Additional information on the CPA Bound initiative can be found on the Web site. In addition to the web site, NABA will continue to showcase members with the CPA designation and other certifications in all of its national publications. New CPAs are urged to e-mail NABA at nabacpas@nabainc.org to update their membership and to share details of their experiences in obtaining the CPA designation. For additional information on NABA and its programs and initiatives, log onto www.nabainc.org.

Chapter Member Updates

NABA member **Anthony B. Ross, Sr.** was recently elected Vice-Chair of the City of Austin (COA) Employee Retirement System Board of Trustees. He is entering his fourth year of service, and will stand for re-election as a Board Trustee by COA employees for a second 4-year term, in December 2009.

Ross is also serving his seventh year as an elected trustee of the COA Deferred Compensation Plan. He is Internal Audit Manager



Anthony Ross

at Austin Energy. He is both a Certified Public Accountant and a Certified Internal Auditor. Educationally, he has earned a Master of Business Administration, Master of Accounting and Financial management, and a Graduate Certificate in Management Information Systems.

NABA members **Marlon Green** and **Rosheila Motley** provided tax tips for businesses and consumers on the talk show, Economic Perspectives on KAZI 88.7 FM and the chapter's web site.

www.nabaaustincetex.org



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Austin Ledger	Austin Cen-Tex Chapter Newly Elected 2009 - 2010 Officers	Austin Cen-Tex Chapter 2008- 2009 Officers
<p>Managing Editor Hopeton Hay</p> <p>Graphics Design Wright Communications</p> <p>NABA members are encouraged to submit information for the newsletter. Please email information for the newsletter to hopeton@econpers.com</p> <p>Austin Ledger is published four times a year by the Austin Cen-Tex chapter of the National Association of Black Accountants www.nabaaustinctex.org nabaaustinctex@hotmail.com 512/366-0483</p>	<p>President Roger Davis Director of Membership Teeyia Mercer Treasurer Betty Works Director of Student Affairs Charles Hopkins Director of Community Relations Hopeton Hay Director of Corporate Solicitations Carl Searles Recording Secretary Tara Brooks Financial Secretary Stacie Bables Director of Division of Firms Rosheila Motley Director of Professional Development Anthony Ross</p>	<p>President Roger Davis Director of Membership TJ Haygood Treasurer Betty Works Director of Student Affairs Tara Brooks Director of Community Relations Hopeton Hay Director of Corporate Solicitations Rosheila Motley Recording Secretary Teeyia Mercer Financial Secretary Stacie Bables Director of Division of Firms Abraham Joseph Director of Professional Development Anthony Ross Past President Maxine Buckles</p>

Calendar of Events

<p>April 23, 2009 Increasing Our Value in Economic Turbulence Workshop Series followed by Awards Reception Norris Conference Center 2525 W. Anderson Lane, Suite 365</p>	<p>June 16-20, 2009 National Convention and Diversity Recruitment EXPO Hilton New Orleans New Orleans, Louisiana</p>	<p>July 25, 2009 Austin Cen-Tex Chapter General Meeting Huston-Tillotson University 900 Chicon St.</p>
<p>April 24, 2009 4th Annual Awards & Scholarship Luncheon Norris Conference Center 2525 W. Anderson Lane, Suite 365</p>	<p>July 12 - 17 Accounting Career Awareness Program (ACAP) University of Texas at Austin Campus</p>	<p>October 15-17, 2009 Southwest - Western Region Student Conference (SWWRSC) Westin Park Central Dallas, TX</p>