

Welcome to the South African Payroll Association Electronic Newsletter October / November / December 2007

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Welcome to the SA Payroll Association's online news service. This edition is packed with highlights of our achievements to date, and we hope you will find the news informative and beneficial. Watch this space for details of up and coming events and the latest news. Your feedback is welcome. Please send it to val@payrollassociation.co.za



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Word from the Chairperson



James McKerrell

It gives me great pleasure as I look back on the last half of this year, to see that the Association has grown in strength. We have been quoted in the press and have received recognition from official sources.

The Conference held in September this year in Johannesburg, Durban and Cape Town was a great success and we look forward to planning for an even better conference in 2008.

Our relationship with the Services SETA has prospered and we can look forward to a much closer relationship with them in our efforts to gain recognition for the Payroll Professional. Moves are afoot to scope a Level 3 qualification which will serve as a bridge to attract younger qualified people to the profession. Bursaries are being offered to payroll practitioners to assist them in obtaining their qualifications and hopefully RPL will be available soon for those persons already experienced in all facets of Payroll.

As this year draws to a close, may I take this opportunity to wish you all a merry festive season and the very best in 2008.

James McKerrell, Chairperson of the S. A. Payroll Association.

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WELCOME

News



CONFERENCE 2007 JOHANNESBURG

Members and Friends of the Association joined together for a great turnout. The content was intense and the speakers were great. Postman Pat entertained us and left us with food for thought. Alan Wigley Chair of the British Institute gave us an insight into the activities of the I. P. P. which represents the payroll industry in the U.K.

The Johannesburg turnout was one of the best ever and in true Jozi style, it seems that everyone enjoyed every minute of it. The hotel school in Granger Bay was the venue chosen in Cape Town this year. There was also a great turnout and once word gets around of the wonderful fare served at lunch we will be turning delegates away next year. Durban also had the best turnout ever and in the great Durban tradition was a rocking rolling affair with wonderful audience participation.

We look forward to seeing all our friends again next year and meeting a whole lot of new friends who have heard of the fun we have and the wealth of information received. Don't be shy, if you enjoyed the conference, tell your colleagues and friends and join us again in 2008 for another great conference.

Val Forrest

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United Kingdom Payroll Conference in Edinburgh, Scotland.

Sponsored by the Services SETA, myself accompanied by the Business Services Chamber Manager Peta Broomberg were able to attend this conference. James McKerrell, kindly sponsored by CRS was also able to attend. This was a wonderful experience and has enabled the Association to improve and build upon our relations with sister associations in other countries. We met our counterparts from the United States, Canada and Ireland as well as the rank and file members of the I.P.P. I am always railing against the fact that the payroll Professional is largely unappreciated by Directors and employees in many companies and businesses and soon realized that this is not a South African problem. The input I gained was that this is the situation in most countries and it was wonderful to be with like minded individuals representing so many organizations that are fighting for recognition for the importance of the Payroll administrator and for them to be accorded the respect and status they so richly deserve. I have been assured of their co-operation in all fields.

Peta and I had some adventures or should I say misadventures. Our luggage did not arrive in Scotland until after 22h00 the day we arrived having left South Africa the night before. We had visions of having to attend their formal awards evening, the only two in jeans, tee shirts and smelly socks. James in the meantime having flown to London, caught the train to Edinburgh, only realizing later, it was the train going in the opposite direction. He hastily got off at the following station and caught a train going in the right direction and finally red faced arrived in Edinburgh. At least he had a change of clothing.

We learnt a great deal at their conference and have come back with some really good ideas. I was very pleased to see that they had copied from our conference and also have music playing their speakers up to the podium. We were welcomed with open arms and were made to feel a real part of the global payroll community. They gave us a wonderful introduction into Scottish culture with the bagpipes, single malts and even haggis.

It was great to get back home again, knowing that we truly are a part of the global village and can stand right up there with the best of them as equals or dare I say better than most. We will publish photos on our website when available, though certain members of my party may wish to vet the photos before I publish any.

WATCH THIS SPACE AS WE WILL HAVE MORE NEWS LATER ON INTERNATIONAL STANDARDS FOR THE PAYROLL PROFESSION.

Val Forrest

Service Seta News



Our own Val Forrest received the "Mover and Shakers" award at the Services SETA Annual Conference held at Sun City.

This award is presented annually to those people who in the opinion of the Services SETA have done their best to promote the industry which they represent.

No-one could have been more surprised than Val when her name was called.

This award is especially precious to her as the Association and its aims and mission are especially dear to her.

Well done Val!

Our Mission Statement

We are dedicated to the promotion of excellence and high standards within the payroll administration profession and the elevation of the payroll practitioner as a recognized professional.

For suggestions and enquiries please phone Val at (011) 433 2977 or e-mail: val@payrollassociation.co.za

Payroll Giving



With only a few days to Christmas, and 2008, everyone's hearts and lives are filling with joy, laughter and a spirit of giving...

Bighearted Payroll Giving companies throughout South Africa enabled us over the past 2 years to save lives, and to give hope and a future to thousands of children and animals in distress.

This was done through companies, such as yours, who collectively contributed in excess of R1,8 million for our charities over the past year. It just goes to show that every small contribution can help to make a big difference!

Thank you for having a heart - and for giving hope!

To date, Reach For A Dream has fulfilled the dreams of more than 7000 children. On average 5 dreams are fulfilled each day & 5 outings arranged each weekend nationally.

In essence, you help to bring joy & smiles to the lives of more than 527 children every month through their dream projects!

Congratulations to our Springbok Rugby Team!

Please know that, along with the rest of the proud nation, you had many special children supporting you all the way.

On the night of the final, Reach For A Dream had a "Camp Sunshine" in Port Elizabeth with 30 of their children - it was a sight and sound that cannot be forgotten - 30 brave little camp kids, standing hand on heart, singing the national anthem while listening to the radio, believing with all their might that you would be the champions!

The Bok Team have made so many dreams come true for our dream children - thank you for now also fulfilling the nation's dream of being the Rugby World Champions for the second time!



Wish upon a star...



Reach For A Dream, one of the benefiting charities, encourages children to use their dreams to fight life-threatening illnesses such as cancer and leukaemia, cystic fibrosis and muscular dystrophy, kidney failure and HIV infections.

Each Dream that is fulfilled carries with it a special moment, a moment that is stored in a place within your heart that lifts your spirits when you need it most...

Meeting Mark Shuttleworth!

Clinton van Zitters was selected in Payroll Giving's lucky draw to meet the modest, yet dynamic entrepreneurial tycoon, & first African in space, Mark Shuttleworth. What a priceless moment for Clinton, Health Care Manager from Aspen Pharmacare, a company who adopted Payroll Giving in June 2006.

From the meeting it was evident that, not only is Mark a mastermind in business, but he never ceases to revolutionize the lives of the less fortunate, by initiating educational programs & giving of his time to sustainable projects such as Payroll Giving.

His vision & enthusiasm is infectious - we are truly grateful for his support!

Thank you!



It's official - our Angels are growing in numbers day by day!



As Payroll Giving celebrates its 2nd anniversary, we currently have 6209 Angels uniting to make a difference.

The average contribution per person is an astonishing R40.74 pm!

We are truly thankful for each contribution, from R5 to R1000, and would like to assure you that every cent counts!

Thanks to every contributor for your support
In changing lives!

The challenge!

If the average participation rate in Payroll Giving can be increased by 5% before the Festive Season, with a constant average donation amount, our charities' income will increase by R138,410 per month, or more than R1,6 million per annum.

Imagine the difference you can make by challenging one non-Payroll Giving colleague to match your donation amount.

Together, we can embrace the season of giving - and make every life worth living!

What is Payroll Giving?

Payroll Giving is a simple & effective method for every person to make a real difference, & to know that their money is spent wisely.

Through Payroll Giving, companies give their employees an opportunity to contribute voluntarily any amount from as little as R5 on a monthly basis to our reputable charities. This is deducted automatically from their payroll, & contributions of more than R50 per month hold tax benefits for the contributors.

What a simple way to spread goodwill & give hope collectively?

Payroll Giving was initiated & is proudly supported by the South African Payroll Association

About us...

Imagine a world where everyone works together to make a difference...

The Giving Organisation is about good cause organisations working together.
It's about companies, employees, suppliers and customers uniting to make a difference.

The Giving Organisation is an independent Trust, owned and managed by its beneficiaries, audited by PricewaterhouseCoopers, and is honored to have Archbishop Desmond Tutu as its Patron.

Our product offerings have the exclusive goal to facilitate giving of small amounts of money that collaboratively make a big difference...

SMALL CHANGE = BIG CHANGE!!!

For more information on The Giving Organisation:
Visit www.thegivingorganisation.org
Or email office@thegivingorganisation.co.za

SMALL CHANGE = BIG CHANGE!

Calendar of Events ... 2008

The Association is currently in the process of identifying a number of topics that it would like to present in 2008, regularly throughout the year. As usual we look forward to your participation and the opportunity to engage in interesting discussions and presentations.

WE NEED OUR MEMBERS TO TELL US WHAT THEIR REQUIREMENTS ARE.

For suggestions and enquiries please phone Val at (011) 433 2977 or e-mail: val@payrollassociation.co.za

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Administration Notes



Payment of Conference Fees

Those members who attended the conference and have not yet settled their account. Please do so at your earliest convenience. These accounts are way overdue and payment is required urgently in order to finalise our books for our year end..

Please call Val on (011) 433 2977 or e-mail clippings or suggestions to her on: val@payrollassociation.co.za (subject line: SAPA news).

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SAPA Needs You!

In order to make our association more effective for all our members and our newsletter and website more vibrant and relevant, we need to make a call on you, our reader.

If you come across a news-story, article or event (especially when published outside the Gauteng area) that you believe would have an impact on the industry, or would be interesting to other payroll professionals as yourself, let us know about it. The extra eyes and ears would be appreciated and it would make for a more effective and relevant association. Also remember to pass on the newsletter and invitations to events to colleagues in the Finance or HR department and the directors.

Please call Val on (011) 433 2977 or e-mail clippings or suggestions to her on: val@payrollassociation.co.za (subject line: SAPA news). Let us know of any colleagues with inspirational achievements or who made major advances or in their payroll career. We would love to interview them. Remember to get the most benefit from membership to SAPA you should make every effort to attend the Annual General Meeting and budget and plan to attend seminars.

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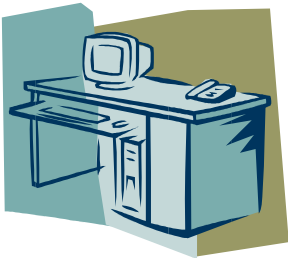
Advertise to Hit Your Target Market

It has been said that finding good payroll specialists to fill vacancies is a little like finding a needle in a haystack... a much easier job if you know where to look. The SAPA newsletter is one place that you get all the needles together in one little haystack. It's so easy, it's almost like cheating. The newsletter is read exclusively by dedicated payroll professionals such as you. Exactly who you need to reach when looking for someone to fill a gap, do a project or come aboard at your company.

Now the newsletter welcomes advertising for vacancies, which will be free for all members. We will also consider brand advertising at discount rates for SAPA members.

For advertising rates, contact Val Forrest on (011) 433 2977 or e-mail her on val@payrollassociation.co.za.

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Job Vacancies / Personnel

Payroll Education urgently require a Facilitator/Assessor who is registered with Services Seta. Please fax a 1 page CV to 011 453 2691 or e-mail it to joey@payrolleducation.co.za

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And finally ... on the lighter side

There are three engineers in a car; an electrical engineer, a chemical engineer and a Microsoft engineer. Suddenly the car just stops by the side of the road, and the three engineers look at each other wondering what could be wrong.

The electrical engineer suggests stripping down the electronics of the car and trying to trace where a fault might have occurred. The chemical engineer, not knowing much about cars, suggests that maybe the fuel is becoming emulsified and getting blocked somewhere.

Then, the Microsoft engineer, not knowing much about anything, comes up with a suggestion, 'Why don't we close all the windows, get out, get back in, open the windows again, and maybe it'll work !?'

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DISCLAIMER

The articles in this News letter represent the author's personal views and opinions and do not necessarily reflect those of the S.A. Payroll Association.

Payroll is the reason people come to work !