



# The Technical Times

Volume 1, Issue 2

July—September 2009

## BDPA NEW JERSEY CHAPTER NEWSLETTER

### Special points of interest:

- Members On The Move
- Families In Technology Day 2009
- Energy Program for Newark School

### Inside this issue:

Letter From The Editor	2
Calendar of Events	2
Families In Technology Day	3
CIO Symposium News	3
Annual Banquet	3
Members On The Move	4
Students On The Move	5
HSCC News!	5
Energy Program Article	6

## Letter From the President



**Coram Rimes**  
Prudential

Greetings BDPA New Jersey Chapter members!! I can't believe that it is September and the National BDPA Conference has already passed. We were all looking forward to this important event and were well represented with thirty chapter members in attendance in Raleigh, North Carolina from August 5<sup>th</sup> through August 8<sup>th</sup>. Our high school students have been in preparation for months under the leadership of our HSCC coordinator Michelle Springs, and they were poised to meet the challenge of the fierce competition. We were also very pleased that Beverly Place, who was one of our featured 'Members on the Move' in our first newsletter earlier this year, presented again this year. Her workshop titled 'Going Lean in Healthcare' was well received. Our chapter delegates were busy as well during the conference voting on the by-laws changes and new leaders for the National Board of Directors for the positions of President-Elect and VP of Finance.

Highlights from the National Conference: President Elect - Monique Berry - Philadelphia Chapter, VP Finance - Charles Moore - Charlotte Chapter. HSCC Winner - Southern Minn. US Navy awarded a high school student a \$180,000 scholarship to attend Duke.

2010 Conference is in Philadelphia and the early bird conference rate is \$200 until 10/31/09.

The New Jersey Chapter continues to be committed to providing the best possible programs for our members. An essential component to ensure that this happens on a consistent basis is you. There are various opportunities available for you to apply your project management, organizational, leadership, technical, management and/or communication skills. We even have few positions on the Board where you can participate and work closely with the particular business areas that support the chapter. If you only have four hours a week to contribute, no problem! We have the perfect opportunity for you! Please contact Goldie Bonney, our VP of Membership Management, at [membershipmgmt@bdpanewjersey.org](mailto:membershipmgmt@bdpanewjersey.org) if you are interested in taking your participation to the next level.

There is so much excitement as the BDPA New Jersey Chapter continues to provide quality monthly program meetings. Our Program Meetings are geared to help you sharpen your technical leadership

and personal development skills. Consider presenting your topic at a program meeting, the rewards can be priceless. To inquire about presenting at an upcoming program meeting contact our VP of Member Services, Nekeisha Rouse, at [memberservices@bdpanewjersey.org](mailto:memberservices@bdpanewjersey.org). We are preparing for several upcoming events, such as our 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Families In Technology Day on September 12<sup>th</sup>, CIO Symposium on October 5<sup>th</sup>, and our Awards & Recognition Banquet on November 13<sup>th</sup>.

This is your BDPA and the NJ Chapter can achieve and aspire to great heights with your active involvement. Your ideas, support and creative minds are needed to help sustain our chapter's growth. Take the first step on the journey to elevate the mission of BDPA NJ Chapter and be the supportive link to make a difference. Feel free to contact me at [president@bdpanewjersey.org](mailto:president@bdpanewjersey.org) to share a comment or your ideas. I look forward to hearing from you and more importantly working with you to make this the best chapter we possibly can!

*Coram J. Rimes,*  
*President*  
*BDPA New Jersey Chapter*





**Goldie K. Bonney**  
JPMorgan Chase

“Nov. 12th meeting is **MANDATORY** for all active members. It’s our general meeting where we will be voting on By-Law changes and **VOTING** on the nominations for the open Chapter Board positions. It’s being held at 213 Washington Street in Newark, NJ. Please do your best to attend. Your vote is very important.”

## Letter From The Editor

Jersey family! Here we are with our 2nd issue of our newsletter and I couldn't be more pleased with how it turned out. As you all know, our production of the newsletter has been a long time coming. So I am thankful that we have such a dedicated team of contributors to help make it a success!

In this issue you will learn about the hardworking students in the Newark school district who are doing wonderful things with the Energy program. Since several of us attended the National Conference in August we will be giving you a glimpse into our HSCC program and some of our students that represented our chapter during the competition. You

will also get to know two more chapter members in our 'Members on the Move' section. This is one of my favorite areas of our newsletter because it really gives you an idea of how hard our members work not only professionally but also how much time they contribute to other organizations and extra-curricular activities.

As our president Coram Rimes mentioned in his message, we have several events coming up later on this year. I encourage everyone to please review our calendar of events and program meeting schedule. Trust me, there is something for everyone! As al-

ways, if you would like to get more involved with our chapter whether it is writing an article for our newsletter, learning more about our Board and the types of volunteer positions available, or even joining an event committee, then I want to hear from you. Don't be shy! Feel free to drop me a note anytime at [member-shipmgmt@bdpanewjersey.org](mailto:member-shipmgmt@bdpanewjersey.org). It's all about you our members, so we want to make sure we are providing you with quality events and programs that you'll all enjoy.

Warm Regards and Happy Networking!

*Goldie K. Bonney*

## Calendar Of Events

New Jersey Chapter program meetings are held on the second Thursday of every month from **6:00- 8:00 p.m.**

6:00 - 6:30 PM:  
Meet & Greet (food is provided)  
6:35 - 7:35 PM:  
Program Topic Presentation  
7:35 - 8:00 PM:  
Q&A and Chapter announcements

**September 12th** we will be hosting our 6th annual Families in Technology Day event. For event details see the Families in Technology day article below.

**September 17th** meeting will be "Part Two of Six Sigma Methodology." Our presenter will be one of our first newsletter issue's Member on the Move, Beverly A. Place. She's an IT Account Manager and Certified Six Sigma Black Belt. This meeting will take place at JPMorgan Chase located at 194 Wood Ave. South, Iselin, NJ.

Don't miss this stellar presentation!!

The 3rd Annual CIO Symposium will be held on Monday, **October 5th**. This year's theme is "IT Enabling the Changing Business Environment".

From 12:30 PM to 5 PM some of the greatest minds in the information technology industry will be discussing this topic and more at the Johnson & Johnson World Headquarters in New Brunswick, NJ.

The presenter for our **October 8th** meeting will be Marsha Worrell. The location and topic will be forthcoming.

**November 12th** meeting is **MANDATORY** for all active members. It's our general meeting where we will be voting on By-Law changes and **voting** on the nominations for the open Chapter Board positions. It'll take place at the 213 Washington Street location of Prudential

in Newark., NJ. Please do your best to attend.

**Friday, November 13th** another one of our Keystone events will be taking place:

Annual Recognition Banquet  
6:00pm- 10pm  
Dryden Hall, 7th Floor  
Prudential  
751 Broad Street  
Newark., NJ.

Our annual chapter holiday party will be held on **December 10th**. More details will be provided at a later date.



## 6th Annual Families In Technology Day

On September 12, 2009 from 9am-3pm, Black Data Processing Associates (BDPA) New Jersey Chapter conjunction with Girls Action Network (GAN) will present "Families In Technology Day (FIT) on the campus of Rutgers University in Newark, NJ.

Our previous events were an overwhelming success averaging over 400 people in attendance annually. This year is guaranteed to be an even greater success. The event activities include:

- ⇒ Complimentary breakfast and lunch for all participants
- ⇒ Keynote Speakers, Andrea Fant-Hobbs, Vice President of Brand Marketing

for Verizon and Brad Hobbs, Principal of BizBrand Foundry

- ⇒ An afternoon raffle of over 150 refurbished laptops and software to students grades (4-12) in the Newark and surrounding urban communities
- ⇒ Technology workshops geared toward all school ages, adults and senior citizens
- ⇒ Fun entertainment for all family members including clown and balloon activities, face painting, African dance demonstrations

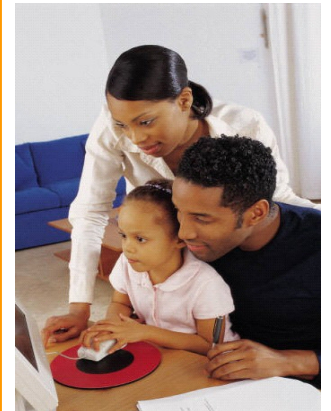
BDPA and our sponsors recognize the important role that technology

plays economically empowering our communities. Our goal is to provide the Newark area communities with a glimpse into the opportunities afforded by technology and make it a fun day of learning for all family members.

For Registration rules and to submit paragraphs to be entered into the raffle, please visit the registration site on Eventbrite using the following URL: <http://bdpanjfamiliesintechology6.eventbrite.com>

We hope that we will see all of you there!!

*-FIT Committee*



**A Formula that works:**

**Technology Awareness = Community Empowerment**

**Thank you for your support:**

- ⇒ Microsoft
- ⇒ JPMorgan Chase
- ⇒ Johnson & Johnson
- ⇒ Prudential
- ⇒ Merck
- ⇒ Girls Action Network

## 3rd Annual CIO Symposium

On Monday, October 5, 2009, Johnson & Johnson and the Black Data Processors Association are co-sponsoring the 2009 BDPA New Jersey CIO Symposium.

The BDPA New Jersey CIO Symposium is an event designed to provide an opportunity for those employed in the information technology industry to hear New Jersey's technology leaders share their perspective on key technology trends, challenges and opportunities. It has become one of the New Jersey chapter's keystone events.

In 2007 the impactful theme was "Planning Today For Business Tomorrow."

The push for people to consider the effects of global warming inspired the 2008 theme of "Going Global, Going Green."

The changing needs and wants of the workforce for corporations, educational institutions, and government agencies to do things faster and more cost efficient has resulted in this year's theme, "IT Enabling the Changing Business Environment".

IT Executives from Johnson & Johnson and other New Jersey corporate, educational, and government organizations will be coming together at Johnson & Johnson's World Headquarters from 12:30 PM -5:00 PM for a series of presentations, technical exhibits, and a panel discussion. There will be a networking cocktail reception immediately following the program.

If you are available for this half day symposium, please come we promise you will not be disappointed.

Space is very limited so please contact us at [bdpainfo@bdpanewjersey.org](mailto:bdpainfo@bdpanewjersey.org) If you'd like to attend. But please wait for confirmation.

*-CIO Symposium Committee*

## 2009 Annual Recognition Banquet

The New Jersey BDPA Chapter is celebrating the successes of 2008 -2009 by hosting its Annual Recognition Banquet.

The purpose of the celebration is to recognize sponsors and individuals who have dedicated their time and resources to BDPA programs and services. In addition, it is a fund raiser to secure funding for next years programming.

The theme of this event is "Strategically aligning today for tomorrow's challenges."

We invite you to join us on Friday November 13, 2009 from 6:00 - 10:00 p.m. at Prudential's Dryden Hall located on the 7th Floor at 715 Broad Street Newark, NJ 07102.

You or a company representative, peers, friends, etc. should

join us on that day and experience the value the contribution brings to the lives of many.

Ticket prices are:  
Student:\$55.00  
General Admission: \$80.00

**Please ask about our sponsorship packages!**

For more information:

<http://bdpanj2009banquet.eventbrite.com>

## Members On The Move



**Nekeisha M. Rouse**

“BDPA is a great organization and I feel that the NJ Chapter is achieving greatness! I look forward to a great year and beyond!!”

-Nekeisha M. Rouse

### Nekeisha M. Rouse

Greetings all! I am so honored to be featured in the BDPA Technical Times newsletter as a Member on the Move! If I would use one word to describe my background, it would be “eclectic”. Over my 12 year career, I have served in various capacities starting out as a hardware technician for AS400 servers to a technical liaison/technical support function. I have had the opportunity to work in great organizations such as IBM, Johnson and Johnson, Schering Plough Animal Health, Citigroup, and Novartis Pharmaceuticals.

Currently, I am onsite at Celgene Corporation leading the automation to a paper recordkeeping system utilizing bar coding technology for the Quality Assurance Document Control group. I am involved in vendor selection, project initiation and establishing

process and procedures.

I originally joined BPDA in 2005 and re-joined in 2007 as an active member. In 2008, I became the VP of Member Services. Other than coordinating the program meetings and additional activities, my primary goal is to service our membership. In addition to being active in BDPA, I am also active in my local chapter of Toastmasters International - Impact 21 Toastmasters of Rahway as the VP of Education. I have been active in other organizations such as NSBE - Central Jersey Alumni Extension where I was the VP of Publications Chair and in 1999 was awarded the Regional Publications Chair of the Year Award.

I also provide private math

tutoring to elementary, middle, high school and college students in my community. The majority of the students that I have tutored over the years have achieved success in mathematics!

I am a graduate of New Jersey City University (formerly Jersey City State College) with a Bachelors degree in Computer Science with a minor in Mathematics. I will be pursuing a Masters of Information Systems with a concentration in Project Management at Stevens Institute of Technology this fall.

BDPA is a great organization and I feel that the NJ Chapter is achieving greatness! I look forward to a great year and beyond!!

*Nekeisha M. Rouse*

### Daniel K. Pinkett

Dan Pinkett has worked with computers as long as he can remember. When he was growing up in Hightstown, NJ you would find him seated at one of the Radio Shack TRS-80s at his grammar school or seated in front of the Commodore VIC-20 at his family home. But it was a visit to his high school guidance counselor that would ultimately determine his career path.

He was presented with an opportunity to attend the Actuarial Science Summer Program at Howard University where top students from around the country attended to learn more about a career in Actuarial Science. Attending this program inspired him to attend Rutgers University as a math major with the goal of becoming an Actuary.

Upon graduation, Dan went to work for Prudential Financial's

Property & Casualty Insurance Company (PRUPAC) as an actuarial student. Others around the company noticed something else about Dan: his computer skills. They noted his ability to analyze the massive amounts of data the company used for business purposes and to simplify the associated trends for others. The corporate recognition inspired Dan to join PRUPAC's Management Information Unit where he went on to create the “Graphing Database”. This database was used throughout the organization to allow management to analyze trends of key drivers as well as during the annual planning process. While obtaining a Masters degree in Information Systems from Stevens Institute of Technology, Dan moved to his current position in Out-

brokerage. Outbrokerage is a part of Prudential's Individual Life organization that facilitates agreements with other carriers so that Prudential agents can sell the products that Prudential doesn't offer.

Dan continues to develop the management information planning, reporting and analysis structure for the organization. This infrastructure did not exist prior to his joining the area.

Dan currently resides in Union County, NJ with his wife, Laura. In his spare time he enjoys attending sporting events, especially Rutgers football and basketball, playing volleyball and is an active member of the BDPA and the Black Leadership Forum at Prudential.

*Daniel K. Pinkett*



## BDPA Student Members on the Move

The NJ Chapter's Student Information Technology Education Scholarship (SITES) Program is seeing five young women graduate this year. These young women have participated in the SITES program on various levels - but all share one common thread - a level

of commitment to technology and aiding the community on technology awareness. Best wishes and congratulations to:

- ⇒ **Stefanie Davis** (Rutgers University),
- ⇒ **Natasha Harris** (Rider University),

- ⇒ **Kiante Sawyer** (New Jersey City University),
- ⇒ **Deidre Scarborough** (Bloomfield College),
- ⇒ **Carmen Valentin** (Rutgers University).

*Michelle Haynes*



## New Jersey HSCC Team Job Well Done!!

### Student Information Technology Education and Scholarship (SITES) & National High School Computer Competition (HSCC)



Pictured left to right: Maya Daniels, Stefanie Davis, Ricardo Fullerton (HSCC chapter one), Coram Rimes (chapter President), Natasha Harris, Vincent Castro

Throughout the year, local chapters conduct SITES training programs for the youth in their communities. These programs are designed to expose our youth to the concepts of computers and give them the expertise to develop web applications. Some chapters will participate in regional competitions throughout the country to further prepare their students. Each BDPA chapter is able to send one team of 3 to 5 students to the National Conference to compete against teams from chapters all over the country.

The BDPA National High School Computer Competition, (HSCC), was founded in 1986 by Dr. Jesse Bemley, of Washington, D.C. What started as a two-team event between Washington, D.C. and Atlanta, Ga. has grown to over 20 teams of various high school students from chapters throughout

the nation. It's all designed to introduce our Youth to the field of Information Technology, encourage them to seek higher levels of education, and groom many of them to become our next generation of IT professionals.

Once at the National Conference, students will be able to attend Workshops and Seminars covering topics related to Personal Development, Academic Development, Youth Entrepreneurship and Information Technology. They will be able to participate in activities including, Corporate Sponsored luncheons and receptions, visits to educational places in the hosting city (i.e. museums), and networking evenings with IT professionals and students from around the country. On top of all this, they get to showcase their talents in the National Competition which consists of a timed computerized written exam, oral questions and the development of a web application per specifications. If they feel creative, they can also participate in a T-Shirt Design Competition.

*"SITES Overview" found on [www.bdpa.org](http://www.bdpa.org)*

This year, the NJ chapter had

a group of talented, budding information technologists compete at the 2009 BDPA National HSCC Competition.

The group of 4 students - Stefanie Davis, Natasha Harris (graduating seniors), Maya Daniels and Vincent Castro (rising juniors) - have been preparing since October 2008 for this occasion. Students were trained on web application development techniques and languages - specifically the PHP/Apache format, along with advanced MySQL database creation and management.

In addition to such technical skills, students also gained valuable project and time management skills, presentation skills, as well as social networking skills with peers and adults.

The competition took place over the course of two days at the national conference, with the round robin and individual computerized tests on day one; both focus on BDPA history and technical knowledge. The second day consisted of team creating a web-based application with one computer and 8 hours to completion. Afterwards, the team presented its problem solution to a panel of judges.

The winning teams were announced during the awards gala.

Last year, the team placed 6th (before bonus points), 11th overall. The team also participated in the conference t-shirt design competition, where the team placed 3rd overall of its design.

This year, the team took First Place in the National Tee Shirt Competition. In addition, they were awarded \$500 for the New Jersey HSCC program during a bonus contest funded by the BETF for answering the most questions on the 1st day.

Overall, the team placed 12th out of the 23 teams that competed in the National Computer Competition.

We thank these students for a job well done at the National BDPA conference!!!

If you are interested in joining the SITES Committee, please email [Michelle Haynes](mailto:Michelle.Haynes@bdpanewjersey.org) at [siteshsc@bdpanewjersey.org](mailto:siteshsc@bdpanewjersey.org)

*Michelle Haynes*

# Energy Program For Newark Schools

The New Jersey Energy Diamond Foundation was incorporated in July of 2008 as a premier foundation for addressing the challenge of educating the future leaders and innovators of renewable energy in the 21st century. Prior to its formal incorporation, Rodney L. Williams, Manager of Facilities, under the direction of Steve Morlino, Executive Director of the Newark Public School District, has worked to heighten awareness of the need for renewable energy technologies and energy conservation. This has led to numerous initiatives and programs:

- ⇒ The sponsoring of field trips to the district's renewable energy facilities and other local renewable energy sites in New Jersey
- ⇒ The sponsoring of awards for renewable energy science projects and after school programs where children

have designed wind turbines and other renewable energy projects.

- ⇒ Steve Morlino's implementation of the district's energy smart committee

In 2006 Rodney Williams, through the office of facilities management produced an energy awareness video using staff and students to promote a district wide energy conservation program. It was during this time that the concept of "Energy Diamond" came to life. Since that time the school district has celebrated Energy Awareness week the 3rd week of April.

This year Wednesday night, April 21, 2009, was a wonderful night for the community at Liberty Science Center. Our partners at Liberty Science really rolled out the red carpet for Newark Public Schools on the 4th floor in the area called Energy Quest. William Brown Academy and Technology High displayed and demon-

strated their Energy based projects. These students showed that they were Energy Diamonds. In amongst the students and their projects was Noveda Technology whom the district has a contract with to monitor the real time energy consumption in each school. Students were able to see the energy their school was consuming at that moment in real-time. It was great to see the excitement of the students when visitors came by their stations and asked about their project. As much as I wanted to share my knowledge and excitement, I was very impressed with the students presenting what they learned and the details of their project.

This year's theme for the Energy Diamond Program was Solar Energy. The Technology High School Juniors from Ms. Dianna LeFevre's CAD/Architecture class designed and made a model house that had solar panel with LED lighting. Their

other project is something that they would like to actually have built. They designed a sustainable gym as an addition to their existing school. They showed the CAD drawings and 3-D elevation concept drawings of that project.

I cannot forget my 6th grade afterschool Energy Diamond Club with Mrs. Ameerah Shabazz-Bilal from William Brown Academy. These students excitement was infectious. Their product dealt with Solar as well but they asked onlookers, "What is Solar Energy?" Their project defined solar, gave examples and showed the reason why we need to consider solar energy as a means of power. They even simplified how electricity powers a building with the 4 P's: Power source, Power Loop, Power control and Power load.

Truly this was an evening of diamonds, "Energy Diamond"! [www.njenergydiamond.com](http://www.njenergydiamond.com)

*Rodney L. Williams*

## BDPA NEW JERSEY CHAPTER

Primary Business Address:  
P.O. Box 25192  
Newark, NJ 07101  
Email: [bdpainfo@bdpanewjersey.org](mailto:bdpainfo@bdpanewjersey.org)



We're on the web:  
[www.bdpanewjersey.org](http://www.bdpanewjersey.org)

The New Jersey BDPA Chapter is committed to delivering IT excellence to our members, strategic partners and community. We strive to be one of New Jersey's more prominent professional organizations.

### New Jersey Chapter Officers

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- President Elect**  
**Vacant**
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Robert Trewick
- VP Strategy & Planning**  
Mary Ann F. Jackson
- VP Membership Mgmt**  
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- VP Member Services**  
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- Immediate Past President**  
Donald E. Brown

### Volume 1, Issue 2 Contributors

- Editor In Chief**  
Goldie K. Bonney
- Assistant Editor & Creative Designer**  
Mary Ann F. Jackson
- Contributing Writers**
  - ⇒ Coram J. Rimes
  - ⇒ Daniel Pinkett
  - ⇒ Goldie K. Bonney
  - ⇒ Mary Ann F. Jackson
  - ⇒ Michelle Haynes
  - ⇒ Nekeisha Rouse
  - ⇒ Rodney L. Williams
- Photo Credits**
  - ⇒ Ricardo Fullerton
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