

EMPOWERMENT



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The Metropolitan Board of the Chicago Urban League
www.metroboard.org

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Midnight Mystique Date Auction participants (l to r): MB Member Andre Edmonds, Panya Gee, DJ Webb, Elizabeth Coleman and MB Member Charles Campbell.

Inside this issue:

Midnight Mystique Editor's Corner	1-2
Training Ground Recap	3-4
Pass the Mic	5
Glass Slipper Project	6
2nd Chance for Success Senior Prom	7
Teen Summit Interest Only Mortgage	8
BEEP Report Membership Check-in	9-10 11

Metroboard Rocks the Boat

By Tina Battle

In the midst of a calm Lake Michigan surrounded by Chicago's beautiful skyline, Metropolitan Board members, friends and supporters danced and mingled the night away aboard the regal Mystic Blue yacht. Dubbed *Midnight Mystique*, the

summer fundraiser held on Saturday, August 21, 2004 was attended by more than 300 urban professionals dressed in stylish yet relaxed summer attire. The pre-party, held at Lora D. Art Gallery set the tone for the night and promised the near capacity turn-out for the cruise.

Mystic Blue boarded at midnight, set sail at 12:30 a.m. and docked at 2:30 a.m. In between, a date auction sponsored by the Martini Bar was held with the highest bidders winning a date hook-up and a \$50 gift certificate to the bar. A raffle was also held on the top level,

providing impressive prizes to winners. Prizes included complimentary plane tickets courtesy of United Airlines, a two-night Hyatt hotel stay, gift certificates to salons, restaurants and more.

In the midst of it all, DJ Juan Woodbury (MB Member) inspired urban professionals to hit the dance floor and groove to old school jams, steppers cuts and hip hop hits. A buffet, as well as cash bar, was available all night. Cruisers also opted to

enjoy the mummer breeze under the moonlight on the boat's open deck.

Congratulations to the fundraising committee for pulling off this spectacular event; the public relations committee for helping pack the party; and the entire Metro-board for a job well done. *Midnight Mystique* offered attendees the perfect setting for professionalism, relaxation and downright fun. *Rock on Metro Board!*



Midnight Mystique attendees get their groove on to old school and hip hop hits.

Editor's Corner

Blacker Than Me

We sat in silence with our eyes fixed on the television screen as we watched a movie about the *Brown vs. The Board of Education* case. Suddenly a girl from the group leaned over to me and whispered, "You wouldn't know anything about this because you're not black." This is just one example of the painstaking ridicule I received as a thirteen-year-old black female from a group of fellow black female classmates. Their comments and actions lowered my self satisfaction so much that I was afraid to be myself around them, and I always feared what they would say next. As a result, silence became my unfortunate response to their comments which, in turn, produced prolonged ridicule and decreased self-esteem.

I remember dreading to go to my eighth grade history class because I was aware of the mockery I was sure to face. Whenever I answered the teacher's questions correctly, the girls from the group would call me "white girl." I knew that I was Black, so why were they calling me white? My thoughts never became verbally expressed assertions; therefore, my reluctance to speak up gave them more authority over me. They could sense my increasing level of intimidation and naturally capitalized on it through continuing their behavior. After hearing "white girl" so many times, I really began wondering what made me so different from them. After all, we shared the same skin complexion, so I didn't understand why they were blacker than me.

Whites created the culture of segregation in large part to counter black success and to develop an absolute distinguishing mark between the races. In doing this, they created whiteness and, in effect, blackness through the culture of segregation. Because I was intelligent, I was not black enough for the group of girls. It seems very odd that even in 1994 (when I was in the eighth grade) people continued to associate intelligence with whiteness. This is evidence of the successful attempt whites made to keep society ignorant; however, the great thing about ignorance is that it can always be cured through learning. Unfortunately, racial meaning is engraved upon all our experiences. The racial interpretation of everyday life and of the larger culture has been so finely tuned for so long and has become so ingrained, that it is now a "common sense." However, when you look at something as natural or common sense, you can't look past it to see the problem.



The girls knew from experiences and teachings that whites were supposed to be more intelligent than blacks. Therefore, when they looked at me and saw a black girl who was just as or more intelligent than her white counterparts, they immediately perceived me as being out of place. Race and its by-products such as the double consciousness are so problematic because they establish our identity but also deny us our identity. Race prevents us from being the best we can be.

The process of racial healing begins with engagement. When we engage, truly engage, we let go and grab on at the same time. When all of us, blacks and whites, openly and honestly discuss the perceptions and ideas we have of one another and realize how they are real or false, racial healing comes into focus. Talking openly could temporarily lead to arguments or hurt feelings; however, in the long run it lends to understanding which will eventually produce healing. I never saw or talked to the group of girls again after entering high school. I did learn from my experience, though, that it is my responsibly, our responsibility, to help other black boys and girls understand that our diversity is an asset, not a hindrance.

Candace Doby ~ candacedoby@hotmail.com

'Training Ground' Highlights

By Edgartt J Melton

The National Urban League Young Professionals (NULYP) held its

"Training Ground" conference July 21—25, 2004 in Detroit, Michigan. Billed as "A Next Generation Leadership Institute," the conference

was designed to "provide emerging leaders with the tools to participate in the resolution to the socioeconomic, political and social inequality problem within the African-American community." The Metropolitan Board had a strong presence at the conference with 22 members in attendance.

Some of the conference highlights included a powerful keynote speech delivered by Na-

tional Urban League President/CEO Mark Morial, former mayor of New Orleans, Louisi-

ana. In unveiling the new five point strategy for the National Urban League, Morial challenged the Honorable George Bush and John Kerry to participate in a

live televised debate devoted exclusively to urban and civil rights issues. There was also an Altria-sponsored Young Professionals dialogue and luncheon during the conference. The keynote speaker, financial expert Gail Perry-Mason, delivered personal finance and investing tips from her book "Girl, Make Your Money Grow!"

Honors were awarded to Congressman John Conyers, Jr. and Judge Damon J. Keith at

the Whitney M. Young, Jr. Gala for their long standing service to the African-American community.

For the first year since NULYP formation, awards were presented to NULYP chapters for creating and executing exceptional community service programs. The Metroboard was presented with an award for its HIV/AIDS awareness program, *Testing 1,2,3: Pass the MIC- Chicago Talks Aids*. This was a special award since it was the only one awarded in this category.

Overall, the conference was an unqualified success. More importantly, it became clear during the conference that the good works of the Metroboard have not gone unnoticed by the other 40 YP chapters. As the national organization grows, the Metroboard will be challenged with committing itself to a higher standard of excellence to remain at the forefront of the YP movement.



NUL President Mark Morial and MB Officer Janice Farrar.

Young Professionals From the Windy City Blow into Motown

By LaTonya Ford

From July 21st-25th Detroit was taken by storm with young professionals from all across the country who came together to network with other professionals, share chapter experiences and learn how they can continue to play

a vital role in advancing the Urban League movement. This year's conference, themed "Empowerment: Building on the Civil Rights Movement" promised to provide both new and old members with an experience like no other. I anx-

iously anticipated hearing the messages from our leader, Mark Morial, and the luncheon and plenary speakers such as Young and Rubicam CEO Ann Fudge, Detroit Mayor Kwame Kilpatrick and BET's Editor in Chief Alfred Edmonds Jr. The

Detroit conference served as my third NUL conference experience; however, for many of the 22 members attending from Chicago, this conference was their first.

For the first time since the formation of the National Urban

League Young Professionals (NULYP), we were given the opportunity to experience both the Young Professionals

Training Ground and the National Urban League (NUL) conference line up at the same time. This provided us with an excellent opportunity to network with other Urban League members who have been in the movement for 20 or more years. This interaction presented engaging dialogue, which in many cases resulted in the birth of new ideas that were taken back to home YP chapters.



Metroboard members at the NUL Conference in Detroit.

As always, the conference was filled with engaging sessions such as *Urban League 101: Defining "The Movement;" The Entrepreneurial Imperative: Is it Worth It? Are You Ready?;* *The Jobless Recovery and You: Staying Secure and Getting*

Ahead and many more sessions to choose from. The highlight for me was the Young Professionals Luncheon

with speaker

Gail Perry-Mason, author of "Girl Make Your Money Grow." She talked about her journey to the executive offices of Openheimer & Co. and the importance of educating the African American community and our youth about financial management and investing strategies. Perry-Mason will serve as graduation speaker for the Metroboard's Know Your Money Program this fall. While we were there for business, we also managed to have

a little fun. We enjoyed our free night with new and old friends from other YP chapters over dinner and partied with celebrities such as Malik Yoba. *Who would have thought that he could actually do the Running Man?*

After three days of informative sessions, I felt empowered to apply the information I learned towards improving the Metroboard. First time attendee LaTrice Smith felt the same, indicating, "I now realize that we, as a child of the Chicago Urban League, have to do more about exposing individuals to the doors that could lead to opportunity. I walked away from the conference knowing that I am one of the building blocks that will help construct a foundation for our people. It is up to all of us to join together and make that foundation a community."

For those who have not yet experienced a national conference and are serious about working to advance our communities; I look forward to seeing you in Washington D.C., the host city for next year's conference.



AN ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT INITIATIVE

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE NATIONAL URBAN LEAGUE



Classes will be held at the Chicago Urban League on Sept. 25, Oct. 9 and Nov 13 from 9am-1pm. Visit www.knowyourmoney.net for info.

Pass the Mic

By Josefina Aguayo

In Fall 2003, the National Urban League Young Professionals Council of Presidents unanimously agreed that for one day all NULYP chapters would sponsor events in their local market to encourage HIV/AIDS education, testing and prevention. From as far west as San Diego to as far East as Washington DC, an estimated 5,000 young professionals united with their communities to promote HIV/AIDS awareness.

In Chicago, the Metroboard (MB) hosted a weekend-long schedule of events starting on Friday, June 25th. In conjunction with the Kenny Johnson and the Richmond Group, MB invited guests to an exclusive film screening of the critically acclaimed movie *One Week*. The 250 guests enjoyed a complimentary reception with a Bacardi-sponsored open bar and a post-movie discussion with renowned speaker and AIDS activist Rae Lewis Thornton.

Part two of the weekend series addressed Chicago's teen community. 'MIC CHECK' was a half day symposium offering workshops, a live performance by dance troupe *The Sex Police* and an open mic contest, hosted by Chicago's own lyricist Malik Yusef. The winning

emcee, Edwin Ruyonga, was awarded a special plaque and certificate to have his winning 'flow' professionally produced by Ivan Dupee of Level Next Inc., to be aired on Power 92.

The 25-person committee worked tirelessly for months on this project, reaching out to corporate sponsors, visiting schools, talking with HIV activists and educators and in-



Chicago wordsmith Malik Yusef (left) and 'Mic Check' open mic contest winner Edwin Ruyonga (Right).

terviewing individuals and families impacted by HIV and AIDS. Metroboard member Melody Waller advertised the Saturday teen event in a live broadcast on Power 92 with Choklit Jok Tre.

Recently, the Metroboard was honored at the National Urban League Conference in Detroit where it was awarded the first ever NULYP National Day of Service Award for the work done with 'Pass the Mic'.

With over 70 individuals get-

ting tested on site and many more gaining a comprehensive understanding of HIV and AIDS, the weekend proved to be successful. The Metroboard's corporate, media and community partners stepped up to plate to support the important cause. Special thanks to Kenny Johnson, Comcast, Bacardi, Power 92, ICEE Records, Ivan Dupee/Level Next Inc., Costco, School Street

Movement, Project Vida and the University of Illinois at Chicago.

Chicago ranks 6th in the country of people infected with HIV. Young Americans between the ages of 13 and 24 are still contracting HIV at the rate of 2 per hour¹. Our caution and consciousness with this epidemic cannot stop now that this event has passed. For more information, counseling and/or testing, visit

www.aidschicago.org.

¹ www.liaac.net/teen_stats.html



Members of *The Sex Police* dance troupe participate in a skit at Saturday's event.

Cinderella for a Day

By Jennifer Gist



MB Member Jennifer Gist (right) with Glass Slipper participant.

Going to prom is a memorable time for every teenager - finding the perfect dress, getting your hair and nails done and securing the perfect date are all necessary for ensuring the perfect prom evening. While planning for your prom is a fun and exciting time, it can also be a bit stressful and quite expensive. This spring, Metroboard members volunteered with Glass Slipper, an organization whose purpose is to alleviate some of the stress and financial burden that comes along with going to the prom.

The Glass Slipper program donates used prom dresses, shoes, and other prom related accessories to junior and senior girls for their high school prom. In its seventh year, the Glass Slipper program has helped over 4,000 girls feel like Cinderella for one night.

So how does all of this work? Each spring, Glass Slipper sets up “boutiques” where girls can select a dress, shoes, purse, jewelry, make-up, perfume, shampoo, lotion and even pantyhose for their prom. Upon arriving at the boutique, the young ladies are given a number, called in groups of 15-20, and are assigned a personal shopper to help them select their prom wardrobe. To make shopping as easy as possible, dresses and shoes are arranged according to size and color. Along with about 200 volunteers, Metroboard members served as personal shoppers, assisting the young ladies in their selection of the perfect prom outfit. The Glass Slipper Project also had volunteer opportunities for those interested in setting up the boutiques before the event, organizing boutique rooms during the event and breaking down the boutiques after the event.

The popularity of the Glass Slipper Project has grown immensely over the past 7 years. In its first year, the Glass Slipper Project had approximately 20 dresses to give away. This

year, over 500 girls had the opportunity to choose from *thousands* of dresses. Dorian Carter, the founder of the Glass Slipper Project, stated “we not only have thousands of items to choose from at the boutique, but also hundreds of more items in storage.” Dresses are given away on a first come, first serve basis. Girls started waiting in line five hours before doors opened the best selection!

Boutiques are held over a course of three weekends during prom season each year. For more information about the Glass Slipper Organization, visit www.glassslipperproject.org.

People are like stained glass windows: they sparkle and shine when the sun is out, but when the darkness sets in, their true beauty is revealed only if there is a light within.

~Elizabeth Kubler-Ross~

2nd Chance for Success

By Roger Peden

According to the Urban Institute, previously incarcerated individuals return to jail due to unemployment. On Saturday, June 5, 2004, the Metropolitan Board of the Chicago Urban League held its third career development workshop for ex-offenders.

"Second Chance for Success" was designed to provide ex-offenders with employment leads. Human resource professionals and others provided over 60 participants with one-to-one resume development coaching, on-line job searching techniques and interview-ready clothing.

Several resources were avail-

able to provide specialized expertise in different arenas. Industrial Education and Resources provided participants with Safety Consultant Training and potential employment opportunities. The Legal Assistance Foundation of Chicago provided valuable legal information. Human resource professionals also provided insight in the specific industries they worked in.

To date, the "Second Chance for Success" has helped over 210 people create and develop leads for employment. For example, a 20-something, African-American male came into the workshop without any employment options. He said, "I just came out last week; I don't

know where I can get a job". Approximately an hour later, the same young man had a resume and a floppy disk in hand and a shirt, tie and pants on his shoulder. He stated, "I am going to Home Depot and then to the railroad."

Once again, the Metroboard has helped give someone a second chance.



Metroboard members help 2nd Chance participants with their resumes.

Things Ain't What They Used To Be

By Rebecca Dailey



Pioneer Village Seniors enjoy themselves at Senior Prom.

On Saturday, May 29th the Metropolitan Board hosted a senior prom for approximately 50 residents of

Pioneer Village Senior Citizen Home, located at 340 E. 38th St. The theme of the prom was "Things Ain't What They Used To Be." Metroboard men served as escorts for the women--which accounted for 96 percent of the audience that day. One female resident was so thrilled about the male escorts that she commented, "those young men looked really good and they

were all dressed so nice."

To ensure the ultimate prom experience, women were given corsages. Live entertainment was provided by the senior citizen band, *Lushus Lou and His Swingin' Crew* and prom pictures were taken. While each participant received special prom trinkets, raffle winners and the prom king and queen won tickets to attend the NAACP 50th Annual Freedom Fund Commemorative Dinner. Seniors were so excited about the prom event, they insisted that the Metroboard return

My Life, My Choices, Livin' Fabulou\$\$

By Sherry Franklin



Teens work in groups to develop financial plans for fictional families.

On Saturday May 22, The Metropolitan Board held its third annual Teen Summit, My Life "My Choices-Livin' Fabulou\$\$." The focus of this year's summit was financial empowerment. One hundred nineteen enthusiastic teens were given insight into the benefits of making sound financial decisions and the consequences of making bad ones.

The day began with Metroboard member Charles Camp-

bell getting the group of teens pumped and energized for that day. Then Melody Spann-Cooper and Pierre Cooper of Coops Records continued that energy with an opening address to the students. They spoke to the students about the impact that past financial decisions have on their lives.

Then the teens were split into groups and given the challenge of determining the monthly budget for four very 'budget challenged' families. These fictional families lived very different lifestyles: Jazzy J lived a fabulous life on credit, the Williams lived paycheck to paycheck looking for a way to get ahead, a single mother wavered between making good decisions to bad ones; and the Browns had an unexpected

baby on the way.

After lunch, the students regrouped to present the savvy financial plans they developed. They solved each family's situation by curbing Jazzy J's excessive spending habits, eliminating the single mom's expensive smoking habit, turning the Williams unavoidable hardship into an entrepreneurial opportunity and giving the Browns a baby reality check. Our students made wise decisions based on 'real life' situations.

The day ended with an award ceremony. Target provided CD Walkmans and \$20.00 gift cards to each winning team. This year's Teen Summit helped Metroboard volunteers realize that the youth of today are not lost as the media sometimes portrays them to be. Instead, they should be noticed for the smart, creative individuals that they are.

The Pros and Cons of an Interest Only Mortgage

By Alex Coffey

Every so often in the world of mortgage financing a new lending product emerges and becomes the new buzz. Typically the buzz is a lot of uneducated chatter based on what "my cousin..." or "my friend told me..." The latest topic is the 'interest-only' mortgage. An interest only mortgage is essentially what it

sounds like. It is a mortgage in which the borrower has to pay a finance charge only versus a standard principle and interest payment. These loan programs also come with drastically reduced interest rates. For example, I refinanced one of my customers into this program a few months ago. She qualified for a rate of 4.75%. That was 1% be-

low the prime market rate and 3% lower than what she was currently paying on the FHA loan she used to originally buy the home in October 2003. That's great! Or is it?

Well, the really great thing about an interest only mortgage is that your monthly housing expenses go down. The monthly

amount on a standard Principal and Interest payment for \$150,000 @ 7.75% is \$1,076. The same amount based on an interest only rate of 4.75% is \$594 a month—a savings of nearly \$500 on your monthly housing expense. The really bad thing is that your mortgage balance does not go down. Under this program, you are only paying interest. Not a single nickel of your payment goes towards principle. Thus, the \$150,000 you borrowed this year is the same amount you owe next year.

I only recommend this type of

program to borrowers who are truly conscience of their spending habits coupled with a wise investment plan. Let's face it, you can only benefit from saving \$500 a month if you do something wise with the money. Investing the savings into an annuity, mutual fund, or any long-term savings plan are all effective ways to assist you in accomplishing a financial goal. I tell borrowers to use an interest only program as long as it fits their needs. Perhaps you only want to stay in a home for a few years and move on. Why dump money into a mortgage that you are just go-

ing to pay off soon anyway? Following that logic, it is of no concern as to how fast the principle balance is decreasing. Plus, the property is still subject to normal rates of value appreciation, meaning you still build equity.

The interest only mortgage can usually be coupled with a split option mortgage. This gives borrowers an option to make interest only or regular principle & interest payments. This is a good payment option for seasonal professionals such as tax preparers and commissioned sales professionals.

Moving Forward by Giving Back: A BEEP Conference Report

By Rebecca Dailey

It is a peculiar sensation, this double-consciousness, this sense of always looking at one's self through the eyes of others, of measuring one's soul by the tape of a world that looks on in amused contempt and pity. One ever feels his two-ness,—an American, a Negro; two souls, two thoughts, two unreconciled strivings; two warring ideals in one dark body, whose dogged strength alone keeps it from being torn asunder.

(DuBois, W. E. B. *The Souls of Black Folk*)

Although I had studied and written about DuBois' theory of blacks living in a "double-consciousness" state while a student at my wonderful alma mater, Spelman College, it was only when I stepped into Corporate America that I truly understood what his words meant.

In the first few weeks of my

post college internship at a prominent Chicago public relations agency, I experienced my first case of corporate cruelty at the "majority" firm. My supervisor made subtle and inappropriate comments to make

my experience much different than the other interns who weren't as colorful as me. Unfortunately, this has continued over the past few years, but my experiences have made me stronger.



Managing Editor of *Teen People* Amy Barnett (left) with MB member Rebecca Dailey at BEEP conference.

Even though I attended a college that offered a positive and empowering learning environment for its students, I wonder now was I prepared for the "real" world of work? It is obvious that it wasn't necessarily prepared for me.

Besides learning how to deal with racism or sexism, what are other areas that students can benefit from learning about while in college? Is it possible to truly prepare students of color for the potential awkwardness they will feel in Corporate America? Can we actually equip them

me feel inferior and to make

with the knowledge to help them survive the interview process and then the actual job after they are hired?

In speaking to a fellow Historically Black College/University (HBCU) alum recently, I learned that she wished she knew just a little bit more about what to expect in Corporate America before she began her first job out of college a few weeks ago. She admitted that she has pondered over proper e-mail protocol. This first generation college student felt that she could have benefited from some basic knowledge of e-mail etiquette before starting her job.

With all this in mind, I eagerly accepted the invitation to represent the Metropolitan Board at the Black Executive Exchange Program's (BEEP) annual conference. I was interested in learning about this 35-year old program that made great efforts to assist HBCU students in dealing with the "real" world of work. I knew that it was important to learn as much as I could about how professionals could make a difference in the lives of HBCU students through this historic and successful program.

The theme of the 35th annual BEEP conference was, "Moving Forward by Giving Back,"

which truly encompassed the essence and spirit of this program. At this BEEP conference, participants and select students were allowed the opportunity to meet, fellowship, and talk about their experiences from the past school year. Attendees also participated in meaningful workshops. During the conference I attended the new BEEPer orientation. I learned that BEEP is a National Urban League program where NUL members serve as visiting professors and conduct two-day assignments on campus, during one semester at an HBCU. Program participants represent middle to upper level segments of business.

The facilitator mentioned that the mission of BEEP is "to share learning experiences across generations, cultivate new leaders, and inspire achievements 'beyond the possible' through committed involvement and operational excellence." Some of the topics that BEEPers cover at HBCUs include: interviewing skills; resume building; diversity in the workplace; sexual harassment in the workplace; organizational change; marketing skills and communication skills. Overall, the BEEP program allows students to interact and speak with professionals from different industries

before they transition to the workforce.

Besides the BEEP orientation, there were other important workshops and sessions designed to motivate and enlighten conference participants. Topics included: globalization/job loss, financial literacy, leadership and personal branding, organizational change and Blacks in the media.

Through speaking with new and old BEEPers and strategizing with BEEP director Charles Richardson on ways we can bring this program to Chicago, I am confident that it is possible to equip students with the knowledge to help them obtain and maintain a job. In order to move forward, we must give back.

Moving forward means that we find ways to make sure HBCU students are prepared and aware of the obstacles or challenges that lay ahead. As professionals, we have the opportunity to give back by sharing our professional expertise and experiences. Once we give back, we inspire others--especially students--to do the same. That's how the "movement" continues. We touch one person at a time and that person touches another—changing the world and moving forward by giving back.

BEEP
Black Executive
Exchange Program

If you are interested in volunteering on the BEEP committee, please e-mail pr@metroboard.org.

Member of the Month

Each month the Metroboard selects one member who has shown an outstanding level of commitment to the organization as "Member of the Month." Congratulations to the following recipients:

April: Michelle Gaskill

May: Jennifer Gist

June: Sherry Franklin

July: Lisa Bailey

August: Leslie Drish

Bronzeville Community Cares

Bronzeville Community Cares (BCC) was formed in June, 2004 as a way of encouraging, promoting and supporting togetherness in the Bronzeville Community. The group's mission is to provide support to the members of the Bronzeville community through the hosting of charitable events to support the community and other national non-profit organizations, educational programs and healthy living activities. Board members hope to engage local youth, teens, adults and

seniors, as well as community leaders, in working together to improve the outlook on education, health and the importance of giving back to the community.

Bronzeville Community Cares' Board of Directors is comprised of a diverse group of 5 urban professionals, including Metroboard member Terryn Murphy.

For more information on BCC, please contact Terryn at tmurphy@bcc-chicago.org



The community needs your help! Contact any of the committee chairs to find out how you can get involved:

Community Service, service@metroboard.org

Fundraising, fundraising@metroboard.org

Membership, membership@metroboard.org

Public Relations, pr@metroboard.org

Save The Date

Health Fair

October 16

10a-3p





Lush Lou and His Swingin' Crew get down at the Senior Prom.



Midnight Mystique crowd waits to board the Mystic Blue.



MB Officer Aaron Fulbright prepared dinner at the Living Room Café.



Metroboard members hang out at the NUL Conference in Detroit.



(l to r) MB Member Rebecca Dailey, Rev. Jesse Jackson, MB Member Marcus Dailey at the NUL Conference in Detroit.



Teen Summit speakers Melody Spann-Cooper and husband Pierre Cooper of 'Coops Records.'

Got questions or comments about this issue? Want to submit articles or pictures for future issues? Want to join the newsletter staff? Cool. Email the editor at candacedoby@hotmail.com

"Leadership is action. Not position."