

## Upcoming Events

**October 9**

### Chamber Challenge 2007

**Presenting Sponsor: SCANA Energy**

Time: 9:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m.

Location: Chateau Élan Winery and Resort, 100 Rue Charlemagne, Braselton, GA 30517

Contact: Alicia Krogh at 770-232-8809  
or alicia@gwinnettchamber.org

**October 9**

**The Gwinnett Chamber of Commerce office will be closed for the Chamber Challenge event.**

**October 12**

### Success Lives Here

**Featuring J. Alvin Wilbanks, CEO/Superintendent, Gwinnett County Public Schools**

**Presenting Sponsor: Atlanta Real Estate Specialists, Mike Runyan, Broker**

Time: 7:45 a.m. – 9:15 a.m.

Location: The 1818 Club, 6500 Sugarloaf Parkway, Duluth, Ga 30097

Cost: \$45 for Chamber members; \$55 for non-Chamber members.

Contact: Laurie McKenzie at 770-232-8816  
or laurie@gwinnettchamber.org

**October 16**

### Gwinnett Technology Forum

**A Perfect Pairing: The Future of Scientific Atlanta and Cisco**

**Presenting Sponsor: Sage Software**

Time: 7:30 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.

Location: Scientific Atlanta Auditorium, Busbee Center, Gwinnett Technical College, 5150 Sugarloaf Parkway, Lawrenceville, GA, 30043

Cost: No charge to attend.

Contact: Jo Anne Wymer at 770-232-8812  
or joanne@gwinnettchamber.org

**October 31**

### General Membership Meeting

**Featuring Dr. Stuart Zola, Director, Yerkes Primate Research Center of Emory University**

**Presenting Sponsor: Gwinnett Medical Center**

Time: 11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Location: The 1818 Club.

Cost: \$35 for members and \$55 for non-members.

Contact: Laurie McKenzie at 770-232-8816  
or laurie@gwinnettchamber.org

**November 10**

### Success Lives Here

**Featuring Richard Tucker, Managing Partner of Arlington Capital, LLC**

**Presenting Sponsor: Atlanta Real Estate Specialists, Mike Runyan, Broker**

Time: 7:45 a.m. – 9:15 a.m.

Location: Sugarloaf Country Club, 2595 Sugarloaf Club Drive, Duluth, GA 30097

Cost: \$45 for Chamber members; \$55 for non-Chamber members.

Contact: Laurie McKenzie at 770-232-8816  
or laurie@gwinnettchamber.org

## This 'n' That *(continued)*

**WineStyles**, located at the Avenue Webb Gin in Snellville, recently held a wine tasting to benefit Dream House for Medically Fragile Children, Inc. WineStyles of Snellville donated \$3,000 to the organization.

**Horizon Software International, LLC**, a global leader in software, services and technologies for food service operations, recently announced Ron Taylor as its new Director of Human Resource and Loren Ulrich as its new Vice President of Client Relations. Taylor is a graduate of the Citadel and an 18-year HR veteran, while Ulrich is a 29-year technology industry veteran.

**Touchstone Homes** is proud to announce that they have been awarded the designation of America's Best Builder for 2007. A panel of ten industry judges selected the America's Best Builder honorees based on their outstanding performance in five different areas including finance and operations, customer service and quality, community and industry service, design and construction, and marketing.

One hundred-forty new students registered for graduate level courses in August at Georgia's newest medical school, **Georgia Campus – Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine**, on Old Peachtree Road in Suwanee. Total enrollment, in the three years since the branch campus opened its doors, now stands at 327.



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FOR MORE INFORMATION

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Duluth, Georgia 30097

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GWINNETT CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

CHAIRMAN'S CLUB

# COMMUNIQUE

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



## From the President Science Starts in Gwinnett

By Jim Maran

GWINNETT'S health care sector, which is one of our target industries, is an important part of Gwinnett's economy for many reasons. For Gwinnett, growth in health care will mean not only more jobs, but also better access to health care services. Access is important not only to better serve the existing population, but also to be a stronger amenity to sell to firms and workers seeking to relocate to the County.

The health care sector can be defined very broadly and extends far beyond health care services. The manufacturers of medical products and devices, medicine and pharmaceutical products, and research and testing activities are all part of the health care sector. These vertical linkages can have a profound impact on the delivery of health care services.

An organization unique to Gwinnett and the health care sector is the Yerkes Primate Research Center of Emory University. The center is an international leader in biomedical and behavioral research. Research conducted at the center involving nonhuman primates provides a critical link between research with small laboratory animals and clinical trials with humans. The



**Dr. Stuart Zola**  
Director,  
Yerkes Primate  
Research Center

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## AT&T Classic's Birdie for Charity Program a Big Success

"BIRDIES FOR CHARITY<sup>®</sup>," a fundraising program associated with the AT&T Classic, generated more than \$625,000, a record for 2007.

"Birdies" is a multi-level fundraising program designed to give participating charities the opportunity to generate contributions for their organization based on the number of "birdies" made by PGA TOUR players during the annual tournament played at TPC Sugarloaf. The primary goal of participating organizations is to successfully solicit and collect pledges of one (1) cent or more from the organization's supporters, the public and/or corporate donors for every "birdie" made during the tournament (Wednesday through Sunday of tournament week).

The total amount collected and distributed for the program this year was \$626,408 with more than 70 organizations participating. Half of the total amount collected was generated by 19 Gwinnett County-based organizations. The top three Gwinnett contributors were the Brookwood H.S. Band Association, Inc. (\$98,775), the St. Vincent DePaul, Duluth Conference (\$87,214), and the Parkview H.S. Band Booster

Association (\$41,716).

One hundred percent of pledges collected go to the individual charity that solicited the Birdies for Charity<sup>®</sup> pledge. Administrative and promotional costs for the program are paid by the Atlanta Classic Foundation (excluding individual charity organization mailing/solicitation expense).

To create additional excitement for the program, the tournament also conducts a "Guess the Birdies" contest. Participants who commit to a minimum pledge or donation or a completed official pledge form

can guess the number of birdies that will be made by PGA TOUR players during the event. This year's "Guess the Birdies" winner was from Gwinnett County and guessed the exact number of birdies, 1,839.

The tournament projects some \$1.3 million will be distributed to charity from the 2007 event, won by Zach Johnson. The bulk of the funds not distributed through the BFC program will go to the tournament's primary charity, Children's Healthcare of Atlanta.

Any local 501 (c) (3) charities can participate in the program by calling Scott Rawlins at the Classic Office, 770 951-8777.



## Christian Dental Society Presents Dr. Bill Williams with the 2007 Ron Lamb Award

THE EXECUTIVE BOARD and the Board of Directors of the Christian Dental Society (CDS) recently recognized Dr. Bill Williams' missionary achievements by presenting him with this year's Ron Lamb Award in San Diego, CA.

The requirements for the award include being a member of CDS; not a current board member; have shared their faith while using their skills on the mission field; encourage and mentor students into mission service; commitment to the dentally underserved; and ethical integrity, professional competence and integration of faith and practice.

Dr. Williams has been taking a group of doctors and volunteers to Kenya since 2001 where they founded Kenya Medical Outreach to provide dental and medical care as well as missionary work to the surrounding communities.

"I was inspired to go to Kenya by my brother, Rev. Brad Williams, a United Methodist Minister in the North Georgia Conference, who had been going on mission trips for over 20 years," said Dr. Williams.

### Dr. Williams' brother went to Kenya in 1999 with his **Republic Bank of Georgia Holds Ground Breaking Ceremony**



THE REPUBLIC BANK of Georgia, located in Suwanee, Ga, recently held a ground breaking ceremony with more than 70 people in attendance. Republic Bank of Georgia was established to

provide the friendly, professional service that seems to be missing in banking today.

Scott Reed, CEO, Republic Bank of Georgia, welcomed everyone and introduced board members and dignitaries, including Jim Maran, President & CEO, Gwinnett Chamber. Mr. Maran commented on the bank and Gwinnett County followed by Robert Ratliff, Chairman, Republic Bank of Georgia who gave background information on the bank. Scott Reed, Robert Ratliff, Wayne Bloodworth, Owner, Eagle Grooving in Lawrenceville; Mike Tennant, Attorney/Partner, Alston & Bird; board members, and Keith Mason, one of the bank's organizers and attorney with McKenna Long & Aldridge, broke ground for the bank.

Following the ceremony, attendees celebrated a successful day with a barbeque lunch. For more information on the Republic Bank of Georgia, visit [www.republicbankofgeorgia.com](http://www.republicbankofgeorgia.com).

wife Christina, a nurse, and noticed that the people of a particularly distant village, Olmekenyu, had no access to medical care.

"I helped raise money for the clinic in 2000, the year the clinic was built by our American mission team. My first year to travel to Kenya was that next year, 2001. We have been on mission there each year since," said Dr. Williams.

Since that time, Dr. Williams' team has added medical missions and children's ministry to the mission team and they average 27 people on each mission trip. To date, they have built a church, a community center, a school house, a nurses' dormitory, a silo, bunkhouses for their team, provided a diesel generator for the hospital, engaged in water projects, farming assistance, school assistance and more. Each year, they provide approximately 100 pairs of glasses, extract 600 teeth, see 2000 patients and fill 5,000 prescriptions.

For more information on Dr. Williams' Kenya mission work, visit their Web site at [www.suwaneedental.com/Ron%20Lamb%20Award.htm](http://www.suwaneedental.com/Ron%20Lamb%20Award.htm).

### **Science Starts** (Cont'd. from page 1)

center houses nearly 3,400 nonhuman primates and more than 5,000 rodents between two locations at its main center on Emory's Atlanta campus and its field station in Lawrenceville, Ga.

On October 31, you will have the opportunity to get to know the Director of the Yerkes Primate Research Center, Dr. Stuart Zola. Speaking at the General Membership Meeting presented by Gwinnett Medical Center, Dr. Zola will give a brief history of the Yerkes Center, an overview of some of the programs they have regarding nonhuman primates as models for human disease, educational opportunities that they are developing with Gwinnett County Public Schools and the economics of having the Yerkes Center in Gwinnett County.

Join me in welcoming Dr. Stuart Zola as he discusses groundbreaking health care research taking place right here in Gwinnett.



Dr. Bill Williams with Masai in Kenya

The Gwinnett Chamber is beginning production of the 2008 Chairman's Club Directory. Make sure your company is listed in this exclusive directory by providing your current or updated company bio, photo or logo, and contact information by November 30 to Angelia Risher at [angelia@gwinnettchamber.org](mailto:angelia@gwinnettchamber.org). More info: 770-232-1273

## New Chairman's Club Members

### ADVENT AUDIO VIDEO



*Dane Brady*

Advent Audio Video is a Gwinnett-based low voltage integration company specializing in residential security, control and entertainment systems. With over twenty years of experience in both residential and commercial environments, we have the experience to help you design a system that stands out from the rest. Advent Audio Video

is a company that prides itself on integrity, honesty and communication, and we are committed to providing the highest quality of workmanship in the industry.

### QUANTUM SEARCH, INC.



*Bob Rodgers,  
President*

Quantum's consulting team provides the depth of knowledge and breadth of experience that allow our candidates to achieve their highest definitions of success. More than 25 years of experience, an expansive network, and a specialized team of expert consultants, all contribute to Quantum Search's unrivaled placement success.

### RJS CONSULTING GROUP, INC.



*Bob Smith,  
Owner*

RJS Consulting Group, Inc. is an executive management consulting company dedicated to providing solution-driven management strategies and performance-based guidance for companies facing a variety of business challenges.

Robert J. Smith, founder and president of RJS Consulting Group, Inc., has over 30 years of experience advising and mentoring top executives at major Fortune 500 companies, many with annual revenues in excess of \$30 billion.

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### DEKALB OFFICE ENVIRONMENTS



*John Rasper,  
President/CEO*

In today's marketplace, there are a number of places to turn when you just want office furniture. But when you want a total office solution, there's only one company that combines knowledge, product and service to create an environment that helps people work better.

### MASTER WORKS



*Bernie Smith,  
Owner*

Masterworks is a design/build firm focused on ensuring that all the details are taken care of, providing you an outstanding finished product and an enjoyable experience. You can work with our architect and designers or we'll work with yours. Our primary goal is to insure that your project is On Time and Within Budget -- Along with your complete satisfaction with the results of your project.

### TRAVIS PRUITT & ASSOCIATES, INC.



*Travis Pruitt,  
CEO*

Travis Pruitt & Associates, Inc. is a full-service land design firm specializing in providing civil engineering, land surveying, environmental services, landscape architecture and consulting services.

We are dedicated to providing quality, innovative and efficient solutions to our clients while remaining focused on project value and time constraints. We take great pride in the skill of our people and the relationships we continue to build with our clients.

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## This 'n' That

**PHX Building Products** is proud to announce that they have become a key trade partner with **Winmark Homes**, located in Gwinnett County. Both companies are members of the Gwinnett Chamber of Commerce and do business throughout the County. PHX provides full-service turn-key building services for interior and exterior trim throughout the Southeast.

Cam Simonds has recently joined **Executive Advisor Group, LLC** as an associate. Simonds is a 2007 graduate of Presbyterian College.

As summer comes to an end, the pace isn't slowing down at **Crescent Communities**. The **Kids Korral** is in full swing with activities including trips to the pool for "Dive-In at the Movie" nights, thanks to the full-time children's activities director. The **River Club** officially opened the **Apple House**, which serves as the turn house and offers golfers an opportunity to enjoy food and beverage without slowing down their play. For more information on these communities please visit [www.crescentcommunities.com](http://www.crescentcommunities.com).

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