

BMBA Membership Drive Underway!

Dallas, PA—On September 1st, Back Mountain Business Association (BMBA) President Beth Ann Delaney, together with the BMBA Board of Directors, launched a new Membership Drive for 2007. During the month of September, prospective new members are invited take advantage of a special two-year membership discount of 25% off the second year. The discounted rate of \$149 includes the first year's dues at \$85, plus \$64 for the second year. Organization benefits include member-to-member networking opportunities, the presence of a Community Economic Development Council, monthly Membership Luncheon meetings that feature local professional speakers, business mixers, an annual BMBA Business Fair, a business or professional feature on the BMBA website, www.bmbaonline.com, and holiday events.

Delaney, who was elected as president this year, has been involved with both the BMBA and Wilkes-Barre Chamber for ten years. She is a 1975 graduate of Dallas High School, and graduated from College Misericordia in 1979 with an undergraduate degree in Social Work. She earned her Masters Degree from Marywood College, and in addition to more than twenty years of clinical practice, was also an adjunct faculty member with King's College. Delaney founded Corporate Counseling & Training Services, Inc., in Kingston; and is co-founder of Signet Health Solutions.

In addition to Delaney, current BMBA Board of Directors are Treasurer Sonia Seman, Luzerne National Bank; Secretary Joe Chublicki, Jungle Computer; Atty. Lynn Banta, Twin Stacks Center; Don Glickert, Edward Jones; Atty. Bernard Walter, Carl Goeringer, Century 21 Smith-Hourigan; Elva Valentine, Valentine Jewelry & Associates; LuAnn Greenley, P&G Federal Credit Union; Diane Dreier, Dreier Automotive; Lisa Pretko, Back Mountain Community News; Liz Martin, Suburban News; and Doug Burak, Minuteman Press.

A number of special committees conduct the day-to-day activity of the BMBA. They include: Economic Development, Atty. Lynn Banta, chairwoman; Special Events, Carl Goeringer, chairman; Public Relations, Don Glickert, chairman; Membership, Sarah Duris, chairwoman; and Government Affairs, Atty. Bernard Walter, chairman. Interested and dedicated members are invited to take part in the action!

The BMBA had a presence at two very important community events this fall. First, during the 44th annual Luzerne County Fair earlier this month, and again the 4th annual Dallas Harvest Festival. BMBA board members were on-hand at both venues to offer membership packets and answer questions to perspective new members.

A number of new ventures have recently presented themselves to the BMBA, including the organization's Economic Development Committee involvement in the first-ever Back Mountain Business Climate Survey, a joint effort with Dallas Borough, which will compile a comprehensive report on the business climate in the Back Mountain. In efforts to streamline and facilitate the project, Dr. John Sumansky, president of the Survey and Forecast Co. is currently looking for the return of the project survey, which should have reached most BMBA members by mail. All members are urged to take part in the project by taking the time to complete and return the survey. For new and prospective members, a copy of the survey has also been included in a number of the new BMBA Membership Drive packets.

The BMBA is also looking into the possibility of "bridging the gap" between the Greater Wilkes-Barre Chamber of Commerce and the Back Mountain business community. BMBA Board members met with Chamber representatives on Tuesday, August 29 at Ragz Restaurant in Dallas to discuss the possibilities.

A new fall Human Resource Luncheon Series kicked-off this month. Guest speakers have been invited to address related issues at three upcoming monthly BMBA Membership Luncheons, which began on Thursday, September 14. The series opener took place at Irem Temple Country Club, with Dr. Craig Piso, organizational psychologist with Signet Health Solutions, who spoke on “The Importance of Leadership.”

Continuing with the series, on Thursday, October 12th at noon, at Ragz Restaurant (former Stax & Co.), Route 415, Dallas, Allied Services Human Resources Vice President Susan Montross will speak on “Wage & Hour” issues; and then to wrap up the series on Thursday, November 9th, at noon, at the Castle Inn, Route 415, Dallas, Atty. Jim Valentine, Rosen, Jenkins & Greenwald, will speak on “The Legal Side of Human Resources.” The cost for BMBA Member Luncheons is \$10 for members; and \$12 for guests. Mark your calendars now, and plan to attend! Call (570) 675-9380 for reservations.

President Delaney noted, “We want to bring businesses and professionals together, to form a united network that will help them grow within the business community. We need new members to accomplish this. Members help the BMBA become successful!”

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