



THE BERMUDA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

# CHAMBER

## Newsline

May 2009

THE POWER, INFLUENCE AND VALUE OF A UNIFIED VOICE

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### ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The Chamber of Commerce held its 102<sup>nd</sup> Annual General Meeting on Thursday, April 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2009 at the Fairmont Hamilton Princess. Mr. Philip Barnett passed over the reins to Mr. Stephen Todd; the new President of the Chamber of Commerce, in front of 150 Chamber members including Acting Premier Minister Elvin James JP, MP and Opposition Leader Kim Swan.



Mr. Barnett expressed his gratitude to the members for their support during his tenure as President and said he looked forward to their continued support under Mr. Todd's leadership. Mr. Barnett addressed the member's by giving a compelling speech about Bermuda progressing into the future and finished by saying "As we tack and jibe our way through these tumultuous times, let's **together** lean into the wind, and head towards the next race marker of continued Bermuda success."

In his first address as the new President of the Chamber of Commerce, Mr. Todd stated "despite the challenges I face coming into this new position in a downward economy, I am up to the challenge and I look forward to working with the new management team. I would also like to call on the members to come together and support the Chamber and its efforts as we move forward." Mr. Todd also mentioned BEPRO (Bermuda's Emerging Professionals) as one of the Chamber's new and exciting initiatives. He said that "the Chamber of Commerce supports this dynamic group in their efforts to develop, promote, encourage and connect the next generation of business and civic leaders."

The Chamber also welcomed its guest speaker Mr. Mick Fleming; President of the American Chamber of Commerce Executives (ACCE). During his speech Mr. Fleming noted that while the economy was not fairing well, businesses will need to reinvent themselves and focus on the three P's (Position, Place and People) as it moves into the next economy. He went onto examples of what other Chambers were doing in their community to support both their members and the economy. Mr. Fleming also gave our members some comic relief by talking about his business and travel experiences.



We would like to thank the Fairmont Hamilton Princess for taking care of Mr. Fleming's accommodations while he was in Bermuda. Mr. Fleming had nothing but wonderful comments about Bermuda and the hospitality of the island.

### BEPRO

Bermuda's Emerging Professionals (BEPRO), the newest division of the Bermuda Chamber of Commerce introduced itself to the Island on April 16<sup>th</sup> at its inaugural Launch Party at the Newstead Hotel. BEPRO is aimed specifically at emerging professionals, or those within the first 15 years of their careers.



The mission of BEPRO is to connect a diverse and progressive network of emerging professionals who wish to develop professionally, socially and civically. The group aims to provide professionals within Bermuda, whether locals or expatriates, from various industries with opportunities to network with one another, develop their professional skills and contribute to the community.

The BEPRO Executive Board is as follows: Taaj Jamal and Sylvia Ryan, Co-Chairs; Marie-Pier Belanger, Professional Development Director; Chiara Nanini, Community Development Director; Zoe Roberts and Lindsay Davis, Social Committee Co-Directors; Aziza Ahad and Alexandra Mosher, Marketing Committee Co-Directors; Fiona Lines, Chamber of Commerce Representative; Dennis Fagundo and Nicole Warren, Advisory Committee.

Attendance at the Launch Party was wonderful. It was amazing to see so many talented emerging professionals in one place. Additionally, BEPRO membership increased dramatically at the launch, with approximately 70 members signing up over the course of the evening. DJ Chubb was on the turntables, featuring Taylor Rankin on the violin. Door prizes were awarded towards the end of the event and included gifts from the following

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[www.bermudachamber.bm](http://www.bermudachamber.bm)

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### HARBOUR NIGHTS

"The Bermuda Way of Life"

Every Wednesday Night on Front Street in Hamilton, 7pm to 10pm from May 6th to August 26th.

Create Memories by joining us for live entertainment, Local Arts and Crafts, Children's Activities, Bermudian and Ethnic foods and the Ever Popular Gombey's.



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sponsors: Beau Rivage, Gémeaux Studio Jewellery, Samadhi Spa, Bone Fish Grill, The Sunflower Company, Computer City, Benedict Associates, and Corporate Concierge Bermuda Ltd. The grand prize was a two night stay for two in a luxurious one-bedroom suite overlooking Hamilton harbour at the Newstead Belmont Hills Golf Resort & Spa.

The board members of BEPRO are very grateful for all the support received from our sponsors, the community, and, of course, the emerging professionals of Bermuda. Particular thanks go to The Newstead Hotel, Beau Rivage, Cox Hallett Wilkinson, Bacardi and Brown and Co., without whom our Launch Party could not have gone as well as it did.

Our next event is quickly approaching! **"Thirsty Thursdays"** is set to be a monthly happy hour-style cocktail event. The first to be taking place at Latin on May 7th, from 6-9pm. The first **"Thirsty Thursday"** promises to be an enjoyable venue for emerging professionals to meet one another and network.

The first Lunch and Learn will take place at the Chamber of Commerce on May 21st at 12:00pm. The James Partnership will give the attendees advice on career planning, development and alternatives.

For more information about BEPRO, our membership, or upcoming events, please visit our website: [www.bepro.bm](http://www.bepro.bm).

## SAVE THE DATE

- **Information Session: U.S. Taxes & Trusts** - Monday, May 11th from 12:00 to 1:30pm. **Venue:** Chamber of Commerce. For more information contact [cstroble@bcc.bm](mailto:cstroble@bcc.bm)
- **Information Session: Investing in your Roaring 20's** - Thursday, May 28th, from 5:00pm to 6:30pm (wine and cheese to be served). **Venue:** Argus Financial. For more information contact [cstroble@bcc.bm](mailto:cstroble@bcc.bm)

## BEPRO Save The Date

- **Thirsty Thursday's** - Thursday May, 7th from 6:00pm to 9:00pm. **Venue:** Latin Restaurant & Bar. For more information contact [flines@bcc.bm](mailto:flines@bcc.bm)
- **Information Session: Career Planning** - Thursday, May 21st from 12:00pm to 1:00pm **Venue:** Chamber of Commerce. For more information contact [flines@bcc.bm](mailto:flines@bcc.bm)

## HARBOUR NIGHTS 2009

The seventeenth season of Harbour Nights will kick off on Wednesday May 6th. The atmosphere will be buzzing with hopeful vendors, excited locals and relaxed tourists. The evening hopes to be magical with Places Gombey, the exciting band "Working Title, the Pembroke Hamilton Club's "Majorettes" and the fantastic "Calypso Quartet" off of the Norwegian Dawn.

With the lack of cruise ships in Hamilton this season, the Chamber is looking forward to utilizing the beautiful harbour with new water activities and entertainment. We hope to enhance the entertainment for 2009 ranging from the island's top local bands, fashion shows, dance showcases and so much more. That's not all; don't miss the ever-popular Bermuda Gombey troops and the Bermuda Regiment band making their monthly appearances in full regalia. Children can choose from a range of activities, including fun castles, face painting, tattoos and hair braiding.

Getting Harbour Nights off the ground for the 2009 season did see a few challenges, but with some hard work and commitment we are ready to go. This season would not have been possible without the support of our sponsor's and we would like to give a big thank you to **Department of Community & Cultural Affairs, Department of Tourism, Pickled Onion, Hog Penny, Flanagan's, Café Cairo, Bermuda Bistro and Norwegian Cruise Line.** We would also like to thank Bank of Bermuda HSBC Group for being the major sponsor for Harbour Nights for the past several years. Bank of Bermuda HSBC Group's commitment to the event was extremely honorable and we appreciate the support given to the Chamber and the event.

The Chamber would like to encourage all members to join us for Harbour Nights 2009. Our entertainment company, Morley Productions & Sound Concepts, promise the best of Bermuda's entertainment each week. If you or someone you know would like to be a vendor, please contact Carrie Stroble on 295-8763 or [cstroble@bcc.bm](mailto:cstroble@bcc.bm).

## TALL SHIPS

On Thursday June 11th, 2009 all Tall Ships will enter Hamilton and dock along Front Street and the Royal Bermuda Yacht Club. When the Tall Ships are in Hamilton, there will be a number of road closures and other restrictions that you should all be aware of.

### Street Closures:

- (i) From Thursday, June 11th to Saturday June 13th, Front Street between Court Street and Albuoy's Point will be closed to all through traffic from 6:00pm to midnight.
- (ii) On Saturday, June 13th, Front Street between Court Street and Albuoy's Point will be closed to all through traffic from 9:30am to 11:00am to accommodate the Queen's Birthday Parade. The street will reopen at 11:00am and close again to all through traffic at 6:00pm until midnight.
- (iii) On Sunday, June 14th Front Street will be closed to all through traffic from 6:00am to 11:00pm.
- (iv) Access to the Tall Ships by caterers and other delivery vehicles throughout the four-day period will be arranged upon prior notice to the Tall Ships race headquarters stationed in No. 6 Passenger Terminal.
- (v) Monday, June 15th: Front Street will revert to normal usage from 6:00am.

**Parking:** There will be no parking on Front Street between Court Street and Albuoy's Point – and no parking in No. 1 and No. 5 car parks – from 6:00am on Thursday, June 11th to midnight on Sunday, June 15th. Delivery vehicles will be permitted to stop along Front Street between 8:00am and 10:00am daily to service Front Street retail outlets.

**Pedestrian Walkway:** From Thursday, June 11th to Saturday, June 13th a 6-foot pedestrian walkway will be roped off along the south side of Front Street from 6:00am to 6:00pm while still allowing two-way motorized traffic. (Ropes to be removed from 6 p.m. to midnight when street is closed).

### Emergence

#### WIRED WEDNESDAY!

**When:** Wednesday, May 27th  
from 5:30pm to 7:30pm

**Venue:** Bermuda Chamber of  
Commerce

Emergence will showcase a robust web-based eProcurement solution that allows organizations to automate the complete procure-to-pay cycle – from product selection, requisitioning, approval and ordering to delivery, receipt and financial settlement.



If you have any questions or suggestions for our newsletter, please contact Carrie Stroble (Editor) at:  
Phone: 295-8763  
Email: [cstroble@bcc.bm](mailto:cstroble@bcc.bm)

