



POWER!

April 29, 2010

The guest speakers for the CIS Club on Thursday, April 29, 2010 were Luke Matthews, membership chair, POWER! and John Phillips, events chair, POWER!.

POWER! (Professionals Organized and Working to Enrich the Region) is an informal group of progressive-thinking professionals whose mission is to promote the region as a vital and pleasurable place to live, work and play. The initiative has successfully created a forum for area professionals in the region to not only meet, socialize and network with their peers, but to become involved in shaping their community.

POWER! was created in response to the continual loss of youth in the Northeastern Pennsylvania region. By using other Pennsylvania based progressive thinking professionals' organizations as guides, POWER! was created through the Great Valley Technology Alliance to provide more recreational and networking opportunities for the progressive thinking population in the region. POWER! members meet on a regular basis to give progressive thinking professionals an opportunity to voice their opinions and solutions about the region in a casual, peer-oriented atmosphere. POWER! is also a great way to find new jobs, new employees, or even new friends. Many of our members own their own business and take advantage of the POWER! mailing list to reach new prospective customers. If you are a recent graduate or just trying to find a different career path, you may find the lead that you were looking for at the next "POWER! Outage", which take place each month at local bars/restaurants.

So whether you are looking for a new job, new friends, or just something new to do, POWER! can help you. We are composed of volunteer members who are dedicated to making the region a more dynamic place and who also share a common vision of keeping our best and brightest progressive thinking professionals in our region.

To accomplish this POWER! has set forth 3 basic goals:

- To create awareness of specific community issues, show support for the community and to become visible participants in helping the community.
- To provide informative forums regarding topics of professional interest and to get involved and give the group a voice in political functions, economic development, upcoming community projects and community updates.
- To encourage networking among the group and to recruit new members, while providing a fun, yet always professional, atmosphere. POWER! will provide a venue for the groups (Hazleton, Scranton, and Wilkes-Barre) each month, deemed a “POWER! Outage” - a social activity created specifically for the group to network, encourage new memberships and meet new people.

By involving progressive individuals in a support network like POWER!, Northeastern Pennsylvania will enhance its ability to attract and retain the knowledge and talent necessary to build a better economic future for the region.

Shown are, from left, first row – Luke Matthews, Warrior Run, membership chair, POWER!; Shirley Yanovich, Dallas, advisor, CIS Club and chair, CIS program, LCCC; Vedish Shah, Scranton; Bill Phillips, Eynon; Mark Chapman, Pittston; Kristin Augustine, Shavertown; and Joan Siepietowski, Glen Lyon.

Second row – John Phillips, Scranton, events chair, POWER!; Richelle Smith, Hazleton, vice president, CIS Club; John Lynch, Pittston; Derek May, Wilkes-Barre; Joann Evan, Plymouth; and Allen Hargett, Wilkes-Barre.

Third row – Katie Pazamickas, Swoyersville, president, CIS Club; Ross Lessard, Dallas; Joseph Juliano, Archbald; Curtis Love, Hunlock Creek; Abdullah Abdurruzzaq, Plymouth, student government representative, CIS Club; and Brian Reese, Pittston.