

# CHAMBER CLIPS

## "Working Together Works"



The Mission Statement: The Wendell Chamber of Commerce, a non-profit 501 (c) (3) corporation, aims to advance commercial, industrial, and civic development; to encourage the economic and social progress of the Wendell area for the benefit of all citizens, and to facilitate the production and distribution of goods and services.

### From the Desk of Bruce Lynch

A week or so ago, the period for registering with the Board of Elections to run for elective office ended. We now know who will be running for the three positions that will be open on the Wendell Town Board of Commissioners. Our retiring commissioners gave many good years of service as Commissioners, choosing to give someone else a chance. I commend everyone who signed up to run for public office because this is how our democracy works.

There is a diverse group of people running with different experiences and skills. I believe it is very important that our members pay special attention to this election. We need to learn where the various candidates stand on the issues that affect business and the community. As you know the mission of the Chamber is to "advance commercial, industrial, and civic development, to encourage the economic and social progress of the Wendell area for the benefit of all citizens..." It is our responsibility to learn where the candidates stand on issues of growth and helping business and making policy to help our community

prosper and grow. The Town of Wendell is like a small business and just like a small business, the Town needs to invest in its future.

Due to the economic downturn, we are experiencing what it is like when there is little or no growth. It does not feel good, but it is at these difficult times that our elected officials have to make the tough decisions that help us to get back on the path of good growth. One has to look at the big picture and sometimes make short term painful decisions to "right the ship". Our elected officials have to listen and some times change direction, but most importantly, they must make decisions on what is best for the long term interests of the Town of Wendell as a whole.

Make sure that when you vote, that you are educated about where the person you are voting for stands. If they are not supporting businesses in our area and looking at the needs of the overall community they are not the best person for the Town Board. One of my duties as President has been to attend many of the Town Commissioners' Meetings. The statements made by several of our Commissioners have been

very disappointing. This needs to change for the Town to move forward as it needs to do. The candidates who are elected to serve as town commissioners need to be the kind of people who can discuss an issue, gather input from many points of view, vote on an issue and then close ranks to support the final outcome whether things went their way or not. Wendell has real opportunities to grow and improve by focusing on the "Big Picture."

On another note, I would like to report that the Wendell Farmers' Market has been up and running for approximately three months now and continues to do well. We have been averaging 6-

10 vendors per week and I understand the vendors have been pleased with their sales and many have been selling out their goods. Also, there is a great opportunity for members to showcase their businesses at the Farmers' Market. Please call Ula Mae to schedule to staff the Chambers' booth on a Saturday during the Farmers' Market. I cannot think of a better and cheaper way (It's free for Chamber Members!) to advertise your business and hand out marketing materials.

As always, please let us know what issues are important to you and how we can do a better job for our members and the community.

### 2009 Chamber Contacts

- Bruce Lynch — President — Rosamund Prop. Consultants 357-9238
- Scott Hicks — President Elect — Hicks Landscaping 366-0115
- Annette Cooke — Treasurer — Watson, Cooke & Jones 934-8452
- Ula Mae Life — Executive Director — Universal Chevrolet 365-6318
- Kim McGlyn — Membership Coordinator — Valentine Fine Art 608 7616
- Board of Directors**
- Brigitte Gros — White Dove Chapel — 365-9510
- Laurie McVey — Premier Designs — 365-4367
- Kelley Connolly — Wendell Parks and Recreation — 366-2266
- Raquel Hickerson — Remax Classic — 218-7366
- Charles Edinger — Second Chance Solutions — 219-5284
- Shannon Speller — East Wake Education Foundation — 366-5901
- Mike Greene — Kioti Tractor — 374-5035
- Tona Whitley — Ridgway Realty — 365-5000