

COMMUNIQUE

THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF THE CHAIRMAN'S CLUB OF THE GWINNETT CHAMBER OF COMMERCE



From the President New & Improved

By Jim Maran

WELCOME TO THE NEW and improved *Communique* Newsletter—our exclusive newsletter for Chairman's Club members. We hope you find the new content and new look both informative and entertaining as you learn about the special events and happenings from Gwinnett's and Metro Atlanta's most elite businesses.

As you know, the Chamber is launching one of the most exciting initiatives in Gwinnett's history with our public and private partners: Partnership Gwinnett: A Shared Vision for the Future. This strategic, long-term economic and community development campaign will allow us to compete with not only the Birminghams and Bostons, but also the Beijings and Bangalores. Our goal is to create 65,400 new jobs over the next five years and create more than \$5.8 billion in net new wealth.

As Chairman's Club members who have helped fund the Chamber's economic development success in the past, you automatically become a base investor in the Partnership Gwinnett initiative. In addition to the Chairman's Club, there are also new levels of investment that will allow us to increase our capacity and resources for Gwinnett's economic and community development efforts.

But no matter your level of investment, in the months and years to come you will receive additional

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Children's Healthcare of Atlanta in Gwinnett: Helping to Meet Needs of Children

AS GWINNETT COUNTY continues to develop a vast array of businesses and establishes itself as a premier community for family living, the pediatric population is estimated to increase by 30,000 children in the next two years. Enter Children's Healthcare of Atlanta whose programs, facilities and services in Gwinnett will help to ensure that the

healthcare needs of our children are fully met. With facilities in Snellville and on Satellite Boulevard in Duluth, Children's Healthcare of Atlanta is the only hospital system in Georgia solely dedicated to the delivery of pediatric healthcare. They exist to serve the needs of our community with these services:

- Sports Medicine
- Immediate Care
- Outpatient Rehabilitation

- Orthotics and Prosthetics
- Outpatient Surgery
- Outpatient Cardiac Care
- Health Advocacy



Children's
Healthcare of Atlanta

Through their proactive education and training programs, Children's is here to help families take positive steps toward a healthy future.

Of their more than 6,800 employees, approximately 15 percent are Gwinnett

County residents; their services offer access to more than 1,400 pediatric physicians; and they provide unreimbursed care to Gwinnett children. In 2006, their charity care totaled over \$4 million.

For additional information on services in Gwinnett County, please contact Katie Hart Smith at katie.smith@choa.org or (404) 785-7609. For maps and directions, visit www.choa.org/gwinnett.

Patsy Rooks Leaves Behind a Tireless Legacy

"THERE ARE ALWAYS special people that make special places warm and friendly. Patsy Rooks has done this all of her life and as she moves on to a new dimension in her travel through life, she will continue to make the world around her a wonderful place to be," stated Jim Maran, Chamber President & CEO on the April 1 retirement of Patsy Rooks after 37 successful years at the Chamber.

Patsy was honored at the Chamber's 59th Annual Dinner in January with accolades and a surprise all-

expenses-paid trip to Maui, Hawaii, compliments of her many business



Patsy and Dennis Rooks

friends and associates who were anxious to show their appreciation. She

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SBX Technologies Blazes Trail in Alternative Energy



civil engineering and environmental services to utilities firms in the Southeast. Founded in 2003, SBX has quickly become known in the industry as a company focused in working with its customers by being flexible, innovative and striving to meet the project requirements in a safe and cost effective manner.

AS THE COUNTRY makes a move toward focusing on alternative energy, Chairman's Club member SBX Technologies has a proven track record of helping utility companies comply with new EPA regulations. SBX Technologies is currently completing the first phase of a major upgrade initiative of the spill prevention features in substations for SCANA in South Carolina.

"We're leading the Southeast in our ability to install and upgrade environmental spill controls for utility firms," said Alex Silva, company principal. "No other engineering firm has been as successful as we have."

SBX Technologies has recently completed several projects successfully at nuclear and fossil fuel power generating plants and works with a variety of industries. More information can be accessed at www.sbxtech.com.

SBX Technologies is one of the leading providers of

sbxtechnologies

Patsy Rooks (Cont'd. from page 1)

and husband Dennis plan their Bon Voyage for September for two luxurious weeks in our 50th state.



Chamber Chief Financial Officer Larry Johnson commented, "I have worked with Patsy for 10 years and have never seen anyone so plugged into the community as she is...always knowing the real 'who's who' of Gwinnett and the history behind them. I will miss her personally as a respected co-worker, but I know I will always

have her as a friend."

"...It is to these people ... that I express my heartfelt

"The sweet memories of you all will continue to bless me...I will always remember our times together."

Patsy E. Rooks

April 1, 1970 – Retiring April 1, 2007

New & Improved (Cont'd. from page 1)

benefits and opportunities in exchange for your contributions to Gwinnett's success. The first of these will be a new quarterly economic development newsletter, called Vision. Vision will share with investors like you the latest news and trends regarding Gwinnett's corporate relocations and expansions that you won't find anywhere else. In addition, you will be able to scan concise, easy-to-read stories and graphs covering the accomplishments, achievements, and initiatives of Partnership Gwinnett's four goal areas: (1) Economic Diversification and Wealth Creation, (2) Education and Workforce Excellence, (3) Quality of Life Enhancements, and (4) Marketing and Outreach.

One day, thanks to Partnership Gwinnett's vision and Chairman's Club investors like you, we will look back at 2007 as a year that changed Gwinnett forever. This was the time we elevated our efforts to compete for high-wage jobs in a global market. This was the time we elevated our expectations of who we could and should be. This was the time we moved Gwinnett from good to great. Thanks for helping us make this happen.

thanks....for all you have done to make my life happier and more complete, both in the workplace and on a personal level..." Such were the words of appreciation from Patsy Rooks to the Executive Board and the Board of Directors of the Gwinnett Chamber of Commerce during her last official Directors meeting on March 8, 2007.

Patsy has faithfully and tirelessly served our Chamber and its members, not five days a week but seven days a week, wherever she saw an opportunity. She served as a mentor and friend to established members, state and national leaders as well as to newer members and staff persons. Patsy never shied away from encouraging someone to join the Gwinnett Chamber of Commerce and she will no doubt continue to be a valued ambassador and spokesperson.

To Patsy Rooks we say, "Aloha" and "Mahalo"....

New Chairman's Club Members

The Advisors at 4130 Steve Reynolds Boulevard



The Advisors at 4130 Steve Reynolds Boulevard is a collaborative effort of Executive Advisor Group, LLC and Benefit Resource Group, LLC. With a focus on business and business owners, we are able to offer multi-

ple solutions with the ease of a single source provider.

In viewing business as a pyramid, **Executive Advisor Group, LLC** focuses attention on the top tier personnel including the business owner, top management and selected key leadership. Knowing time is usually in short supply, we come along side to address issues like comprehensive financial planning, business contingency and transition planning, and executive retention and reward strategies that encourage business growth. Services include Financial Planning, Investment Management, Insurance Strategies, Estate Analysis, and Selective Retirement and Benefit Plans.

The remainder of the pyramid is the focus of **Benefit Resource Group, LLC**. The emphasis is on effectively recruiting and retaining employees through cost effective, yet comprehensive Employee Benefit Plans. We offer value-added design and implementation services for Medical, Dental, Life, Short and Long Term Disability, Long Term Care, Vision and Retirement Plans.

Hewlett-Packard

HP focuses on simplifying technology experiences for all of its customers



i n v e n t

the world's largest IT companies, with revenue totaling \$94.1 billion for the four fiscal quarters ended Jan. 31, 2007.

– from individual consumers to the largest businesses. With a portfolio that spans printing, personal computing, software, services and IT infrastructure, HP is among

- Hewlett-Packard Company (NYSE: HPQ)
- Headquarters: Palo Alto, California
- HP serves more than one billion customers in more than 170 countries on six continents.
- HP has approximately 150,000 employees worldwide.
- HP's 2006 Fortune 500 ranking: No. 11
- HP's mission is to invent technologies and services that drive business value, create social benefit and improve the lives of customers — with a focus on affecting the greatest number of people possible.
- HP dedicates \$3.6 billion (U.S.) annually to its research and development of products, solutions and new technologies.

IBM

IBM is aligned around a single, focused business model: innovation. IBM takes its breadth and depth of insight



on issues, processes and operations across a variety of industries, and invents and applies technology to help solve its clients' most intractable

business and competitive problems. Although we remain committed, as ever, to lead the development of state-of-the-art technologies, and the products and service offerings built around them, we measure ourselves today by how well we help clients solve their biggest and most pressing problems.

Through a long history of innovative business technology, IBM integrates hardware, software, business consulting and IT services into complete solutions to meet your goals.

Additionally, IBM has strong alliances with IT leaders to provide business solutions. We also provide services and solutions designed specifically for small and medium businesses. We combine deep business expertise, powerful research capabilities, and innovative ways of thinking — together with business process design, and systems and application integration capabilities.

Upcoming Events

April 11 – New Chairman’s Club Welcome Breakfast & Orientation

Time: 7:30 • Location: Sugarloaf Country Club, 2595 Sugarloaf Club Drive, Duluth, GA 30097

Sponsored by: The Private Bank

Reservations to Angelia Risher, angelia@gwinnettchamber.org or (770) 232-1273

April 12 – Chairman’s Club Reception

Time: 5:00 – 7:00 PM • Location: The 1818 Club

Sponsored by Gwinnett Hospital System/Gwinnett Medical Center

Reservations to: Angelia@gwinnettchamber.org or (770) 232-1723

April 13 – Success Lives Here Business Leadership Series—Charlie Brown, Chairman and CEO, CRB Realty

Time: 7:45 a.m. – 9:15 a.m. • Location: 1818 Club, 6500 Sugarloaf Parkway, Duluth, GA 30097

Topic: Featuring Charlie Brown, Chairman and CEO, CRB Realty Associates, Inc. Charlie has been involved in various phases of the Real Estate profession, which includes brokerage, consulting and marketing, not only in the Southeast, but also nationally and internationally. Presenting Sponsor: Atlanta Real Estate Specialists, Mike Runyan, Broker

April 17 – Gwinnett Technology Forum—The State of Venture Capital in Georgia

Time: 7:30 a.m. – 9:00 a.m. • Location: Scientific Atlanta Auditorium, Busbee Center, Gwinnett Technical College, 5150 Sugarloaf Parkway, Lawrenceville, GA, 30043.

Topic: The State of Venture Capital in Georgia moderated by Leland Strange, CEO of Intelligent Systems. The speakers include Knox Massey, Executive Director of Atlanta Technology Angels, and Nelson Chu, Managing Partner of Kinetic Ventures. Presenting Sponsor: Sage Software.

April 25 – Pinnacle Small Business Awards Dinner

Time: 6 - 8:30 pm • Location: Hilton Atlanta Northeast, 5993 Peachtree Industrial Boulevard, Norcross, GA 30092-3416
In support of National Small Business Week, the Gwinnett Chamber of Commerce and Presenting Sponsor HavenTrust Bank will honor Gwinnett’s top small businesses of the year at the Pinnacle Small Business Awards on April 25.

Sponsor: Presenting Sponsor HavenTrust Bank; Platinum Sponsor Moore Stephens Tiller LLC; Gold Sponsors Gwinnett Business Journal and Notre Dame Academy; Silver Sponsors Century Security Bank and The Sign Stop.

Contact: For more information, call 770-232-3000 or visit www.gwinnettchamber.org.

Late April – The Verizon Wireless Gwinnett Chamber Governmental Affairs “Town Hall Meeting”

Time: 5:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m. • Location: John D. Stephens Education Center

Gain direct access to legislators through hands-on tracking of pending legislation. As you foster communication between the Chamber and members of Gwinnett’s legislative delegation, you’ll take greater pride in our community and enjoy the results that come from working through the Chamber.

Visit www.gwinnettchamber.org for your online Calendar of Events, please note events are subject to change—please check your calendar regularly. For questions, please call 770-232-3000.

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GWINNETT CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

CHAIRMAN’S CLUB