PLAY BALL! Headed to the Field of Dreams for the 36th Annual Leadership Division Convention & Mini-Trade Show!

The time is here -- get ready for a power-packed grand slam convention! Bankers, vendors, regulators and speakers are headed to the field of dreams at Amelia Island for the Leadership Division Convention & Mini-Trade Show! The convention runs from June 26 – 29, 2014, and we’ve created a league of our own with a stacked roster of exceptional speakers who are guaranteed to offer professional yet entertaining training for a successful future! Attendees will also hear from colleagues about the CBA Leadership Division (LD) initiatives, learn about the latest innovations in bank products and services at the Mini-Trade Show, and enjoy the “MVP” Chairman's Family Dinner where the Leadership Division Representative of the Year will be announced, followed by wonderful entertainment.

Among a host of new activities added this year is "Runnin’ at The Ritz!" Attendees can choose from a 5k or the Kids 1-Mile Fun Run. This fundraising activity is for the whole family and begins Saturday morning on the beach at approximately 6:00 a.m. for adults and 6:50 a.m. for kids. Adult registration fees benefit CBA’s PAC/PR, and children’s registration fees benefit Children’s Healthcare’s Strong4Life program. If you haven't signed up yet, don't worry! On-site registration will be available.

The convention is the place to be! The theme, “Hitting a Home Run,” is sure to happen! Stay tuned for next week's newsletter for a full recap!

A Special Thanks to the 2014 Convention Sponsors and Exhibitors!

Upcoming Events

Analyzing Corporate Financial Statements and Tax Returns
   June 26
   Atlanta

Training the Credit Analyst
   July 9-10
   CBA Headquarters
   Atlanta

Workplace Law & Compliance Program Workshop II
   July 17
   Atlanta

CBA Resources

2014 Georgia Financial Directory
Career Center
FDIC Regulatory Calendar
Salary Survey
A Blow for Patent Trolls

The U.S. Supreme Court has ruled that abstract business ideas are ineligible for patent protection in a case that involved a method for reducing risk in foreign exchange transactions. The unanimous ruling in favor of CLS Bank, a clearing house for foreign exchange, is "in line with earlier decisions of the court that were wary of stifling innovation," according to the Financial Times. Abstract software patents pedaled by so-called "patent trolls" are a growing problem for the tech industry, according to the Wall Street Journal. Now "companies can't simply stick an abstract idea into a computer and claim a software patent for it," Brent Kendall writes. The FT takes a look at the ramifications of the ruling, noting that the decision "brought a wave of relief in the software and financial services worlds."

SBA's Waiver of Cash-Flow Analysis Divides Bankers

American Banker reports the Small Business Administration believes it has found the right balance to speed up its loan process while maintaining credit quality. Some observers have their doubts. The agency will no longer require lenders to complete an analysis of certain borrowers' cash flow or debt-service coverage on 7(a) loans of $350,000 or less, starting July 1. The move is designed to accelerate the application process and reach underserved business owners.

Some industry observers, while appreciative of efforts to reduce the amount of time and paperwork for a small-business owner to get a loan, are expressing concerns that the change could contribute to credit deterioration.

"I applaud the efforts and the new administration … but I have mixed thoughts" about the new credit requirements, says Arne Monson, president of Holtmeyer & Monson, a firm that provides SBA lending services to banks. "I think it is shortsighted and will lead to problems."

The SBA has implemented changes to encourage lenders to make more small-dollar loans. Lenders sometimes avoid these loans because they take the same amount of work and time to complete as bigger, more profitable loans, experts say. The agency last fall waived fees on 7(a) loans of $150,000 or less to generate more interest.

Eliminating a requirement for cash-flow analysis, one of the most time-consuming parts of underwriting, should cut the time it takes to complete the process in half, says Ann Marie Mehlum, associate administrator for the SBA's Office of Capital Access. Click here to read the full article.

Regulatory Change in Classifying Kasasa Accounts

According to a company announcement, BancVue and the FDIC have had an ongoing dialogue related to Kasasa accounts being classified as brokered deposits. In May of 2014, the agency issued direction that could have negatively impacted consumer access to Kasasa products by classifying them as brokered. On June 10, after collaborating with the FDIC leadership, BancVue received word that Kasasa accounts would NOT be classified as brokered if BancVue made two modifications to its business. In the announcement, BancVue stated it recognizes the significance of this decision and will comply with the FDICs requests prior to the end of June
Fed Urged to be More Flexible Concerning TruPS Deferrals
ICBA met with senior regulators at the Federal Reserve to urge them to adopt a more flexible supervisory approach toward community bank holding companies that are facing deadlines on their dividend deferrals for trust preferred securities, or TruPS. Because of the recent Wall Street financial crisis, many community bank holding companies were forced to defer dividend payments on their TruPS instruments and are now facing a five-year deadline on their deferrals.

ICBA told the Fed that there needs to be a more flexible supervisory approach toward banks that may be under consent orders and that are facing deadlines on their TruPS deferrals. ICBA is concerned that if the supervisory approach is too rigid, many banks will be unable to pay any dividends to the holding company, resulting in defaults on their TruPS instruments and possible bankruptcy or sale of the bank.

Yellen Sets No Deadline on Short-Term Wholesale Funding Fix
American Banker reports that Federal Reserve Board Chair Janet Yellen recently offered few clues when regulators would move ahead with issuing a proposal to address risks tied to short-term wholesale funding.

"I'm afraid I can't give you a detailed timetable when we will move forward with that rule," said Yellen at a press conference following a two-day Federal Open Market Committee. She declined to say if a proposal could be unveiled before the end of this year.

Instead, she once again gave her public support for taking "some action to diminish the incentives for heavy reliance on short-term funding."

"We still see that as one of the risks to the financial system that wasn't really addressed in the risk-based capital requirements that we put out, or in the liquidity coverage ratio that's out for proposal," said Yellen. Click here to read the full article.

Executive & Director Compensation Trends & Best Practices Seminar Fast Approaching
The landscape surrounding total compensation practices in community banking has changed. The economic downturn, increased regulation, public perception and shareholder activists have all had an impact on today's banking compensation environment. The ultimate result of these changes - some by necessity, some by choice and others by regulatory force - has yet to be fully determined. The one certainty is there will continue to be change. It's important to keep an eye on best practices, but ultimately, you should do what makes sense for your organization. To keep you connected with today's compensation environment, don't miss this new ½ day seminar being held on Tuesday, July 29, 2014, at CBA Headquarters in Atlanta.

Hotel Reservation Deadline Fast Approaching for August BSA Officer School, IT Security Conference and Bank Directors
College

In August, the CBA is hosting informative educational programs in the beautiful cities of St. Simons and Savannah. These programs are designed specifically for community bank Presidents & CEO’s, Bank Directors, Information Technology (IT) Officers and Bank Secrecy Act (BSA) Officers. The CBA invites you to attend ONE or ALL of these programs. Please note the hotel reservation deadline below and make your hotel reservation today in order to receive the CBA discounted hotel room rate! For instructions on how to make your reservation and to register for the program(s), click the link(s). For assistance, please contact Donna Coutant or Jodi Swilley.

**Advanced BSA Officer School – August 5 - 8, 2014**
The King & Prince Golf & Beach Resort, St. Simons Island
(Hotel reservation deadline is July 5, 2014 or until the room block is full)

**IT Security Conference – August 14 – 15, 2014**
Westin Savannah Harbor Golf Resort & Spa
(Hotel reservation deadline is July 13, 2014 or until the room block is full)

**Georgia Bank Directors’ College & FDIC Workshop**
Westin Savannah Harbor Golf Resort & Spa
(Hotel reservation deadline is July 17, 2014 or until the room block is full)

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**Century Bank of Georgia Awards Memorial Scholarship to a Deserving Student**

Rick Drews, CEO, Century Bank of Georgia, Cartersville, is pictured awarding Isaiah Ross the $1,500 Century Bank of Georgia/Sam C. Smith Memorial Scholarship. Isaiah, who will be attending Point University in West Point in the fall, plans on playing football for the Point University team, the Skyhawks.
Build Georgia Awards 2014 Recognizes Local Community Bank

Congratulations to the Community Bank of Dublin-Laurens County for their renovation project that was recently recognized in the Atlanta Business Chronicle for the Build Georgia Awards 2014. Within the commercial historic district of Dublin sits 605 Belleve Ave., a property originally constructed in the early 1900s as the home of local banker and businessman T.H. Smith. It was built by T.H. Smith’s father, J.D. Smith, who is, coincidentally, the great grandfather of the owner of Garbutt Construction Co., the project’s renovators.

The layout was revised to accommodate the bank, so many interior walls were demolished and rebuilt. The home had a funeral parlor and mortuary that were converted into an administrative space, storage and a break room. Learn more about the Dublin Bank Renovation by reading the Winter 2013 edition of Georgia Communities First magazine!

A Fresh Face in Debit Cards. Yours.

Discover® Debit Offers a Compelling Alternative in Signature Debit

If you are looking for an alternative signature debit card program, reissuing with Discover Debit could be your direct route to greater profitability. PULSE puts your brand at the forefront and deliver superior economics and simplified rules along with a comprehensive fraud mitigation program and the flexibility to choose features that matter to your cardholders. The advantages are clear:

- Superior Economics
  Discover Debit boosts revenue through highly competitive interchange, lower network fees and greater fee transparency.

- Security
  Discover Debit uses PULSE’s comprehensive fraud mitigation service, DebitProtect®, which provides early warning fraud detection based on neural network technology.

- Simplicity
  We streamlined the billing format to allow you to clearly see costs and fees. Furthermore, our operating regulations are simplified compared to those of our competitors.

- Flexibility
  Our flexible approach to branding and implementation enables you to build a program that suits your banker specific needs and offers the features cardholders want.

With your brand front and center, Discover® Debit is sure to please your cardholders. For more information, contact CBA Endorsed Member Mark Reda, PULSE at 819-854-2210.
Community Bank of the South -- Smyrna
Patsy Hill has joined the bank as Vice President of Loan Operations and Administration.

First National Bank of Decatur County -- Bainbridge
Brad Barber has joined the bank as Chief Executive Officer.

Send Us Your News
Please remember to include the Community Bankers Association of Georgia on the list of recipients for announcements about promotions, new employees, special recognition your bank has received and/or events for your community. We would love to share your news with your colleagues across the state! Please forward your announcements and photos to Shera Banks or Lindsay Greene.

July 2014

Training the Credit Analyst
Wednesday-Thursday, July 9-10, 2014 - JHTC at CBA Headquarters, Atlanta

Workplace Law & Compliance Program - Workshop II
Topic: “Workplace Laws for the Financial Industry”
Thursday, July 17, 2014 – SIO Law Group, Atlanta

Workplace Law & Compliance Program – Workshop II
Topic: “Workplace Laws for the Financial Industry”
Thursday, July 24, 2014 – Idle Hour Country Club, Macon

Compliance Program II Topic: “Mortgage Lending From Start to Finish”

Executive and Director Compensation Trends & Best Practices (1/2 day)
Tuesday, July 29, 2014 – JHTC at CBA Headquarters, Atlanta

August 2014

2014 Mastering the Home Mortgage Disclosure Act (HMDA)
Thursday, July 24, 2014 – Idle Hour Country Club, Macon

Executive and Director Compensation Trends & Best Practices (1/2 day)
Tuesday, July 29, 2014 – JHTC at CBA Headquarters, Atlanta
7  Annual Advanced BSA Officer School  
Tuesday-Friday, August 5-8, 2014  
The King & Prince Golf & Beach Resort, St. Simons Island  

9th Annual Information Technology (IT) Security Conference  
Thursday-Friday, August 14-15, 2014 – Westin Savannah Harbor Golf Resort and Spa  

5th Annual Bank Directors’ College and FDIC Workshop  
Monday, August 18, 2014 – The Westin Savannah Harbor Golf Resort and Spa  

Commercial Lending School  
Monday - Friday, August 18-22, 2014 – Julian Hester Training Center, Atlanta  

13th Annual BSA Officer School  
Monday-Wednesday, August 25-27, 2014 – Julian Hester Training Center, Atlanta  

Compliance Program III: Georgia Deposit Documentation (Five Cities)  
Tuesday, August 26, 2014 – Rome (New Date)  
Wednesday, August 27, 2014 - Duluth (New Date)  
Tuesday, September 23, 2014 - Macon  
Wednesday, September 24, 2014 - Tifton  
Thursday, September 25, 2014 - Savannah