

# COMMUNIQUE

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



## From the President Get to Know Sam Olens

By Jim Maran

AS THE SECOND largest county in the state, Gwin-

nett is a major economic player to be supported and respected by the state's and region's leaders.

An important regional leader, Sam Olens, chairman of the Atlanta Regional Commission (ARC) and chairman of the five-member Cobb County Board of Commissioners, is someone you should get to know in an effort to maintain a strong presence in the Atlanta region.

At the November 14 General Membership Meeting, Olens will present "Is Our Region Moving in the Right Direction?" His presentation will cover key regional issues, such as transportation, water and economic development.

Olens will discuss the need to carefully and cooperatively manage and protect metro Atlanta's river and streams in the rapid growth that we are experiencing. He will share his thoughts on transportation and how it is central to metro Atlanta's growth and success. Olens will also touch on how the ARC is committed to developing talent as asset for regional workforce and economic development.

Don't miss the opportunity to hear Olens as he gives an address on the state of our region and learn how you can keep Gwinnett and the region moving in the right direction.



Sam Olens  
Chairman, ARC

## Open Heart Services Need All Levels of Support

By Philip R. Wolfe, President & CEO, Gwinnett Medical Center

GWINNETT MEDICAL CENTER is preparing to file an application with state health officials to provide open heart surgery in Gwinnett. We are urging our community to stand up, speak out and support this effort for services that are desperately needed right here at home. Gwinnett is the most highly populated county in the nation without an open heart program.

At this time, those suffering from a heart attack needing extensive cardiac care (such as open heart surgery or angioplasty) must be put on some of the nation's most congested roads and rushed to Atlanta. Gwinnett County's 750,000 residents need this urgent care right here at home.

The permission to perform open heart surgery comes from the Department of Community Health, with whom GMC is filing their application for open heart services. While it seems like the numbers would be enough to convince the state to grant open heart to our county — in reality, the community's support and demand for these services will make the difference.

Clyde and Sandra Strickland of Lawrenceville have been the first to answer the call for financial support, stepping forward to commit \$1 million in support of advanced cardiac care in Gwinnett. "Someone needed to step forward and make a statement. We believe we were driven to help lead this charge," Mr. Strick-

land said about the purpose behind their gift.

GMC must deliver \$40 of billed charges in order to generate \$1 for reinvestment in new services, equipment and facilities.

All of us can support this effort

and soon you'll be hearing more about the philanthropic phase of our open heart campaign as well as the various levels of support

needed to bring advanced services to our hospital. Your support is imperative to the success of this effort.

I urge you to learn more about how you can make a difference by visiting: [www.OpenHeartGwinnett.org](http://www.OpenHeartGwinnett.org).



The hospital Gwinnett deserves.

### A community need:

- Gwinnett County is the most populous county in the U.S. without an open heart program.
- Gwinnett is second only to Fulton County in number of residents, but Fulton County — along with smaller DeKalb, Cobb and Hall Counties — all have open heart programs.
- Gwinnett is among the top 10 counties in the United States for population growth between 2000 and 2006 with 168,000 new residents added in this period alone.
- Gwinnett's population is estimated at over 750,000 accounting for more than 8% of the state's population.
- By 2010, Gwinnett will be the largest county in Georgia with over 870,000 residents. By 2015, it will be the only county in Georgia with over 1 million residents.

### A medical need:

- There were over 440 open heart surgery cases performed on Gwinnett residents in 2005 — approximately 12% of all open heart surgery cases in the 20-county metro area.
- With these numbers, and a rapidly increasing population, Gwinnett can support its own open heart program.

## Tibs Adds Critical Power Practice

### Service Offerings Respond to Metro Atlanta's Growth as Regional Center for Corporations, Government



**Mark Tibbetts,**  
Tibs President/  
Division Manager

TIBS, A DIVISION of M.C. Dean, Inc., announced today that it has established a Critical Power Group dedicated to providing services and solutions to sustaining mission critical government and business operations in the Southeast.

M.C. Dean, Inc., the parent company of Tibs, is one of the nation's premier engineering and integration firms specializing in the design, installation, operation, and maintenance of complex electrical, electronic, and telecommunication systems for Fortune 1000 companies and public sector clients.

The Atlanta-based Southeastern U.S. Critical Power Group will offer engineering, installation, critical support, and reliability-centered preventive maintenance programs. Leading the Tibs/M.C. Dean, Inc. Critical Power Practice team is John Welch, an industry expert in critical power and energy systems and author of numerous papers and articles on these topics.

"We are definitely fortunate to have someone with John's experience and wealth of knowledge to direct the operations of our new Critical Power team," says Mark Tibbetts, Tibs President/Division Manager. "With

John's design/build expertise, our organization can offer our customers crucial services and all important preventative maintenance needed keep their operations up and running 24 hours a day, 7 days a week."

Bill Dean, M.C. Dean, Inc., CEO, says, "Metro Atlanta continues to grow as a population center and as a major hub for government and industry. To meet the needs of this area, we are pleased to establish a practice dedicated to the Southeast, offering the same services that support critical infrastructure in the nation's capitol."

According to Welch, who is the Critical Power Group Manager at Tibs, "The overwhelming need to protect and maintain the nation's critical infrastructures, including power systems, has been receiving considerable media attention lately." "By dedicating a Critical Power Practice to serving Atlanta and the surrounding region, M.C. Dean is prepared to support government and business in sustaining the operations of power systems, data centers, and mission critical equipment and facilities."

An additional area of focus for Welch and the Southeastern U.S. Critical Power Group will be green energy. Says Welch, "I am committed to doing what's right for my employer and see M.C. Dean, Inc.'s commitment to doing what is right for society as an added bonus. I am fortunate to work with an employer whose business initiatives are aligned with my personal passions."

## Northside Hospital Named Atlanta's "Consumer Choice"

ONCE AGAIN, The National Research Corporation (NRC) has publically recognized Northside Hospital with the prestigious Consumer Choice Award as a result of consumer surveys they conducted in the 28 county metropolitan Atlanta area earlier this year. The NRC's Healthcare Market Guide Study, widely known as the nation's most comprehensive consumer assessment of the health care industry, surveyed metro Atlantans about which hospitals have the best overall quality and image.

"This recognition is a true testament to the dedication, hard work and compassionate care our staff, physicians and volunteers provide to the community on a daily basis," said Bob Quattrocchi, President and CEO of Northside Hospital. "We are delighted that the community recognizes this hard work and trusts Northside Hospital to be their hospital of choice for providing high-quality health care to their families."

"As consumers continue to play an ever-increasing role in their selection of health care providers and services, it is important for us to continuously evaluate and enhance the care, facilities and services we provide," added Quattrocchi.

Assessing the quality of health care providers achieves

two goals: It assists health care providers in improving performance and it helps consumers make better informed health care decisions for themselves and their families. As more health care quality information is made publicly available, this information is expected to greatly drive the health care decisions of the consumer in the years ahead.

"We are honored to have received these very meaningful recognitions," added Quattrocchi. "We wish to thank all our patients and their families for allowing us to be a part of their health care team, and we thank our physicians, employees and volunteers for making Northside Hospital a top health care industry leader, both in the clinical arena and in terms of compassionate care."

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

### ENCORE!



*Ozzie Rodriguez*

Get ready Atlanta for a new dining and dancing experience. Encore! is a new bar and restaurant combining great food, fun dining, and awesome dancing. Ozzie Rodriguez, Managing Partner and Joe Rodriguez, Marketing Director, work side-by-side in managing and promoting Atlanta's newest entertainment experience.

### SLADE W. LAIL, DDS



*Slade Lail, DDS*

Maintaining good dental health can have a dramatic impact on you and your family's overall health and will enhance your quality of life. Our patients' smiles exemplify our work and are a source of gratification to our entire team. Our team prides itself in delivering a variety of quality dental services. Our exceptional preventive, restorative and orthodontic dental services will contribute to your entire family's physical comfort, outer appearance and inner confidence. Dr. Lail treats patients of all ages for general and cosmetic dentistry. His services include veneers, bonding, teeth whitening, sealants, implants and periodontal treatment.

### OFFICE CREATIONS, INC.



*Joy Mitchell & Andrea Moore*

Office Creations, Inc. is a unique Gwinnett-based company specializing in new and quality used office furniture and accessories. Working with large and small companies as well as individuals requiring home offices, Office Creations offers unmatched product and customer service. With a beautiful 16,000-square-foot showroom and warehouse in Suwanee, Office Creations has a distinct advantage for office furniture options.

### PEAK 10



*Matt Searfoss*

Peak 10 is the leading independent data center operator and managed services provider, delivering scalable, economical and reliable solutions for hosting and managing complex information technology infrastructure. Peak 10 operates a geographically diverse network of 10 world-class data centers in eight strategic markets, providing robust and scalable infrastructure for all sizes and complexities of business operations, as well as comprehensive managed services and expert engineering support 24/7. Peak 10 Atlanta is a Gwinnett company with operations in Norcross. It is operated by local staff and management and run with a focus on the businesses in Gwinnett County and the greater Atlanta community.

## This 'n' That

**redpepper** Ranks No. 61 on the 2007 *Inc.* 5,000 List of Fastest-Growing Advertising and Marketing Companies Nationwide. *Inc.* ranked redpepper No. 646 on its first-ever *Inc.* 5,000 list of the fastest-growing private companies in the country. The *Inc.* 5,000 – an extension of *Inc.* magazine's annual *Inc.* 500 list – catches many businesses that are too big to grow at the pace required to make the *Inc.* 500, as well as a host of smaller firms. Taken as a whole, these companies represent the backbone of the U.S. economy.

**Admerex** announces the Grand Opening of its latest "Best Shore" collection call center (ASI) in Manila, Philippines. ASI is a receivables management call center specializing in customer management, contact and payment resolution. Client's portfolios are managed from their offices in Makati City, Philippines and ASI

provides services for 1st Party Outsourcing and 3rd Party Collections.

Brian Perdue, the founder of **Salon 124** announces the opening of **Genesis Salon** Suwanee. Genesis Suwanee becomes the second Genesis in The 124 Group of fine hair salons. Cut and styling prices at Genesis start at \$27 and increase incrementally based on the expertise and training of the stylist. Genesis Suwanee is located in The Shops At Moore Road, just off Peachtree Industrial Boulevard, near the intersection of McGinnis Ferry Road. For appointments call 770-271-7844 and for more information visit [www.salon124.com](http://www.salon124.com).

Chairman's Club member Greg Shumate, President and Managing Partner of **Brand Mortgage Group**,

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## Upcoming Events

### November 9

#### Success Lives Here Featuring Richard Tucker

**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.  
 RSVP to: Laurie McKenzie at 770-232-8816 or laurie@gwinnettchamber.org

### November 13

#### Gwinnett Technology Forum

**Featuring a Presentation by Dr. Shuming Nie on Nanotechnology**

**Presenting Sponsor: Sage Software**

Time: 7:30 a.m. - 9:00 a.m.  
 Location: Scientific-Atlanta Auditorium in the Busbee Center – Bldg. 700, Gwinnett Technical College - 5150 Sugarloaf Pkwy. Lawrenceville, GA.  
 Cost: Free to Chamber members and Gwinnett Technology Companies.  
 RSVP to: Melissa Britt at 678-957-4958 or melissa@gwinnettchamber.org

### November 14

#### General Membership Meeting

**Featuring Chairman of the Atlanta Regional Commission and the Cobb County Board of Commissioners Sam Olen**

**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; payment at the door is \$55.  
 RSVP to: Laurie McKenzie at 770-232-8816 or laurie@gwinnettchamber.org

### November 22 & 24 - Gwinnett Chamber Office Closed

### December 4

**The Verizon Wireless Governmental Affairs Meeting Featuring Congressman Hank Johnson**

Time: 5:30 pm – 7:30 pm.  
 Location: Gwinnett Chamber John D. Stephens Education Center.  
 Cost: Free for Chamber members.  
 RSVP to: Melissa Britt at 678-957-4958 or melissa@gwinnettchamber.org

### December 5

#### General Membership Annual Legislative Luncheon

**Featuring Lt. Governor Casey Cagle**

**Presenting Sponsor: Gwinnett Medical Center**

Time: 11:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.  
 Location: Hilton Atlanta Northeast, 5993 Peachtree Industrial Boulevard, Norcross, GA 30092-3416. Join us as Lt. Governor Casey Cagle gives a legislative update. Platinum “Host” Sponsor: Quantum National Bank; Gold Sponsor: Georgia Power and AT&T.  
 Cost: \$35 for members and \$55 for non-members; payment at the door is \$55.  
 RSVP to: Laurie McKenzie at 770-232-8816 or laurie@gwinnettchamber.org

## This ‘n’ That *(continued)*

is proud to announce the company’s relocation. The company has moved to the beautiful new Brand Bank building at 6224 Sugarloaf Parkway, Duluth. Brand Mortgage Group, a subsidiary of the Brand Bank, offers a full range of mortgage loans. Stop by and see us in our new location on the second floor of the bank building.

**Suwanee Dental Care** is pleased to announce that Dr. Ryan Schwendiman, DMD, FAGD, MBA has joined their group dental practice in Suwanee, Georgia. Dr. Schwendiman comes to Suwanee Dental Care from his highly successful Great Falls, Virginia dental practice where he was voted the top cosmetic dentist in the metro Washington, D.C. area by *Washingtonian* Magazine.

**Notre Dame Academy** is proud to announce their recent acquisition of the 48,000 sq ft building located at 4635 River Green Parkway in Duluth. The building currently houses the Notre Dame Academy Elementary & Middle School campus. The purchase of the building is yet another step in the school’s 5-year strategic plan for growth and expansion.



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FOR MORE INFORMATION  
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GWINNETT CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

CHAIRMAN'S CLUB