



## No More Excuses: Get Your Business Certified

The next Tabor 100 general membership meeting could be the one that changes your future. Business owners who have been slow to take the next step and get their business certified as a minority or disadvantaged firm will have that opportunity delivered to them at the meeting.

And if the public sector isn't within your business model, there also will be representatives from the nation's biggest retailer: Wal-Mart and Sam's Club.

Guest speakers will include:

- King County Business Development and Contract Compliance on the county's small business certification assistance program.
- State of Washington General Administration on how to register on WEBS and receive online access to bid documents and electronic notification of business opportunities.
- OMWBE on the State of Washington certification process.
- Sound Transit on certification.

The meeting will be held 10 a.m. to noon on Saturday, Feb. 28. Members are encouraged to spread the word and bring a guest.

**For the first time, the monthly meeting will be at the Northwest African American Museum, 2300 S. Massachusetts St., in Seattle.**



Government Affairs Committee Chairman Cos Roberts speaks with U.S. Senator Patty Murray at the state Capitol.



Tabor's delegation to African American Legislative Day included a photo opportunity in the House chambers with representatives Eric Pettigrew, Bob Hasegawa and Phyllis Gutierrez Kenney.

## African American Legislative Day Opens Doors for Discussion

By Victor Andino  
Tabor Journal Editor

The marbled halls of the state capitol got an added splash of color on Feb. 16 with the red, black and green banner of African American Legislative Day festooned below the dome.

Throughout the day members of Tabor 100 urged state leaders to consider the struggles of people of color as solutions are considered for the economic recession, our public schools and the future of our state.

Led by President Ollie Garrett and Government Affairs Committee Chair Cos Roberts, Tabor's delegation met with several lawmakers. The delegation also had an opportunity to state their cause to a higher authority when Rep. Eric Pettigrew brought Sen. Patty Murray into a conversation. Murray, who happened to be visiting the state House chambers, listened intently to concerns Roberts raised regarding the federal stimulus plan.

Tabor's visit to the legislative branch of government came just weeks after board members met with Gov. Christine Gregoire.

"We asked the governor to revisit her commitment to supplier diversity by reissuing her memo to directors requesting department heads meet with Tabor 100 and respond back to the governor on their commitment," Garrett said.

Garrett said they also stressed that small businesses are the backbone of the economy and explained how Tabor 100 is a resource to the governor and the community.

Members who participated in the visit to Gregoire's office were Garrett, Roberts, Tabor Vice President Lewis Rudd, Economic Development Committee chair Crystal Fincher, and Nate Miles.

Members who trekked to Olympia for African American

**Article continued on Page 4**

# New Year, New Administration, New Opportunity



**Cal Shirley**

Inaugurations always herald change, but the swearing in of Barack Obama, our first African American president, will make unprecedented history. Obama is challenged by a monumental economic problem that is frequently compared to the Great Depression of the 1930s, and business leaders worldwide are poised to see how the new administration's policies will impact them in 2009.

No promise was more important in President Barack Obama's campaign than that of economic stimulus tied to more "green" energy sources and energy efficiency. In his short time in office, he and members of Congress have already started the difficult business of developing a plan and a budget for how to reverse the economic downturn.

The result is one of the largest single government expenditures in United States history. America now has a plan – the first blueprint of this

administration – for how to turn things around. Given the current economic crisis and the price tag, the economic stimulus package is going to be of critical importance to all business owners.

Although immediate and long-term impacts of the stimulus legislation are still uncertain, it is clear that energy efficiency and renewable energy will play an important role in economic recovery and long-term sustainability. The stimulus package includes significant tax credits for businesses to invest in new plants and equipment, and specific incentives for businesses to invest in renewable energy. Additionally, the package includes funding for a "smart electricity grid" and for research and development on energy-related projects.

How can business owners' best position themselves to benefit from the stimulus package? Being informed on all of its components is a good start, but they should also consider the possibilities afforded by new federal support for capital projects and new equipment. Renovations, expansions and equipment updates are all projects that offer exceptional opportunities to reach new levels of energy efficiency. There is often no better time to implement energy efficiency measures for businesses than when planning modernizations or expansions. And now, the tax incentives combined with programs from manufacturers, contractors and utility companies like Puget Sound Energy are at their best for

optimizing a business' energy efficiency. What your local utility company knows for sure is that energy efficiency is truly the gift that keeps on giving for businesses. We saw that gift, encouraged by the promise of incentives, play out here at PSE in 2008 when our customers broke conservation records for the company by taking advantage of funding for residential, commercial and industrial energy efficiency projects and rebates. With rebates and tax credits, the initial investment in energy efficiency will be far more manageable, and the continued operation of energy efficient equipment will result in \$30 million annually in lower utility bills in the long term. Business owners cannot afford to ignore the additional support for making their operations more efficient.

Many details on how the stimulus package dollars will be funneled to local and regional business owners are still unknown. Some will be available as tax credits, but others remain to be seen on a local level. For the proactive business owner, now is the time to get informed and get involved. Call or write your local Congressional representatives and let them know how you think the stimulus dollars would be best spent in our region and contact PSE to see what we can do for you.

*Cal Shirley is vice president, Energy Efficiency Services, for Puget Sound Energy.*

## PSE/Tabor 100 Scholarships to be Awarded

**Victor Andino**  
**Tabor Journal Editor**

Tabor 100 has begun accepting applications on behalf of the PSE Green Energy Scholarship Program.



**Washington**

PSE will provide three \$3,500 scholarships over a three-year period as

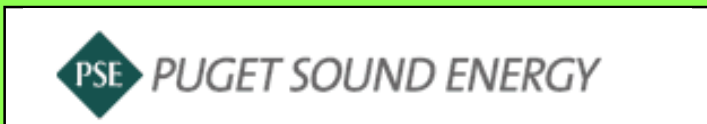
part of a total \$31,500 commitment to the program. Recipients also are encouraged to apply for PSE internships related to green energy programs.

"We are delighted to be working with Puget Sound Energy to find some deserving individuals for this opportunity," said Education Committee Chairman Kevin Washington.

The specific application guidelines are as follows:

- a. The candidates shall be African American students, enrolled in or enrolling in an academic course of study that helps prepare them for a career in "green energy."
- b. All candidates will either 1) have a home residence, or 2) be pursuing a course of study at a college or university within the PSE area of service.
- c. The candidates shall have a track record of high academic achievement or potential.
- d. The candidates should be in clear financial need.

**Article continued on Page 3**



## Learn More About Tabor While Networking With Peers at Social Orientation Feb. 24

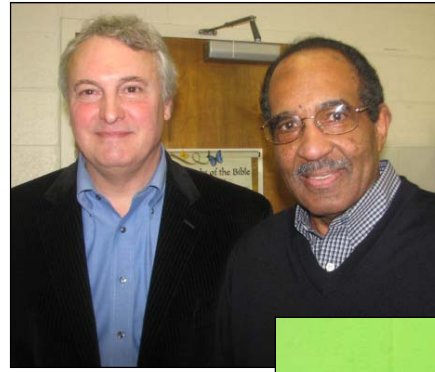
Get to know your fellow members and have all your questions answered about how Tabor 100 operates at the first Membership Orientation of 2009.

Tabor orientations are excellent business-casual events where members can network, swap war stories and enjoy complimentary food and beverages. Membership Chairman Marques Bailey has coordinated an event with a balance of informational

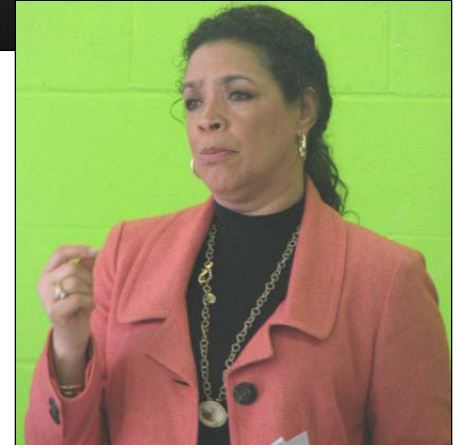
segments on each of Tabor's committees and updates on the latest activities that members and potential members can take advantage of.

### Event Information

**Time:** 6 p.m.  
**Date:** Tuesday Feb. 24  
**Place:** Central Area Senior Citizen Center  
 500 30th Ave. S. in Seattle



Dan Dierdorff (above left) and Joe Ward, both of Fortune Bank, were guest speakers at January's general membership meeting. Leslie Jones, Sound Transit diversity program manager, discussed ways contractors can get involved in her agency's projects.



### Meeting Gives Members Access to Fortune Bank & Sound Transit Officials

## Tabor Uses Space Needle Fund-raiser As Opportunity to Give to Youth

Tabor 100 was proud to be among the non-profit organizations invited by The Space Needle to participate in their first "Tree For All" fundraising promotion during the 2008 holiday season.

The promotion allowed Tabor 100 to receive \$5 from each adult ticket sold and \$2.50 from each youth ticket sold to Tabor's members and friends. The charity that sold the most tickets would receive an additional \$25,000.

Starbucks sweetened the deal by donating another \$10,000 to be shared among the top four organizations to bring in ticket sales. Thanks to Tabor's many supporters, our

organization earned \$2,585. Total vouchers redeemed for Tabor 100 were 29.

Thirty charities signed up for the fundraiser. The Pacific Science Center came away the winner of the \$25,000 award. The other top ticket sellers were Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation, Project Share and City Year.

Thanks to the Space Needle and Starbucks for supporting local charities. Kudos and special thanks to Terry Johnson of MetLife, Marget Chappel of Seattle Public Utilities, William Dudley, President of JC Consulting, Karen Primeau of Platinum Group, LLC and Kevin Washington of B2B



Electronic Commerce, Logistics, who all supported this effort by purchasing tickets for others in the season of giving.

A majority of the tickets purchased by these members were given to children and families at the African American Academy and four tickets were given to youth volunteers who helped at Tabor's Holiday Appreciation Reception.

## PSE and Tabor to Dole Out \$3,500 Green Energy Scholarships

Continued from Page 2

- e. The candidate's personal history and actions should be consistent with Tabor's mission.
- f. The candidate's personal history and actions should reflect that he or she has created, or is working to create, something of benefit to the next generation.
- g. The candidate's personal history and actions should show a willingness to pass on their good fortune to others in need, and reflect a spirit of generosity.
- h. The candidate's personal history and actions should show that he or she is helping to build the community.

# Tabor Board

## Executive Board

President Ollie Garrett, PMT Solutions  
206-399-8036 president@tabor100.org

Vice President Lewis Rudd, Ezell's Chicken  
206-772-1925 lewis@ezellschicken.com

Secretary Karen Primeau  
Platinum Group, 206-380-8773  
karen@platinumbusinessgroup.com

Treasurer Glenn Gregory  
Obsidian Investment Advisors  
425-558-5658 gggregory@obsidianllc.com

## Board Chairpersons

Economic Development  
Chair Crystal Fincher, Retail Lockbox  
Crystal@retaillockbox.com

Education Committee  
Chair Kevin Washington  
206-935-1228 washink@comcast.net

Fund Development Committee  
Chair William Dudley, J.C. Consulting  
425-917-8288 william@jcsreal.com

Gala Committee  
Chair Christa Peterson  
gala@tabor100.org

Government Affairs Committee  
Chair Cos Roberts, Urban Tech Systems  
206-658-2990 croberts@utechsystems.com

Membership Committee  
Chair Marques Bailey, MYO's Worldwide Travel  
mbailey496@aol.com

Public Affairs Committee  
Chair Marcee Jones, Trek & Travel  
206-851-8644 publicaffairs@tabor100.org

*Tabor 100 is a 501c3 non-profit association of individuals and business people dedicated to economic development, educational excellence and social justice for all people. Its efforts focus on elevating dialogue regarding how people of color can be full participants in the Washington State economy.*

## Visit to Legislature Allows for Exchange of Ideas

Continued from Page 1

Legislative Day were Garrett, Rudd, Roberts, Kevin Washington, Daniel Seydel, Marget Chappel and Victor Andino.

This month's visit included conversations with House Speaker Frank Chopp's Community Liaison Orlando Cano.

"In all our visits, the state officials were very gracious with their time and showed sincere interest in what we had to say," Garrett said. "I think this was a very successful African American Legislative Day."

As our state leaders grapple with decisions that will impact all citizens, members are urged to be sure their views are heard on the issues.

### State Legislation to Watch

**HB 1095** Increasing small business access to state contracting opportunities.

**HB 1096** Enhancing small business participation in state purchasing.

**HB 1167** Studying the linked deposit program.

**HB 1830** Establishing business definitions for public contracting.

**HB 2147** Closing the achievement gap in order to provide all students an excellent and equitable education.

**HB 2149** Regarding millennium schools.

**SB 5051** Creating an energy efficiency worker training program.

**SB 5534** Changing requirements for the restoration of the right to vote for people convicted of felonies.

**SB 5624** Restricting the use of mechanical restraints and chemical sprays for discipline in public schools.

**HB 2164** Remediating racial disproportionality in child welfare practices.

**Lilly**  
for  
**Better Health**

[www.lillyforbetterhealth.com](http://www.lillyforbetterhealth.com)

Learn more about what we're doing to **improve patient health.**

The advertisement includes a screenshot of the website showing various health-related content and a red ribbon graphic.