



Message from the President

As the New Year begins, so does my new role as President of the Greater Columbia (SC) BDPA chapter. Going forward, I plan on building on the strengths of the chapter and its membership while moving in new directions to encourage increased participation in chapter events and to grow our "brand" in the community.

But, I will not be able to create new initiatives and increase value to the membership without your help. We have all observed the business marketplace and the IT industry change dramatically these past 18 months. Some of us have been fortunate to avoid a direct impact while some of us have not. In either case, we need to draw on the benefits that participating in the BDPA community - locally and nationally - can give to us.

I, along with newly elected officers, Moses Brown-VP Member Management, Wennie Lee-VP Member Services and Aniha Davis-VP Finance, have begun working on the chapter's 2010 strategy for instituting networking and training events that will enhance our members' professional and personal development. We have some ideas but we also want to hear from you.

Our first chapter meeting which is on Tuesday, January 12, 2010, will be an opportunity for you to come and be part of a membership work session to determine the direction the chapter's programming will take for this year and establish a framework for the following year, 2011.

I invite you to take one and half hours of your time to come to the chapter meeting and let us know what your expectations are from the chapter and what value the Greater Columbia (SC) BDPA chapter.

Thank you for your continued membership in BDPA and thank you for your confidence in electing me and my team to serve as your leadership.

I hope to see you at our first meeting for 2010.

Let's make this a New and Great Year!

Phyllis Coleman
President
Greater Columbia (SC) BDPA