

# NCEDA DEVELOPMENTS



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Cameron Sheffield, Executive Editor

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NCEDA is in full swing for the summer: First, I would like to thank everyone that attended last month's Networking Luncheon with N.C. Community College System (NCCCS) President Scott Ralls. May's luncheon was a great opportunity to reach out to the NCCCS as part of our ongoing efforts to maintain and strengthen NCEDA's relationship with the organization. NCEDA invited all NCCCS Presidents to attend the luncheon, and we had quite a few in attendance.

The NCEDA 2008 Annual Conference is next week, so be sure you have submitted your registration! For more information regarding the conference, please see page 3.

Also this month, NCEDA will host its 2008 Legislative Reception for members of the N.C. General Assembly. Please note the change in time and location for the reception. The reception will now be held on June 25 at the Marbles Museum. I encourage all NCEDA members to attend this event and continue your support of NCEDA's legislative efforts. Our goal is to maintain the ratio we had last year of 100 members and more than 80 legislators. Registration information can be found on the NCEDA Web site ([www.nceda.org](http://www.nceda.org)).

Again, just a reminder – the NCEDA 2008-2009 membership renewal drive is upon us. This year's renewal process will take place **completely** online, just as it has for the past few years. NCEDA's 2007-2008 membership numbers were record-breaking, so let's make sure that 2008-2009 membership is even stronger. To find instructions for membership renewal, see page 4 of the newsletter.

Finally, I would like to take this opportunity, in the final NCEDA newsletter of 2007-2008, to say thank you to all NCEDA members for making this year extremely successful for our organization. I have been honored to serve as NCEDA President this year and look forward to even more NCEDA successes as our new President takes office July 1.

Donny Hicks



## **Meet Your Board**

**This month we will feature board member George Sharpe.**



George Sharpe is the Director of Business Development for DeVere Construction Company, Inc. out of their Carolinas Division Office in Apex. DeVere, a \$300+ million company and recently ranked the fourth largest in the Triangle area, provides design-build, general construction and construction management services for industrial, commercial, healthcare, municipal, education, military and high-rise residential projects, and also has offices in Michigan, Florida and Arizona. His previous work includes positions with Lord Aeck & Sargent Architecture, Heery International, and CP&L/Progress Energy. Prior to that, he was a project engineer with Fiber Industries/Celanese Corp. in Florence, SC. He graduated from Clemson University with a BS in Mechanical Engineering and has his Professional Engineer's license.

His professional and civic involvement includes a prior and current term as a board member of NCEDA (he received

NCEDA's first Ally of the Year Award in 1996), and he continues to serve on several boards and commissions supporting economic & community development and education.

George and his wife Tori of 25 yrs have two children, 23 yr old daughter Lindsey and 19 yr old son Graham. They enjoy traveling, sports, and just doing things together.

## **Meet Your Patron Sponsor**

**This month we will feature Patron Sponsor: Piedmont Triad Partnership.**

The Piedmont Triad Partnership is the primary economic development marketing arm of North Carolina's Piedmont Triad Region. They market the Triad domestically and internationally to attract new business investment and new job creation in the region. The Partnership teams with the local economic development offices in the region and with the North Carolina Department of Commerce to provide economic, demographic, site, building and labor information to companies and consultants around the globe.

**Contact:**

Don Kirkman, President & CEO

336-369-2200

[dkirkman@piedmonttriadnc.com](mailto:dkirkman@piedmonttriadnc.com)



# **NCEDA Calendar and Upcoming Conference Information**

**June 11-13, 2008**  
NCEDA Annual Conference  
The Sheraton Hotel  
Atlantic Beach, NC

**June 25, 2008**  
2008 Legislative Reception  
Marbles Museum  
Raleigh, NC  
6:00 p.m.—7:30 p.m.

**September 22-23, 2008**  
NCEDA Fall Conference  
Embassy Suites Hotel  
Concord, NC

## **NCEDA 2008 Annual Conference Information**

This year's 2008 Annual Conference will take an international approach. Our speakers will explore economic development opportunities available to North Carolina on the global stage. Presentations will cover economic development activities with Canada, Europe, Asia and more. In addition, we will also have a protocol expert on hand to give tips on international business customs and meeting etiquette. To top off our conference, we will have local and national site consultants review methods for putting together winning proposals.

The 2008 NCEDA Annual Conference activities will begin with conference registration on **Wednesday, June 11 at 5:30 p.m.** and adjourn on **Friday, June 13 at 12:00 p.m.**

For more information and registration, please visit:  
[www.NCEDA.org](http://www.NCEDA.org) and click on the Calendar link.

## **NCEDA 2008 Fall Conference Information**

The NCEDA 2008 Fall Conference is scheduled for September 22-23, 2008 at the Embassy Suites Hotel in Concord, NC.

More details about the conference program and registration will be forthcoming, but we encourage participants to go ahead and make hotel reservations, as the room block will expire on August 25, 2008.

To book a room under the NCEDA room block and get the discounted rate of \$129, attendees will need the group code: EDA. Guest may book their reservations by either:

- Calling the hotel direct at 704-455-8200 and speaking to the Embassy Suites Hotel reservations department.
- Calling 1-800-EMBASSY
- Going online to [www.embassysuitesconcord.com](http://www.embassysuitesconcord.com) and entering the Group/Convention Code: EDA.

Dear NCEDA Members:

On behalf of the Board of Directors of the North Carolina Economic Developers Association (NCEDA), I want to **thank you** for your continued support and invite you to renew your membership for the 2008-2009 year (July 1, 2008 – June 30, 2009). **Your support of NCEDA has allowed us to have a very successful year.**

NCEDA offers a full slate of programs and networking opportunities including the Fall, MidWinter and Annual conferences, networking luncheons, a monthly newsletter, a resource Web site, bi-weekly legislative updates while the legislature is in session, and the 2008-2009 membership directory.

To make the renewal steps as simple as possible for you, we'll be processing all membership renewals online at [www.nceda.org](http://www.nceda.org). This is an extension of our expanded Web presence. We encourage you to renew your membership as soon as possible as your membership will automatically expire in our registration system on July 1, 2008.

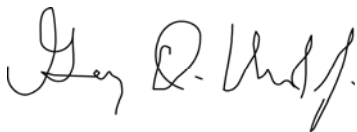
Simply log onto your NCEDA Web account using your email address and password. (Unless you have changed it your password is blueberry.) Review your personal contact information listed online and please make any necessary changes. All changes you make will update our online database immediately.

The cost for dues will be \$200 for the 2008-2009 year. We accept checks and credit cards (VISA or MasterCard ONLY). Please indicate your payment type on the online form. Payment is due by **July 31, 2008**, and we appreciate you sending in your payment as soon as possible.

If your membership renewal is not received **before July 31, 2008**, it will be necessary for you to reapply as a new member and pay the additional application fee of \$25.

The members make NCEDA the organization that it is, and we thank you for your continued support. If you have any questions, please contact the NCEDA office at (888) 246-2332 or e-mail Cameron Sheffield at [nceda@capstrat.com](mailto:nceda@capstrat.com). We value your membership and look forward to another outstanding year.

Sincerely,



Donny Hicks  
President



# 36th Annual Basic Economic Development Course

Register now for the **36th Annual Basic Economic Development Course** at the **University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill**. The course will be offered on **August 4-7, 2008** in Chapel Hill, NC. The deadline for early registration is **July 7, 2008**. The registration fee will increase from \$625 to \$675 after that date.

Visit the course web-site at [www.cednc.unc.edu/bedc](http://www.cednc.unc.edu/bedc) for more information and to register online.

Contact Carla Stowe at [cstowe@sog.unc.edu](mailto:cstowe@sog.unc.edu) or 919-843-8176 with questions.

**NOTE: Space is limited--course fills up quickly-- Register now!**

## **Notice from *Business North Carolina***

The annual *North Carolina Economic Development Guide* will be published in fall 2008. Advertising in this guide offers your company or organization an excellent way to target North Carolina's best out-of-state and in-state prospects for business expansion and relocation. For more information, please contact Ben Kinney at *Business North Carolina* magazine at (704) 523-6987 or e-mail: [binney@businessnc.com](mailto:binney@businessnc.com)



**Reserve your Seat Today!**

The North Carolina Chamber's 2008 Manufacturing Summit is less than a month away! With over 400 business leaders gathering to discuss legislative, regulatory, and legal issues confronting our state's manufacturing sector, this will be the most important North Carolina manufacturing event in 2008. Leaders in policy areas vital to manufacturing prosperity highlight this year's Summit.

This year's Summit, entitled, "What North Carolina Makes, Makes North Carolina", will be held on June 10, 2008 at the Grandover Resort and Conference Center in Greensboro. As we are anticipating another sold-out event, be sure to reserve any tickets or sponsorship opportunities that you are interested in. Visit <http://www.ncchamber.net> to learn more and reserve your spot to this highly-anticipated event.

## **SAVE THE DATE!**

### **ARDI 8th Annual Leadership Summit** **Accelerating Our Economy:** **Tapping Creative Assets**

**Monday, August 11, 2008 • Boone, North Carolina**

**Details coming soon!**

**But, if you just can't wait, visit [www.ardisummit.com](http://www.ardisummit.com) or contact Chilton Rogers at 828.262.6662, [rogersc@appstate.edu](mailto:rogersc@appstate.edu).**

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