



# The Chamber Chatter Box



Www.bbwchamber.com

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## President's Corner



As I am counting my blessing for the year 2011, is so hard to believe that this year has flown by so quickly. I wish everyone a safe and happy holiday season and a prosperous new year.

The 2012 year brings us a time of new beginnings and new resolutions. It is also the time of year to renew your Chamber memberships. I challenge all of our members to help recruit new members as well as renew our existing ones. When you have a friend that attends meetings with you, it helps expand everyone's networking possibilities.

The 2011 Chamber after hour functions were a great way to meet and greet new members and learn about their businesses. I hope everyone will commit to attending as many of these functions as possible in 2012 as well as developing lasting relationships. How about volunteering to have an after hour social? This helps to show support to our members and their existing businesses in our communities.

I look forward to seeing everyone after the Holiday season. Enjoy your families and friends.

*Debbie Maddock*

## MILITARY CONNECTIONS PROJECTS



### Christmas Stocking Project

Thank you to all who supported the Christmas Stocking Project. We are shipping over 10,000 stockings this year to our troops overseas!

### Christmas Cards for Troops

-Just a reminder that you **CAN NOT** mail a Christmas Card to "Any Wounded Soldier" or "Anonymous Soldier." All forms of mail must have an individual name on the card or package. If you would like to send a card to a deployed service member you can send your card to Military Connections and we will include it in the Christmas Mailing. If you would like to send a card to a Wounded Marine visit [www.operationpal.com](http://www.operationpal.com) Click on the link for "Current List of Names" and follow the directions. This is a great way to spread holiday cheer to our wounded!

Summer Tissue / [militaryconnections@hotmail.com](mailto:militaryconnections@hotmail.com)

Military Connections  
312 Auburn Street  
Pittsburgh, PA 15235

Thank you  
2012  
Sponsor



**PNC BANK**

## Luncheon & General Membership Meeting

**December 1, 2011**

**The Georgetown Centre**  
526 East Bruceton Road  
Pittsburgh, PA 15236

Noon

**Guest Speaker**  
**Demetria Pappas**



Demetria Pappas, Co-Founder of Mother, May I--MMI, will speak on modern business etiquette and share some great take-aways on mealtime manners. What your mother taught, but maybe you forgot! Social skills and proper behavior will delineate you from others--Being at your best is difficult today when face-to-face conversation is often non-existent. Learn how to make the best impression in any social setting.

**Advance reservations requested**

Contact Mary Dilla at 412-884-1233 or  
email: [secretary@bbwchamber.com](mailto:secretary@bbwchamber.com)

\$15 with reservation

\$18 without reservation and non-members



## South Hills Interfaith Ministries (SHIM) Angel Emporium

Each year, SHIM provides gifts to families in their programs. Children and adults "shop" separately, then wrap their presents to exchange at home.

Gifts are needed for all ages and genders! **Simply purchase a gift and bring it to the chamber luncheon on December 1<sup>st</sup>.** Here are some gift suggestions...

**Children** - Games, Toys, Dolls, Puzzles, Trucks, Action Figures, Craft Kits, Skates, and Sports balls (soccer, basketball, football, and baseball)

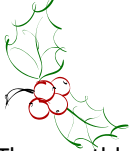
**Teens** - Hair Dryers, Curling Irons, Makeup Kits, Slippers, Jewelry, Wallets, Watches, CD's, Purses, Team Wear (Steelers, Pirates, Penguins, etc.), Caps, Electronic Games, Perfume/Cologne, Body Lotions, Books

**Household** - Crock Pots, Blenders, Electric Skillet, Coffee makers, Humidifiers, Heaters, Dishware, Glasses, Flatware, Pots and Pans, Toaster Ovens, Alarm Clocks, Board Games, Candles, Comforters, Blankets, Sheet Sets

**Men** - Tools, Electric Razors, Car Accessories, Wallets, Watches, Sweatshirts, Gloves, Caps, Socks, Undershirts, Briefs, Boxers, Ties

**Women** - Hair Dryers, Curling Irons, Jewelry Boxes, Jewelry, Perfume, Makeup Kits, Wallets, Watches, Purses, Slippers, Nail Polish, Robes, Sweatshirts

## WOMEN'S NETWORKING LUNCHEON



**Friday, December 9  
South Hills Country Club**

The monthly luncheon meeting of the Women's Networking of the Brentwood Baldwin Whitehall Chamber of Commerce will meet on **Friday, December 9, noon, at South Hills Country Club**. Please plan on attending and bring a friend. We welcome members and non-members. Tables are available for ladies who would like to display products or merchandise. Everyone will pass out cards and brochures and present a one-minute "commercial."

**Guest Speaker  
Sydnee Bagovish**

**Sydnee Bagovish**, Grammar Nerd, presents the importance of good communication in the workplace, in the job search and just in everyday life. She will focus on ten grammar blunders that happen every day--in all functions, across all educational levels, and across industries. Her style is anything but textbook grammar! It is very conversational and loaded with lots of tips and fun.

Lunch for Chamber Members - \$15 - Bring a friend!  
Lunch for Non-Members - \$18  
Display Table \$10

Please make a reservation by contacting our secretary:  
Mary Dilla at: 412-884-1233 / secretary@bbwchamber.com

### Welcome New Members!

Praxis Physical Therapy—Jon Ruzich , 412347-0022  
Pro Marketing Ideas, LLC—Janet Garrity, 412-882-8963  
Young Scholars of Western PA Charter School—  
Alpaslan Ozdogan—412-668-2064

## MEN'S NETWORKING IS BACK!

**The Men's Network is back at Legacy Lanes, 5024 Curry Road from 5—8:00 PM!**

Mark your calendar for the following dates:

- **Tuesday, December 13th**
- Tuesday, January 17th

Bring a friend, you do not need to be a chamber member to attend these events.

The *Men's Network Happy Hours* will be extremely casual in nature. No guest speakers, no formal agenda, no one minute commercials, just a chance to hang out with your friends, colleagues, associates, and POSSIBLE FUTURE CLIENTS. The networking you do will depend solely on you.

There will be a nominal "Cover Charge" of approximately \$10 to cover the cost of pizza & wings. There will be a cash bar.

Although we're keeping it casual, we'd like to get an idea of how many plan to attend. **Please email Dave Schultz (dave.schultz@legacylanes.us) or Steve Gardiner (steve@eberinsurance.com) if you are planning to attend or have any questions.**

### 2011-2012 Officers

President .....Debbie Maddock, First Commonwealth Bank  
Vice President .....Steve Gardiner, Eber Associates  
Treasurer ....Barb Allemeng, Allemeng Concrete & Masonry  
Secretary .....Mary Dilla

## BUSINESS SPOTLIGHT

**Americom, Inc.** sells, installs & maintains

ESI Telephones Systems in Pittsburgh, PA and a 30-mile radius. We provide voice, data & fiber cabling.

- **Engineered and Designed in the U.S.A.**
- **ESI is easy for your staff to learn & has customer programmable features!**
- **Missed Caller ID\* stores last 25 calls placed at each phone**
- **Off-premises "reach-me" can let someone forwarded to a voice mail box still reach the called party at a designated number.**
- **Message Recycle Bin remembers & can restore each mailbox's 10 most recently deleted messages**
- **Built-in Voice Mail created by ESI (fully integrated, meaning more reliable)**

**Presence Management** offers presence status, call control, entrance security, & documented tracking of users' work hours and attendance history.

The Small Business Jobs & Credit Act of 2010 Increases Tax Benefits through 12/31/11

- **Increases the Section 179 deduction to \$500,000 (up from \$250,000).** This means that if you buy (or lease) a piece of qualifying equipment (including a new telephone system), you can deduct up to \$500,000 of the purchase price from your gross income.

**Extends the "50% bonus depreciation" to tax year 2010 (it was rescinded at the end of 2009, but has been restored.)** For equipment purchases (including a new telephone system) over the Section 179 deduction of \$500,000 you can deduct an additional 50% of the overage in addition to the standard depreciation deduction.

**I encourage you to talk with your accountant!**

Call today to schedule your **FREE**, live demo!!

James E. Seibel  
Americom Inc., 1830 Stoltz Road, South Park.  
412-831-3131

**Jordon Tax Service** has scheduled an ACT 32 Educational Seminar on December 15th, 2:00 at the Best Western, Parkway Center Inn. Call their **Act 32 Help Line** if you have any questions at **412-345-7966**.



Wishing you a Joyous Holiday Season  
and a  
Happy and Healthy New Year!  
Your Chamber of Commerce  
Board of Directors

### Board of Directors

Barb Allemang	Steve Gardiner	Debbie Maddock
Julie Beck	Mary Halerz	Bob McKown
Dottie Coll	Larry Korchnak	Dave Schultz
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