

CHAMBER LINKS



YOUR MONTHLY NEWS & EVENTS FROM THE HIGH POINT CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

DECEMBER 2011

Welcome to Your Chamber

The High Point Chamber of Commerce realizes the direct correlation between economic growth in our community and our members' success. This is why the High Point Chamber is dedicated to encouraging economic growth in the Triad, North Carolina business community.

The chamber is an advocate for our members and our community on business-related issues and participates in initiatives that positively affect the quality of life in our community. The mission of the chamber is enhanced through proactive leadership and partnerships throughout the state. Through member feedback and an active Board of Directors, the chamber provides benefits and services to help members reach their business potential and the community to remain globally competitive.

The High Point Chamber's mission is to be the Champion of Free Enterprise for High Point and the Triad Region. There are several great incentives to being a High Point Chamber member; just ask the more than 1,100 members currently being served.

Chamber members have access to all meeting spaces for employee training and presentations. The Business Vision Center which houses the High Point Chamber hosted over 600 separate meetings from organizations that are local, statewide and international in the first fifteen months of opening. Meetings continue to be held by delegations from all over the world, NC General Assembly, NC Metro Mayors Association, NC Department of Transportation, High Point Market Authority, City of High Point, Workforce Development, NC Furniture Exports, Guilford County Schools and the Triad Chambers Group to name a few.

There are many more benefits that Chamber members can take advantage of which include sponsorship opportunities, social media platforms, networking groups and discounts. The High Point Chamber of Commerce is committed to assisting all its members and the community at large to prosper and advance. Stop by the Chamber located at 1634 North Main Street and find out how the chamber can work for you.



www.highpointchamber.org
Phone: 336-882-5000

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE OFFICERS:

Jim Hundley, *Chairman of the Board*
George Clopton, *Chair-Elect*
Kelly Sain, *1st. Vice Chair*
John Frank, *Treasurer*
Aaron Clinard, *Legal Counsel*
Owen Bertschi, *Past Chair*
Tom Dayvault, *President and CEO*

BOARD MEMBERS:

AB Henley	Jerry Camp
Adnan Mjalli	Joe Carroll
Brian Quinn	Joe Rawley
Carlos Olvera	Joel Mills
Charlene Green	Karen McNeill Harris
Darlene Leonard	Kevin O'Connor
Deena Qubein	Lisa Shankle
Dr. Don Scarborough	Mark Williamson
Dr. Grace Terrell	Marty Heim
Gary Gupton	Phil Driscoll
Dr. Greg Taylor	Roger Sims
Hayden McKenzie	Susan Brown
Janette McNeill	

PLATINUM INVESTORS:

Banner Pharmacaps • BB&T
City of High Point
Cornerstone Health Care
Dixon Hughes Goodman LLP
Harland Clarke • High Point Bank
High Point Regional Health System
High Point University
International Market Centers
North State Communications
Ralph Lauren Corporation • Smart Choice
Wells Fargo Bank

Welcome New Chamber of Commerce Officers - 2012



George Clopton
Chairman of the Board
Ralph Lauren Corporation



Jim Hundley
Past Chairman
Wyatt Early Harris Wheeler



Kelly Sain
Chair-Elect
BB&T



Tim Ilderton
1st Vice-Chair
Ilderton Dodge



John Frank
Treasurer, Dixon Hughes Goodman LLC

New Vision for Chamber

Chamber Board members, officers and liaisons attended the 2011 Planning Retreat at the Plato S. Wilson School of Commerce on the campus of High Point University. At this retreat, community leaders came together to discuss future plans that will focus on leading and uniting the business community. Plans will focus on both leading and uniting the business community. In addition, a new "Vision" division will be added to the chamber's current structure to insure that business and government work together as "architects of the future". The Board of Directors adopted a new vision statement for the chamber's new course of action, "...building business, building community, building the future..."

Leadership: High Point

On November 14th, the High Point Chamber graduated its 2011 Leadership class; a class of 41 business leaders in the High Point Community. Jeff Miller, President of High Point Regional Health System, was the keynote speaker. He brought an inspirational message that focused on key elements of meaningful leadership.

The next Leadership program will run from February to November 2012. This unique experience seeks to build more visionary leaders and enable participants to better understand the issues facing the community. The 10 month program attracts 40 participants annually.

The chamber is currently accepting applications from member companies. If you or someone you know is interested in developing leadership strengths, networking with a diverse group of community leaders and making a commitment on behalf of the High Point community, visit the chamber website or contact Jessica Jones at the High Point Chamber for more information about this program.

State and National Organizations Come to High Point



NC Free Enterprise Foundation recently met in the large board room to discuss the importance of businesses serving in state government.

The Business Vision Center at the High Point Chamber continues to host organizations from throughout our state. The N.C. Department of Commerce, the N.C. Department of Transportation and many others meet here due to the state of the art facility and its location in

the center of North Carolina.

Numerous international delegations meet here throughout the year as "The Chamber of Commerce" brand is known throughout the world



pictured left to right: Doug Copeland, President & Publisher, The Business Journal; Bill Ingram, Senior Account Manager, The Business Journal and Chris Dudley, VP & Chief of Staff, High Point University

Chamber Business After Hours

The last High Point Chamber Business After Hours of the year took place on December 13, 2011 at the Plato S. Wilson School of Commerce located on the campus of High Point University. Canned goods and monetary gifts were accepted and donated to Open Door Ministries on behalf of the chamber and its members. High Point University provided an excellent venue for networking and promoting business for all those who attended.

As the name implies, Business After Hours are held at the end of the business day which enables more members to fit this event into their schedules. Business After Hours is a quarterly event that brings business leaders in the community and their employees together for an opportunity to network and build business. Sponsorship opportunities are always available and add value to chamber memberships because members can display their products and services and gain exposure at each event. All chamber members and their employees are invited to attend. Future Business After Hours dates will be posted on the chamber website. For more information on sponsorship opportunities or how to become a chamber member, contact Brian Norris at the High Point Chamber. We hope to see you at the next Business After Hours!

The International Market Centers Becomes the Newest Platinum Investor

The International Market Centers (IMC) has joined the High Point Chamber of Commerce at its highest level, Platinum Investor.

"From the very beginning, IMC said they would be a valuable part of our community," stated Jim Hundley, Chairman of the Board of the High Point Chamber of Commerce. "They are not just a member, but have joined the ranks of our most valuable. This show of faith is testimony of this company's commitment to the future of High Point."

Currently, thirteen other leading businesses have joined at this level to show their support of the chamber and its mission to build the economy.

"We are honored to elevate our chamber membership to the Platinum Investor level," stated Bob Maricich, CEO of IMC. "The High Point Chamber is dedicated to building the future of our city and region. We definitely have shown

our commitment to High Point by purchasing the showrooms and are proud to support the chamber and join their efforts to build the future."

IMC currently owns 60% of the showroom space in High Point and all of the showroom space in Las Vegas. As one of the premier leaders in the furniture industry, IMC is committed to building stronger Markets in both cities. The company is working with the High Point Market Authority and others to insure the success of the High Point Market.

"Bob and his team are true leaders and champions in moving our economy forward," stated Tom Dayvault, President and CEO of the chamber. "High Point is known around the world as the place you simply have to be if you are, in any way, invested in the furniture industry. IMC is one of the primary architects in building the future of our city. We are honored that they believe in High Point and our chamber."

The Economic Impact of the High Point Market

The High Point Market is one of North Carolina's important economic assets, with an impact of over \$1 billion every year. Twice a year, the High Point Market hosts home furnishings professionals from 100 countries in the largest home furnishings trade show in the world. Over its 100-year history, the Market has grown to 180 buildings and over 10 million square feet of exhibition space.

"This Market would not be able to grow and thrive without your support and we want to thank you for making our 80,000 guests feel welcome when they come to High Point," says Tom Conley, president and CEO of the High Point Market Authority. "We should all take pride in the High Point Market, not only for what it represents but for what it provides our communities and the state."

Residents of the Triad benefit from the commerce the High Point Market produces. In fact, the Market provides more than 13,000 jobs to the surrounding cities and is the largest property tax payer in the City of High Point.

Conley says, "That is a huge economic impact for High Point, and a major benefit for city services like parks, libraries, and schools, which Market attendees don't use."

The economic impact to the state of North Carolina is more than the economic impact of three Super Bowls combined. The Market is an economic asset that Conley says can be a catalyst for future economic development: "As the economy improves, the Market will grow and will bring even more awareness of the global home furnishings hub here in the Triad area, which in turn will help generate future jobs in manufacturing, distribution centers, design firms, and more."

Conley says, "The High Point Market is the most well-known home furnishings show in the world, with a reputation for Southern hospitality that is second to none. Whether you realize it or not, you personally have a stake in this Market and you influence its future. Thank you for making it all that it can be."

FROM THE PRESIDENT



Every time I speak, I always talk about how special High Point is. Many people who live here feel that all places are like this community. It's simply not true...High Point has a caring spirit and a unique corporate culture of giving back. At this special time of the year, it is especially true. It's one of the many reasons that I am so honored to call this my home.

As we start a new Chamber year, and as Judy and I celebrate our tenth anniversary in High Point, I am reminded of the truly outstanding leadership and unbelievable community spirit that has led our Chamber to new heights.

I am also thankful for Jim Hundley's excellent leadership as our Chairman in 2011 and eagerly anticipating George Clopton taking the Chamber even further in 2012. At our planning retreat, the Board of Directors planned a bold new strategy of uniting our business community to lead a community-

wide vision plan so that we can all work together to build the future. Hanging in our Chamber Board room, is a "birds eye" map of High Point. There is no date, but it does state two things: the population is 12,000 and there are 67 manufacturers. It's been well over 100 years since High Point's population was 12,000, but what a magical place this was- for well over 100 years. High Point was the manufacturing center of North Carolina and the place where new businesses were born. We must build a strategy for our next 100 years and your Chamber is committed to working with our High Point Economic Development, our City, the Partners, the Piedmont Triad Partnership and other regional organizations to be the architects of that vision. It's going to be an exciting year!

Tom Dayvault, President & CEO, High Point Chamber