

GROW

Golfers Recognizing Opportunities for Women



Women on the GROW

March 1, 2010

Featuring K. Dawn Rutledge Jones



K. Dawn Rutledge Jones has more than 10 years of diverse experience in the media, marketing, public relations and events management. She has been a working journalist in print, radio and television and has taken on key communications roles in the non-profit, corporate, government and higher education sectors. Dawn has been a woman on the grow for quite some time. She was the youngest woman (at age 23) to oversee editorial content development for *The Tennessee Tribune*, the first woman to ever coordinate and manage the full-time marketing and public relations efforts for the 100 Black Men of Middle Tennessee, Inc. and was the first black female to take on a corporate communications role with FORTUNE 1000 company, Cracker Barrel Old Country Store, Inc.

Dawn is also involved in numerous civic and service organizations, and is currently President of the National Coalition of 100 Black Women, Metropolitan Nashville Chapter. She is a graduate of the Young Leaders Council, Leadership Middle Tennessee, Leadership Nashville and the Jewell Jackson McCabe Emerging Leaders Institute.

Dawn is also a 2004 nominee of the prestigious Nashville ATHENA Award, which recognizes women who excel to leadership. She is a founding board member and former officer of the Nashville Black Chamber of Commerce, a former board member for Dress for Success Nashville, the Nashville Multi-Cultural Partnership and has worked with the Miss Black Tennessee Scholarship Pageant assisting contestants in polishing their public speaking and interviewing skills. Dawn frequently works with and speaks to groups on diversity and minority issues in the media and communications fields. She is committed to mentoring young people interested in pursuing careers in journalism and/or communications and has worked with the Nashville Association of Black Journalists, the Anthony J. Cebrun Journalism Center and Tennessee State University's Ida B. Wells Journalism Institute. Her hands-on approach has helped to influence young people to attend college and pursue a career in the field.

In a recent discussion with Dawn re: her interest in GROW, she comments on the game.

How often do you play? "While I don't have the opportunity to hit the greens as much as I would like, I have made it my goal to increase my involvement with GROW this year and take part in the opportunities that GROW provides to network and play with colleagues."

Why are you interested in GROW? "I truly believe that women should network and support each other, and GROW provides an opportunity to do that. I am interested in GROW because it connects women with opportunity and friendships. In the midst of trying to balance family, demanding careers, finances and community, it is important to have a strong network of individuals with like interests and responsibilities who can relate to your situation. Additionally, GROW allows for a recreational activity that is fun and good exercise."

Do you play for business, leisure, etc? "Since I don't consider myself to be a 'serious' golfer, I am most interested in the camaraderie developed from the game. But certainly if business opportunities happen to develop from that, then I see that as a bonus!"

Growing Golfers One Stroke at a Time!

A Message from President Tracy Pointer www.growtoday.com

Hi ladies! Did you know that March is officially Women's History Month? On March 1, 2000, a Proclamation by the President of the United States was issued to recognize and highlight the extraordinary achievements of women throughout our history. As I recognize the opportunity to reflect I ask, "How will you make your history?" Dawn, like so many of the women of GROW, has done so by achieving many career and personal milestones particularly as it relates to marketing and public relations and then she continues to help others grow as she mentors young people who pursue related careers. She is an advocate to be recognized. Congratulations Dawn! We see you growing. Furthermore, Dawn continues to serve the community through civic and service organization involvement i.e. Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, LINKS, and the National Coalition of 100 Black Women. Consider joining Dawn at this year's 100 Black Women's Sister-for-Sister Conference on Saturday, March 27, 2010. For additional details and the conference agenda, visit www.nashville100bw.org.

It is time for GROW Girl sessions. Some of you may recall that last year on August 31, GROW partnered with Big Brothers Big Sisters of Middle Tennessee and some of the women of GROW became mentors to Littles. The focus on mentoring is one of the components of GROW that may not be directly related to the game of golf: helping young girls to grow and realize their fullest potential. Monthly sessions have been planned for March through July. The fun-filled, developmental agenda includes charm and etiquette classes using golf analogies, a session with Miss Black Tennessee, health and wellness, and an exciting finale that will allow them to achieve step one of fulfilling their dreams! GROW Girls are age 10-12. It is not limited to Littles (mentees from Big Brothers Big Sisters). Please contact me via email or phone to receive a registration form and itinerary. The first session is Saturday, March 20, 2010. Seed you soon.™



Questions or comments or to add or be removed from the mail list info@growtoday.com
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