

#1 GLOBAL
BESTSELLER



UMOJA

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE NBCFAE

welcome to our Summer Love issue



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editor's note

The warmest season of the year is upon us... Summer, when all that has been planted will flourish. What we love about summer is the opportunity to enjoy the outdoors whether it be at a cookout with friends and family, a rooftop day party, a relaxing time at the pool or beach or even just having quiet time on the porch or backyard watching the sunset. There's so much to love about summer. In this issue we want to talk about summer love. The love we have for our communities, children, careers and each other continues to grow within the NBCFAE. As we all know at the peak of summer, we will have our 43rd annual National Training Conference in Baltimore, MD, hosted by the Northeast Region. This will be another chance to show love through training, education, networking, building net worth and career advancement. In this issue we want to spotlight our Western Pacific member Kevin McCants. He talks about his love for life, his wife and his growing family and how that has contributed to his career success and growth with the additional support of the NBCFAE. We also provide tips on how to make the most of keeping your relationship healthy while working shift work. Umoja also wants to give you, our members a huge shout out for all the ways you give and show love to each other every day! Thank you for your continued support! We'll continue to show you love in our events and snapshots. Finally, we wanted to talk to a couple who briefly discuss dating and marriage while creating a work/life balance which can be especially difficult when shift work can have you on opposite sides of the day. As summer approaches we at Umoja will be taking our own summer break to reset and find inspiration while working on other projects within the NBCFAE. We will be back in September.

Umoja



Last month NBCFAE members participated in various aviation related outreach across the world.



1. NBCFAE National President Freddie Green signs NEF Charter in DC at the beginning of this month.
2. NBCFAE & NHCFAE hosted a meet and greet on June 6th in Washington DC.
3. NBCFAE members participated in NATCA in Washington events last month.
4. HQ President Aldwin signs up new members at a recruitment drive last week.
5. Members of NBCFAE legislative team met with various legislators last month.
- 6-9 On May 29, 2019, members of DC Flight Club, had the opportunity to attend Career day at Rosa L. Parks Elementary School. Members of DC Flight Club, founded by Aubrey Farar, that attended are HQ member Chandra and DC Chapter member Terry.

NBCFAE UPCOMING EVENTS



JUNE

NBCFAE GL (DETROIT CHAPTER) 24-28
**Ace Camp in Partnership w/
 Black United Fund of Michigan
 Wayne State University**
 For more info
 visit www.bufmi.org/events



**NATIONAL
 SCHOLARSHIP
 NOW OPEN**

DEADLINE: 6/15/19



WWW.NBCFAE.ORG

JULY

NBCFAE HQ
20th Annual Ace Camp 8-12
**Partnership with OBAP
 At Northern Virginia Community
 College**

For more info
 visit www.nbcfae.org/events

NBCFAE GL (DETROIT CHAPTER) 8-12
**Ace Camp in Partnership w/
 Black United Fund of Michigan
 Wayne State University**

For more info
 visit www.bufmi.org/events

NBCFAE GL (DETROIT) 22-26
**Ace Camp in Partnership w/
 Black United Fund of Michigan
 Ypsilanti Community Schools**
 For more info
 visit www.bufmi.org/events

AUGUST

26-29
43RD NBCFAE National Training Conference
Renaissance Baltimore Harborplace Hotel
202 East Pratt Street
Baltimore, MD 21202
 For more info visit www.nbcfe.org/events



OCTOBER

NBCFAE NE 11-18
Nigeria Ace Academy
Lagos, Nigeria
 For more info contact
ejidefashina@gmail.com



VISIT
WWW.NBCFAE.ORG/EVENTS
 FOR MORE DETAILS



Kevin McCants (BFL)



Kevin McCants is an Air Traffic Controller from Nashville, TN.

Growing up he excelled in football and track and field. He believed opportunities for his success would be through athletics. He went on to become a standout football player in college at the historically black college, The Alabama A&M University, in Huntsville, AL where he met his lovely wife, Ayla, a fashion design and Business Administration major. Kevin majored in Electrical Engineering and Psychology. After completing his football career, he realized that neither football nor the engineering field were for him, Kevin then set his sights on Air Traffic Control.

Presented with the three pathways to become a controller, Kevin decided to take the military route and joined the United States Navy where he served at 3 facilities, Navy New Orleans, Navy Meridian, MS and Naval Outlying Field Joe Williams.

After completing nearly 6 years of service, Kevin completed his dream of becoming an FAA Air Traffic Controller when he was hired in 2015 at Meadows Field Airport in Bakersfield California.

In 2016, Kevin attended the Air Traffic Controllers Annual Safety Event in Las Vegas, Nevada. Upon arriving there, he was greeted by the NBCFAE. He received valuable support, peer mentorship and an overwhelming sense of empowerment that he too could successfully complete any training program the agency offered.

In 2017, Kevin became a fully certified tower and radar approach controller, earning him the title of Certified Professional Controller (CPC). He also became an On The Job Training Instructor, charged with training the next generation of controllers in his facility.

.... continued on page 5



Kevin and his Wife, Ayla, have enjoyed traveling, and growing together during their 7 years of marriage but their hearts longed for one missing piece. They have always wanted to be parents. After trying for over 6 years to conceive, they underwent IVF and have been blessed to finally conceive their first child, Kevin the 3rd, who is due June 1st, 2019. Kevin recently completed his Psychology Degree on May 10th, 2019, citing his Son as inspiration to finish what He started.

Kevin participates as a mentor through many organizations and wants to encourage Young Black Boys and Girls to believe in themselves to succeed outside of athletics and to seek opportunities that stimulate them mentally and he believes that with an attitude to win and when people reach back to help others, success is inevitable!



Kevin Anthony McCants III was welcomed into the world with love on May 22, 2019 in California. Beaming with pride and joy, Kevin refers to his son, Trey, as perfect and the actualization of his and his wife's wildest dreams!

For more pictures of Trey be sure to check out Kevin's Facebook page!



THE EFFECT OF SHIFT WORK & RELATIONSHIPS

Studies have shown shift workers to experience increased stress and irritability due to inconsistent sleep patterns combined with other emotions. If the other partner in the relationship has a career with more regular hours, they may experience feelings of loneliness. If there are children or others to be cared for in the home, this partner may feel a greater sense of responsibility and accountability. These feelings may lead to resentment and frustration. Shift work may not be the ideal way of working or living, but it may be necessary in some of our careers, however, even with all of the negative things stated, there is hope. If you and your partner work different shifts, there are ways to ensure you still maintain a happy and healthy relationship.



Consider these tips:

1

BE COMMITTED

You have to be committed to doing the work it takes to maintain a relationship. Communicating via text, FaceTime, phone calls or emails... Cleaning or performing needed household activities even if it's your "me time" that's jeopardized.

2

QUALITY VS QUANTITY TIME

You must make time for one another. Whether it's a date night or date day; spend time when you can.

3

UNDERSTANDING

Your partner has to be understanding. Understanding can't come without transparency and accountability. Make sure you and your partner understand your schedule and corresponding lifestyle.

Plenty of research studies show shift work has a negative effect on health, relationships, marriages and children, and increases rates of separation and divorce.

When partners work different shifts there is often small amounts of face to face interaction. It becomes difficult to plan any family activities, maintain healthy communication, and intimacy.

Relationships take hard work. For partners who have very different schedules, hectic lifestyles, or minimal time to spend together, these relationships may require a little extra work. You may choose to use some or all of the tips in this article or you may choose to use none. Evaluate your relationship, look at your partner's needs, and do whatever is necessary to keep your relationship healthy.

Don't let shift work get the best of you.



ALICIA CLARK (D21)

I have been at Detroit TRACON since the beginning of my FAA career in 2008. I fully certified in 2011 and became an Operations Supervisor in 2015. For the past year I've been serving as the Training Supervisor. In this role, I have been responsible for all aspects of training, from the simulation lab to the OJT process. Prior to working for the FAA, I was employed by the USPS. I am currently working toward a Doctorate of Business Administration (Baker College) with a concentration in Leadership Studies. I've earned an MBA in Human Resource Management & MBA in Leadership Studies (Baker College) as well as a Bachelor's of Arts in English from Wayne State University. I serve as the Detroit Chapter Vice President and have been a member of the coalition for 7 years.

THE CLARK STORY

Aaron and Alicia met on a cold morning on the eastside of Detroit in early 2008 when Aaron was visiting his brother who lived in Alicia's apartment building. They made eye contact and were inseparable; they seemed to have an instant connection that delved deeper over time. Alicia went to the academy for a few months when they had just began dating and during Aaron's visits he helped her study and developed an interest in ATC as well. The pair stress the importance communication and understanding of each other's schedules allows them to maintain a relationship through shiftwork. The Clark's have been married since 2011 and have a 5 year-old daughter Aria.



AARON CLARK (YIP)

I have been in the FAA for almost a year and I am currently a CPC-IT at Willow Run Airport in Detroit, MI. After over three years of attempting to get into the FAA, I finally received the opportunity to go to the academy. Prior to the FAA, I worked for the United States Postal Service as a mail carrier. I have been a NBCFAE member since July of 2018 and was able to attend my first conference last year in Chicago.





Coming to the National Conference!!

Ladies don't forget to sign up for the 1st NBCFAE Conference Glam Suite.

The suite will have MUA's on hand to do your makeup before the start of the ball. Ladies look your best at this year's conference gala!

Click below for more information about how to sign up!

**ARE YOU REGISTERED FOR
THE CONFERENCE?**

**IS YOUR HOTEL ROOM
BOOKED FOR THE
CONFERENCE?**

**DON'T MISS OUR
NBCFAE DISCOUNTS!
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FOR MORE INFO!**



Announcing the 1st Official
NBCFAE Conference

GLAM SUITE

Members and their guests can book
Make-up application services for a flat rate
in preparation for the
C. Alfred Anderson Awards Gala.

You will choose from a list of select Make-
up artists and have the opportunity to
review their work.

Artists, pricing and other details will be
posted soon. Those interested should send
an email to the POC below to get on the
list or request additional/alternative
services so that we can also gauge
participation for this new feature.

AUGUST 29, 2019

4:30 PM-7:00 PM

For more details & to sign up, please
contact: nbcfae.special.assistant@gmail.com
by July 12, 2019

THE NATIONAL BLACK COALITION OF FEDERAL AVIATION EMPLOYEES

**43RD
ANNUAL
TRAINING
CONFERENCE**

AUGUST 26-29, 2019

**RENAISSANCE BALTIMORE
HARBORPLACE HOTEL
BALTIMORE, MD**

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&
BOOK
TODAY!



**NATIONAL
SCHOLARSHIP
NOW OPEN**

DEADLINE: 6/15/19



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