



E-Newsletter

July 2008

In This Issue

Executive Director Corner

Entrepreneur Corner

Business Development
Training & Technical
Assistance

Standards & Accreditation
Support

Events of Interest

This monthly e-mail is one of your many benefits as a member of the statewide microenterprise industry association.

Business Development Training & Technical Assistance

Congratulations on a recent [news article](#) in the *Rome News-Tribune* spotlighting **GRACE** and the **Craft Across the Cultures** beading class. Also see *GMEN E-news May 2008: Entrepreneurial Corner* for more information on these talented entrepreneurs!

Congratulations to the [Center for Black Women's Wellness](#) on their recent fundraising Donor Party hosted by the Georgia Dental Society. CBWW continues its efforts to raise \$100,000 to benefit a much needed initiative: *Healing Communities - One Woman At a Time Campaign*. Additionally, this year marks CBWW's 20 year Anniversary to be celebrated on November 14.

Congratulations to **WESSP** on their recent "Start Your Own Micro-Business" class graduation.



Executive Director's Corner

Every three years the GMEN board of directors engages in a strategic planning process. The current strategic plan covers 2007-2009. The board is engaged in preparation activities for its 2009 strategic planning retreat:

- review of status of 2007 activities to strategic goals,
- development of operations procedures for all GMEN operations,
- review of the 2007 GMEN paper "Georgia's Entrepreneurial Development System,"
- review of bylaws for any



Marketing opportunity for your clients: (If you have a current or former TANF client that would like to participate in one of these events, a portion of any fees & expenses may be reimbursable by GMEN, contact pcwill@bellsouth.net)

Sept 22-26 **Brazil Reverse Trade Mission** will bring buyers to Atlanta for one-on-one meetings. Participation fee: \$50. Contact Maggie Adamack at madamack@agr.state.ga.us

Sept 23-26 **World Food Show in Russia** - send samples to

- needed changes ... including legal review,
- determination of skill needs for October 2008 board elections, and
- getting feedback from the membership on needs from its industry organization.

All board members are listed on the GMEN website with links to their email addresses. You are encouraged to complete the GMEN membership survey later this year and to contact board members with your feedback for inclusion in the 2009 strategic planning process.

You are also encouraged to plan on attending GMEN's annual statewide conference on October 9-10th. You have received the registration brochure and you can register on line at our updated website. **If you have not visited the website lately you are strongly encourage to do so!!! The early bird deadline for conference registration is August 15th.**

If you would like to participate in planning this conference or other GMEN events, volunteer on one of the GMEN committees by contacting the committee chairs noted below:

- Annual conference, Yvonne Days-Cuffie (ydayscuffie@ging.org)
- Micro fair at conference, Rachel Davis (rdavis84@kennesaw.edu)
- Marketing competition, G.D. Stanford (myrebroker@comcast.net)
- Awards reception, Julia Menefield (jmenefield@eadcinc.com)
- Membership meeting, Thelma Adams-Johnson (taact1@bellsouth.net)
- Advocacy, Norman Michael (nmichael@augustaga.gov)

Lastly, I want to encourage GMEN members to provide success stories about your clients with pictures ASAP. Funders and supporters appreciate the very important work that you are

be displayed on the SUSTA booth. Contact Corry de Wit at georgiasagcdewit@arcadis.be

Sept 24-26 **IFE Americas Show in Miami.** Contact David Bryant at dbryant@agr.state.ga.us

Sept 29-Oct 3 **Portugal Trade Mission-** meet key buyers in the food market. Deadline September 8. \$100 fee. Contact David Bryant at dbryant@agr.state.ga.us

October **Mexico Trade Mission** - expand your market. Date TBA. Contact Maggie Adamack at madamack@agr.state.ga.us

Oct 10-11 **SUSTA'S Asian Consultant comes to Atlanta** - opportunity to learn more about the Chinese market. For more info or to sign up contact Matt Anderson at manders@agr.state.ga.us

Oct 14-17 **SUSTA Trade Mission to Chile** - Meet interested importers of your agricultural products. \$400 fee (covers airfare & more). Deadline August 22. For more details contact Beth Miller at 404-656-3740

Oct 19-23 **SIAL Paris Trade Show.** For more details visit www.susta.org Register by September 26. **Note:** the State of Georgia will have a display booth of Georgia products. For more details on shipping your product to Paris to be displayed in the US Pavilion contact Corry de Wit at georgiasagcdewit@arcadis.be

Nov 5-8 **GIDA Trade Show, Istanbul, Turkey.** Registration deadline October 15. Contact Corry de Wit at georgiasagcdewit@arcadis.be

Dec 2-4 **IFE India, New Delhi.** Registration deadline November 10. Contact Corry de Wit at georgiasagcdewit@arcadis.be

Dec 4-6 **Shanghai China.** SUSTA invites southern US Companies to exhibit products at Food and Hotel China at New International Center in Shanghai. Deadline October 17. \$1,500 fee. Contact Maggie Adamack at madamack@agr.state.ga.us

Standards & Accreditation Support

Microtest Annual Outcomes Survey

GMEN is a statewide outcomes tracking intermediary for the Aspen Institute's annual survey of micro enterprise programs through its "Microtest" program. We would like to thank the following Georgia micro enterprise programs for participating in this program:

doing ... but, they want to see the end-product ... your clients ... as validation for their support. The GMEN fundraising committee is working very hard to secure funding focused in four areas: regranting to you, standards & accreditation for you, store/e-commerce to market your clients' products, and outreach to tell your story.

Thank you for all that you do to make a difference in the start-up and growth of micro businesses in Georgia!!!

P.C. Williams
678-296-1059

- Albany Community Together
- Appalachian Community Enterprises
- Center for Black Women's Wellness
- Early County CDC
- East Athens Development Corporation
- EDGE Connection
- Goodwill of North Georgia
- Greater Rome Area Community Enterprise
- Latinos for Education and Justice Organization
- Small Business Assistance Center
- South Metro Microenterprise Coalition

The initial training was held in February 2005. New participants attended more recent training in June 2008: Pat Moore, GMEN; Diana Moore, CBWW; Nancy Wright, EC CDC (pictured below L-R), and LEJO (not pictured).



Entrepreneur Corner



Mica L. Byrd:
Micah Byrd Bookkeeping & Tax Service

Congratulations to **WESSP** alumna Mica L. Byrd of Micah Byrd Bookkeeping & Tax Service. She has been selected as a qualified candidate for the *Governor's Mentor Protégé Program*. Best wishes as she moves on to the candidate selection evaluation process.

MBBT is a full outsourced bookkeeping and tax service organization. They perform weekly, bi-weekly, monthly and quarterly record keeping for entrepreneurs and small business owners that seek to rise above mismanagement of revenue and expenses. They also perform the tax

IEDC: Entrepreneurial and Small Business Development Strategies

The International Economic Development Council (IEDC) is offering the [Entrepreneurial and Small Business Development Strategies](#) training course for economic developers who want to create a climate that caters to small businesses. Subjects to be covered include the characteristics of entrepreneurs and small business owners, the barriers they face, and how communities can promote their development. The course will be offered **September 8-9, 2008, in Louisville, KY**. Early registration discounts are available through August 25. Training course details and registration information are available on the IEDC website listed above. **Kudos to GMEN's ED who will be one of the instructors in this training course!**

Best Locations For Small Businesses

Forbes.com did a special report on best cities for small business. Several Georgia communities were listed. Click [here](#) to view the article.

Grant Opportunity: deadline August 15

[The Gannett Foundation](#) provides support to nonprofit organizations that serve the communities across the United States where the company owns a newspaper or broadcast station (go to www.gannettfoundation.org/contacts.htm to find the two in GA). Applications should be submitted to the local newspaper publisher or TV station general manager by August 15, 2008. Application FAQs and forms are available on the Foundation's website listed above.

preparation for those same clients or new clients that seek to have that service done during tax season. MBBTS uses state of the art technology such as Quickbooks, Peachtree, Proseries and Refunds Today to provide accurate and professional service. The company is built on providing quality and reliable services. Their unique service has established their place in this industry.
www.micahbyrdbkkeeping.com.

Spread the News!

Do you have news about your program that you would like to share with other members? If so email pcwill@bellsouth.net by the last calendar day of each month.

GMEN's Mission

To create opportunities and support for microenterprise development as an avenue for economic self-sufficiency in Georgia.

GMEN Website

www.georgiamicroenterprise.org

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Executive Director

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Events of Interest

... 2008...

- Aug 17-19 [2008 Americas Competitiveness Forum: Promoting Prosperity and Economic Opportunity](#) will be held at the Hyatt Regency Atlanta
- Aug 27-29 [3rd Annual Georgia Environmental Conference](#) at the Hyatt Regency Savannah
- Sept 8 **Georgia Consortium for Personal Financial Literacy** meeting at Equifax. RSVP to Nancy Schwartzmiller at 404.240.0790
- Sept 8-9 [IEDC: Entrepreneurial and Small Business Development Strategies](#) in Louisville, KY
- Sept 10-12 [Governor's Tourism Conference 2008](#) in Albany at the Hilton Garden Inn
- Sept 10-12 [Annual Conference on Financial Education](#) at the Westin Peachtree Plaza - presented by the Institute for Financial Literacy
- Sept 11-13 **CFED's 2008 Assets Learning Conference** in Washington DC.
- Sept 15-16 [2008 Global Youth Enterprise Conference](#) at the George Washington University in Washington DC.
- Sept 23-24 [CORE FOUR® Instructor Training](#) in Minneapolis, MN
- Oct 6 [The Greater Atlanta Economic Alliance](#): "How to Develop a Bid" course
- Oct 9-10 **GMEN Annual Conference** at the Loudermilk Center in Atlanta
- Nov 1 [The EDGE Connection's GALA 2008: Celebrating 10 years of Accomplishment](#) at the Marriott Marquis Atlanta
- Nov 14-15 [CBWW's](#) awards reception and Women's Health Expo at the Twelve Hotel at Atlantic Station in celebration of its **20 year Anniversary**.
- Nov 17-23 **EntrepreneurshipWeek USA** focus is on global entrepreneurship
www.unleashingideas.org
- Dec 9-12 [Opportunity Finance Network Conference](#) at the Hyatt Regency Albuquerque

Success Story!

Do you have a microentrepreneur "Success Story"? Share it with us and it may be featured as our ***Entrepreneur Highlight***. Email it with the subject line "Success Story" pcwill@bellsouth.net

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