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Kira Peoples, Executive Editor

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President's Message

by Scott Millar

May will be a busy month for NCEDA's membership. Next week, we hope each of you join us in Raleigh on Tuesday, May 16. We will be hosting both our May networking luncheon and our 2006 Legislative Reception in our state's capital and look forward to having strong NCEDA member participation.

May's networking luncheon will be held at the Capital City Club and will feature discussion from N.C. Ports Authority director of distribution services, Jimmy Yokeley. Our 2006 Legislative Reception will take place the same evening at the N.C. Museum of History at 5:30 p.m. We strongly encourage you, as members of NCEDA, to reach out to your State Representatives and State Senators and encourage them to attend this reception. [Memo regarding Legislative Reception on page 2]

In addition, registration for NCEDA's 40th Annual Conference is now open. The Conference will be held June 14-16 at the Grove Park Inn in Asheville, N.C. Please plan to celebrate with us. To join us, register online today!

We are very excited to offer to our membership an updated and enhanced Web site with the ability to register online for membership and NCEDA events. After fielding suggestions from members for months, we are confident we have created an easy-to-use site that includes many helpful features.

Please take the time to log in at your convenience and update any contact information we have for you. Also, when you register for events, you will automatically have the option to print out a receipt for your accounting purposes. Please note, the Web site saves all of your receipts and you may reprint any receipts as needed in the future. This is one of the great features we are excited to introduce!

Further, the site includes the option for you to submit an administrative email address. For those of you with administrative assistants, the email address you provide will help them register you for events as necessary.

Please call the NCEDA office at any point that you have questions regarding the new registration process. We hope that you will enjoy these new Web benefits.

(cont'd. on page 2)

NCEDA

North Carolina Economic
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*If you have an idea or article of
interest for the newsletter, please
submit it via e-mail or fax, prior to
publication of
Developments.*

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Lastly, thank you for completing our online survey about the proposed changes to the William S. Lee Act. The N.C. General Assembly reconvenes this week on May 9. We continue to work closely with the N.C. Department of Commerce, NCCBI, N.C. Metropolitan Coalition and others to form a consensus regarding possible changes to the William S. Lee Act. We will keep you posted on the Legislative activity in the coming months.

2006 NCEDA Legislative Reception

As you know, NCEDA will be hosting its annual Legislative Reception on **May 16, 2006 from 5:30 to 7:00 p.m. at the N.C. Museum of History. Invitations were sent and should have arrived at your offices in the last couple of weeks.**

This event is a key way for NCEDA members and members of the N.C. General Assembly to connect and develop important relationships. The NCEDA Legislative Reception has turned into one of the state's premier legislative events and continues to be well attended by members of both the House and Senate.

All members of the N.C. General Assembly have been invited to attend the reception as our honored guests. This personal outreach goes a long way in making our event a great success. It is important that you, as members of NCEDA, reach out to your State Representatives and State Senators and encourage them to attend this reception. **Attached is an electronic copy of the invitation that NCEDA sent to all members of the General Assembly, N.C. Council of State and Governor's Cabinet.**

We are asking that you make contact with your local representatives by sending this invitation and a personal note or calling them and personally inviting them to attend. To find your legislators' contact information, please visit the Legislative Action Center at www.nceda.org or www.ncleg.net.

Your participation in this reception, as well as outreach to your local representatives, is critical to the success of NCEDA. Thank you for your continued support of our legislative efforts.

If you have not yet mailed in your reply card, you may register online for this event at www.nceda.org.

Meet Your Board

This month we feature Board member Donny Hicks.

Donny Hicks is the Executive Director of the Gaston County Economic Development Commission, a position he has held for 18 years. Prior to his appointment as Director he served as the Development Specialist for the same organization. The EDC is a Gaston County Department charged with recruiting new business, retaining existing companies, marketing our assets and the development of public and private business parks.

He is a cum laude graduate of the University of North Carolina at Charlotte and earned a Master of Public Administration degree from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Mr. Hicks is a graduate of the Economic Development Institute and the Economic Development Executive Program at the University of Oklahoma. In 2001 he was chosen by the NCEDA as the Practitioner of the Year. He serves on the Board of Directors of NCEDA and is the Co-Chair of the NCEDA Legislative Committee.

Donny is married to Laurel Hicks. She is the Assistant Director of the Gaston County Public Library. They have teenage twin girls.

Patron Sponsor Profile

This month we feature S&ME.

S&ME is an engineering and environmental services firm providing geotechnical and construction materials engineering, testing, quality control and assurance, and occupational health and safety services.

With the expertise of 700 employees and the experience of over a quarter-century, they bring professional and technical know-how to produce cost-effective, timely solutions.

S&ME believes that engineering, scientific and technical services must be directed by professionals with significant experience in the disciplines relevant to your needs.

40th Anniversary Annual Conference

June 14-16, 2006

Grove Park Inn, Asheville, N.C.

Join us as NCEDA returns to the mountains to celebrate NCEDA's 40th Anniversary at the 2006 NCEDA Annual Conference.

The 2006 NCEDA Annual Conference will focus on a variety of issues affecting economic development today – higher education, economic incentives litigation and the biotechnology boom, just to name a few.

The 2006 NCEDA Annual Conference activities will begin with conference registration on Wednesday, June 14 at 6 p.m. and adjourn on Friday, June 16 at 12:15 p.m.

Below is a list of invited speakers to address the 2006 NCEDA Annual Conference attendees:

- **Chris Beachem** – Assistant Secretary for Policy and Research, N.C. Department of Commerce
- **Ronnie Bryant** – President and CEO, Charlotte Regional Partnership
- **John Cox** – President and CEO, Cabarrus Regional Partnership
- **Secretary Jim Fain** – Secretary of Commerce, N.C. Department of Commerce
- **The Honorable Fletcher Hartsell** – Senator, N.C. General Assembly
- **The Honorable Burley Mitchell** – Former N.C. Chief Justice and Attorney, Womble Carlyle Sandridge & Rice
- **The Honorable Richard Moore** – State Treasurer, N.C. Office of the State Treasurer
- **Hilda Pinnix-Ragland** – Chair, State Board of Community Colleges
- **Brad Wilson** – Chair, UNC Board of Governors

Register ONLINE @ www.nceda.org.

Sponsorship Opportunities Still Available:

- Golf Sponsors (Unlimited) \$500/each
- Breakfast (Exclusive) \$1,500
- Conference Sponsors (Unlimited) \$500/each

NCEDA CALENDAR

upcoming events:

May 16, 2006

12 noon: NCEDA Networking Luncheon
Capital City Club
411 Fayetteville Street Mall #2100
top of the Progress Energy building

&

5:30 p.m.: NCEDA 2006 Legislative Reception
N.C. Museum of History
5 East Edenton Street, Raleigh, N.C.

June 15-16, 2006

NCEDA 2006 Annual Conference
Grove Park Inn; Asheville, N.C.

REMINDER:

Economic Developer of the Year Nominations Now Accepted

NCEDA is proud to accept nominations for its N.C. Economic Developer of the Year award. The N.C. Economic Developer of the Year award is given annually, recognizing the individual who has provided outstanding leadership in economic development and rewarding the nominee's contributions to expansions and projects completed during the 2005 calendar year.

You are encouraged to make as many nominations as you wish. The nomination form has been distributed to the membership via e-mail. Please contact Kira Peoples for additional information.

The award will be presented at the NCEDA 40th Annual Conference during the awards presentation on Thursday, June 15, 2006.

All entries must be received by Friday, May 12, 2006. Please submit five (5) original copies of your application package to: NCEDA Service Award, c/o Kira Peoples, 1201 Edwards Mill Rd., Ste. 102, Raleigh, NC 27607.

2006 Legislative Reception Sponsorships Still Available

On Tuesday, May 16, NCEDA will host the 2006 Legislative Reception, one of the state's premier Legislative events each session. In keeping with our goal of remaining a high-profile leading state organization, NCEDA is making available sponsorships for this important event.

For more information please contact Kira Peoples: 919-882-1965 or kpeoples@capstrat.com.

Cost: \$1,500

Benefits:

Sponsor Boards – We will create signage with your company that will be displayed during the reception.

Table Tents – Table tents with your company logo will be placed throughout the reception.

Complimentary invitations – Each sponsor will receive two complimentary invitations to the reception. Attendee nametags will be recognized as sponsors.

Registration now open!

34th Annual Basic Economic Development Course at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

The course will be offered on August 7-10, 2006 in Chapel Hill, NC. The deadline for early registration is July 7, 2005. The registration fee will increase from \$600 to \$640 after that date.

Visit the course web-site at www.cednc.unc.edu/bedc for more information and to register online.

Contact Emily Campbell at BasicCourse@unc.edu or 919-843-8176 with questions.

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

JOB OPENINGS:

Asheville Area Chamber of Commerce Director of Business & Industry Services Asheville, North Carolina

The Economic Development Department of the Asheville Area Chamber of Commerce is accepting applications for the position of Director, Business & Industry Services.

The Chamber's Economic Development Department serves as staff to the Economic Development Coalition of Asheville - Buncombe County.

Position responsibilities include service to existing manufacturing and technical service companies. A background in marketing/sales will be beneficial. Requires strong interpersonal skills. Economic development experience is an asset.

Please forward resume to :
Ray Denny, VP
Economic Development
Asheville Area Chamber of Commerce
P.O. Box 1010
Asheville, North Carolina 28802

Executive Director Greater Statesville Development Corporation Statesville, NC

The Greater Statesville Development Corporation, seeks an outstanding Economic Development Director to maximize the economic potential of this exceptional community.

Located at the intersections of Interstate 40 and I 77, the communities of Statesville and Troutman provide an outstanding opportunity for manufacturing, distribution and back office job creation. Its immediate access to Charlotte Douglas International Airport, lake living and urban amenities, encourages American and international companies to locate here. The cost of doing business is moderate, land sites are many and of high quality. Labor is very adaptable to change and exceptionally productive.

This community seeks an already successful economic developer who wants to take a proficient community to a new level of economic performance. Successful candidates must have strong sales and marketing experience, product development expertise, excellent client and consultant development skills, professional integrity and ability to work well with an excellent team of business leadership, public sector and regional partners.

The candidate must be well organized, dedicated and able to attract considerable capital investment and job creation to the Greater Statesville community through existing and new business commitments. Salary and benefits are intended to attract the best candidates available.

To apply, please send cover letter and resume to:

Jean Manall, Manager
Employment Security Commission
1907 Newton Street
Statesville, NC 28677