

NEBA NEWS

www.NEBATallahassee.org

2015 Spring Edition

Network of Entrepreneurs & Business Advocates

2015 Officers

Bert Bevis - President
Bert Bevis Realty, Inc.
Barney Bishop - President Elect
Barney Bishop Consulting, LLC
Terry Madigan - Past President
Madigan Law Firm, P.L.
Will Croley - Treasurer
Doug Croley Insurance Agency
Cora Ann Chapman - Secretary
Retired

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Self Employed
Nancy Burns
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Kristian Dunn
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Action Coach
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Ted Thomas
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Maureen Thompson
Media Options, Inc.

NEBA Newsletter

Miranda Madden, Editor

NEBA News is published quarterly in January, April, July, and October. Articles of interest are welcome, subject to review and space available. Submission deadline is the 25th day of the month prior to the month of publication; send articles, letters, photos or suggestions to:

newsletter@nebatallahassee.org

2015 NEBA Officers & Board Members



*Back left to right: Terry Madigan, Nancy Burns, Maureen Thompson, Emily Fritz, Catherine Baer, Will Croley, Ted Thomas
Front left to right: Barney Bishop, Bert Bevis, Cora Ann Chapman, Peggy Munroe, Mike Schmidt (Tom Napier absent)*

REPORT TO THE MEMBERSHIP

HAPPY NEW YEAR, VALENTINES DAY, PRESIDENTS DAY, ETC TO ALL!!!

This 2105 year for NEBA has started off with a bang. We had our annual elections for officers and directors. Your leadership team for 2015 is:

Bert Bevis, President
Barney Bishop, President elect
Will Croley, Treasure
Cora Ann Chapman, Secretary
Terry Madigan, Past President

The directors are Peggy Monroe, Ted Thomas, Maureen Thompson, Kris Dunn, Mike Schmidt, Mark Raciappa, Nancy Burns, Tom Napier, and newly elected to the board are Catherine Baer and Emily Fritz.

Our monthly meetings continue on the 4th Tuesday of each month at the Capital City County Club. We have renewed our contract with them and hope that all will continue to enjoy their world famous Fried Chicken.

We started out 2015 monthly speakers with Tallahassee's fire chief, Chief Jerome Gaines. Throughout his 30 year career he worked his way up through almost all areas to most recently being sworn in as the 17th Fire Chief for Tallahassee Fire Department. Chief Gaines gave a most informative talk, enlightening us on the growth and expansion of our fire department.

In February, we enjoyed as our guest the President for FSU, President John Thrasher. A former legislator, businessman, lawyer and lobbyist, President Thrasher was recently approved by the Florida Board of Governors to serve as the 15th President of Florida State University. President Thrasher outlined his goal for FSU, one of which is to become one of the Premier Universities in the United States.

March brought us Tallahassee's new mayor, Mayor Andrew Gillum. As a former Tallahassee City Commissioner, Gillum led efforts to enhance the local economy including the city development of Cascades Park. Mayor Gillum provided us with a update on the city.

This month, April, will bring us the new publisher of the Tallahassee Democrat, Mr Skip Foster and in May our speaker will be Leon County's new sheriff, Sheriff Mike Wood. Please plan to attend these most informative meetings.

Our June meeting will be changed to an evening out, with a Summer Gathering at Dorothy Oven Park. We are inviting all members to bring their spouse/partner, as well as a guest. We hope to use this as a recruiting opportunity for NEBA, and an opportunity to visit with our elected officials, all of whom will be invited. The cost will be only \$5 per person .

Bert Bevis, NEBA President, 2015-16

NEBA'S JANUARY MEETING: CHIEF JEROME GAINES, CITY OF TALLAHASSEE FIRE DEPARTMENT

NEBA welcomed Chief Jerome Gaines to discuss the future growth and expansion of the City of Tallahassee Fire Department which currently covers 702 square miles with 267 Fire Fighters, 13 Civilian staff and 16 stations.

The Chief began by explaining how the Fire Department is the "catchall" service, basically what the Police Department doesn't handle. Currently they don't have enough Fire Fighters in Leon County to provide the best level of service/coverage for the community, and what the community deserves. This much needed service costs money that has to be paid by someone, whether it be private funding or through tax dollars. Chief Gaines stated "When you can put a price on a human life, then I'll stop asking for more! I have life and health insurance which I hope not to use, but nice to know it's there if I need it..."



City of Tallahassee Fire
Chief Jerome Gaines

Striving to bring all City of Tallahassee Fire Department's 16 stations to the best servicing status yet, the Chief confirmed that currently 5 stations are ALS integrated with the Leon Co. Duval Dispatch System. While every system has hiccups steps are currently being taken to improve the operating process.

With an emphasis placed on building community relationships, Chief Gaines expressed a plan to increase the number of fire stations; four stations are on the books with 12 fire fighters each. New station locations are proposed but not limited to Blountstown Hwy, Southwood and Bradford Road.

Another way the Chief discussed to integrate our community involves bringing in children from the local and surrounding communities for fire safety training and education. Chief Gaines believes to fire up a program with his current resources can be accomplished, and then by integrating local businesses to stimulate renovations and growth the program will be a huge success that could be replicated in other communities.

NEBA's February Meeting: FSU President, John Thrasher

NEBA was privileged to have FSU President John Thrasher as our guest this month. President Thrasher expressed his top elements to assist with a strong push to rise FSU to the Top 25 National Rankings of Universities: quality education, legislation, fundraising, and investing in staff. FSU currently has the #1 College of Law in Florida as well as being #1 in Criminology / Justice.

To stay on top of quality education one must look for ways to improve the academic quality that students receive at places of higher education. A recent Gallup poll illustrated how most

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Current NEBA Members

Annette McGuffey, A Country Rose Florist & Gifts; Mark Raciappa, ActionCOACH; James Perry, Air Control Heating & Cooling; Chris Akins, Akins Campaign Strategy; Aletta Shutes, Aletta Shutes & Assoc.; Laurie Jemison, American Classifieds Thrifty Nickel; Andy Roberts, Arco Realty; Lance Norris, Arcpoint of Tallahassee; Samantha Hoffman & Mark Trafton IV, Realtor Armor Realty of Tallahassee; James R (Jim) Ashlock; Sam Varn, Awards4U; Billy Van Landingham, BB&T-Landrum Yeager Insurance; Caterhine Baer, Baer; Barney Bishop III, Barney Bishop Consulting LLC; Don Pumphrey, Bartlett Tree Experts; Jim Clarke, Batteries Plus Bulbs; Billy Beggs, Beggs Funeral Homes; Bert Bevis, Bert Bevis Realty, Inc.; R J (Rocky) Bevis, Bevis Funeral Home; Bill Reardon, Bill Reardon Insurance Agency, Inc; Bill Sittig, Bill Sittig, CPA, LLC; Bruce Screws, Bill's Signs; Eddie Boone, Boone; Tom Derzypolski, Bow Stern; Joe Boyd, Boyd, Durant & Sliger, PL; Brad Burns, Brad Burns Insurance; Anita Tuong, Branch Banking & T; Brian Armstrong, Brian Armstrong (NGN); Doug Saunders, Brown & Brown; Bill Brueckheimer, Jr. DDS, Brueckheimer Family & Cosmetic Dentistry; Gary Fogelman, Budget Blinds; Chris Risalvato, C & A Landscape; Michael Campbell, Campbell Executive Services; Jackye Beasley-Moore, Capital City Bank; Ron Goldstein, Capital City Pedicabs; Ben Bowersox, Capital City Trust Co.; Lynn Wollschlager, Carpet One Floor & Home; Marshall Cassidy, Cassidy & Company; Matt Brown, Patricia Griffin & Kaila Hardee, Centennial Bank; Bill Chandler, Chandler Hospitality Sales; Steve Hourigan, Changing Times Realty Co; Cora Ann & Jack Chapman, Chapman Produce; Rick Minor, Charlie Christ for Governor; Christopher Edwards, City of Tallahassee; Keith Bell, Clark Partington Hart; Barbara Clements, Clements Financial Services, Inc.; Cassandra Harbin, Coldwell Banker Hartung & Noblin; Steve Stewart, Commercial Print & Copy; Millard Noblin, Community Property Mgt; Linda Hale, Cotton Top Creations; Denise Pope, Crestcom International; Eric Sweet, Daktronics, Inc.; Dan Vollmer, Realtor; Dave Lang; Charles Davis, Davis; Brian Desloge, Desloge Home Oxygen & Medical Equipment; Kristian Dunn, Dunn & Miller, PL; Linda & Bob Dodson, Dodson; Doug Croley & Will Croley, Douglas M Croley, Inc; Randall Cothren, Eagle Cleaners; Will Messer, Earl Bacon Agency; Jake Gillikin, Electroneet; Howard Eisenman, Enhanced Financial Services; Eric Williams, Esposito Gardening; Marty Roberts, Farm Bureau Insurance; Don May, Farmers and Merchants Bank; Brett Bosarge, Fidelity Bank Mortgage; David Hinton, FIGA; Dave Fiore, Fiore Communications; Sherwood Brown, First Commerce Credit Union; Joanie Trotman, FL Assoc. & Property Mgt.; David Harvey, FL Sheriff's Risk Mgt. Fund; Jim Koberger, Florida Farm Bureau Insurance; James Hosman, Florida First Capital Finance Corp; Tom Napier, Florida Osteopathic Medical Assoc.; Sandra Tate, Fonville, Lewis, Foote & Messer; Bob Franklin, Franklin Employee Solutions; Emily Fritz; Matt Doster, Front Line Strategies; Art Jusko, Fun Station; Guy Moore, Garnet & Gold; Kelly Miller, Get Dirty Corp DBA Junk King; Jason Stamm, GobeeyondMCH; Angie Pichard, Goodwin-Pichard Investigation Agency; Sue Dick, Greater Tallahassee Chamber of Commerce; Rebecca Hale; Irene Haley, Haley Retired; Jim Hart; Roscoe Hightower, Jr., Hightower Consulting; Phil Swartz, Holiday Cruises & Tours; Cynthia Covington, Homeschool Classroom, Inc.; William Eichhoefer, Humana; Scott Hunt, Hunt Insurance Group, LLC; Jenny Wells, Imagine That; Gary Stout, Ingram Enterprises; Ben Wilcox, Integrity Florida; Cindy Lavioie, Interim Health Care; Erwin Jackson, Jackson Properties & Financial Services; Jan Soto, Jan Soto Realty; Jay Walker, Jay Walker Enterprises; Jerrell Lowery, Jerrell

Lowery State Farm Insurance; Anthony Gaudio, John D. Harvard, CPA; Bon Clarke, Keller Williams Realty; Ken Walton, Ken Walton & Assoc; Gail Mobley-Loveless, Ketcham Realty Group; Kevin & Kathleen Kelly, Kevin's Guns & Sporting Goods; Cliff Loughmiller, KLL Contracting, Inc.; Ray McCallister, Jr, L. Ray McCallister, Jr, CPA; Casey Lauer, Lauer Real Estate Group; Allen Turnage, Law Office of Allen Turnage; Belinda Webb-Yarosh, LBU, Inc. dba In Your Business; Jo Ellen Christy, Legacy Insurance Solutions; Bert Hartsfield, Leon County Property Appraiser; Lt. Nancy Burns & Michael Wood, Leon County Sheriff's Office; Kirk Headley-Perdue, Linkages; Meghan Kelly, Lisa Miller & Assoc.; Lew Wilson, Local Senior Discounts.com; Alan Williams, M W Land Investments; Laura Colorado, Mac Business Systems; Terry Madigan, Madigan Law Firm, P.L.; Deanna Mims, MarketDone; Greg S Marr, Esq; Peggy Munroe, Mays-Munroe; Grover McKee, McKee, Grover Insurance; Dottie McPherson; Maureen Thompson, Media Options; Will Haley, Media Productions; Park Adams, MFM Sales; Mike Vasalinda, Mike Vasalinda Productions; Dewitt Miller, Miller Glass Co; Dean Minardi, Minardi Investments; Curtis Baynes, MyersPark Lane LLC; Nic Gavalas, Nic's Toggery; Rod Vaughn, North Florida Agents Network, Inc; John Curry & Hugh Tomlinson, North Florida Financial; Cheryl Gratt, Office Pro of Tallahassee; Bill Oliver, Oliver Renovation & Construction, Inc; Bill Wert, Orkin Pest Control; Brian Boulware, Palmetto Security Service; Michael Pate, Consulting Services; Jenny Farrah, Pathway Wellness; Matt Willard, Patriotic Partners of N Florida; Matt Miley, PayOut USA, Inc; Mary Stafford, Prime Meridian Bank; Mike Ferrie, Prime South Properties; F James Wylie, Professional Consultant, LLC; Neal & Robert Bradford, Quality Carpet Care; Rick Oppenheim, RB Oppenheim Assoc; Tom Crabb, Radey Law Firm; Charles & Mary Rooney, Rainey Cawthon Distributor; Val Kibler, Rapid Press; Charlie Elder, Ray Gordon Brake Service; Jamison Redd, ReddCamera; Reggie Garcia, Reggie Garcia, PA; Gary & Geoff Sprague, Regional Property Services; Christopher Mills, Regions Bank; Rich Blankenship, Richard E Blankenship CPA; Anna Johnson Riedel, Riedel & Associates; Bill Gunter, Rogers, Gunter, Vaughn Ins.; Mark Ryan, Sanders, Holloway & Ryan PA; James F Searce; Reamonn Soto, Semper Stellaris, LLC; Tom Horner, ServPro of Tallahassee; Shannon Stoutamire, CPA; Shawnta Friday-Stroud; Carolyn Pippenger, Sign Printers; Steve Beasley, South Georgia Brick Company; Everitt Drew, Southgroup; Jay Bostwick, Sperry & Assoc; Ray Burke, Spray Wash Exterior Cleaning; Kurt Tellers, St. James Certified Property Mgmt.; Tom Chambasian, Sunshine Car Care DBA Super-Lube; Michele Lynch, Sunshine Savings Bank; Randy Martin, SureGrip Floor Safety Solutions; Paul Michael, Tailored Financial Solutions; Steven Loucheim, Tallahassee Board of Realtors; Lewis Buford, Tallahassee Land, Co.; Sharon Weeden & Bill Moore, Tallahassee State Bank; Susan Fairbrother & Jackie Wilson, Tallahassee Technology Group Inc/ Xerox; Ted Nation; Dianne Berryhill, The Berryhill Group; Tim Edmond, The Edmond Group, LLC; Mike Schmidt, The Egg Café and Eatery; Drs. Dean & Hamilton, The Focal Pointe; Don Vodicka, The Gem Collection; Mike Campbell, The Jim Moran Institute for Global Entrepreneurship; Ted Thomas, Thomas Mitchell Realty; Matt Ryan, Timberlane Appraisal Assoc.; Nat Turnbull, Turnbull & Associates; Harry Bosman, UPS Store 6044; Richard Yood, Vernon Graphics & Promotions; Vic Aderhold, Vic Aderhold Concepts, LLC; Heather Johnson, Voxy Media Group; Alan Null, Waddell & Reed Inc; Heather Peebles, WCTV-TV; John Mackie, Wells Fargo Advisors; Jennifer Benners, Whites Plumbing; Pete Williams, Esq; Barry Kaye, WVFT Freedom 93

college graduates were more productive because of the exposure to outside opportunities; President Thrasher concluded that "this is why those students want to come to FSU, because of the additional opportunities we offer." Many FSU graduates will receive post graduate scholarships!

The FSU School of Business has pushed the Entrepreneurial University Experience Program which by encouraging 'Real World' experiences will help the students of today be prepared to lead tomorrow.

Another area that FSU is trying to promote themselves and bring something new and enticing to the table is by enhancing the campus with a new Arena District.

The Mag Lab enhances FSU's reputation and has brought in world famous scientists. In addition, in 2014 alone FSU received over \$230

million dollars in research grants and funding. FSU's groundbreaking research affects everything, for instance: 39 patents granted, 7 startup companies, ongoing work on an all-electric ship, and more.

The Raise the Torch capital campaign is about 1/2 way there to raising \$1 billion in funding. The FSU Earth, Ocean, Atmosphere Science building is due to open summer of 2015.



FSU President John Thrasher

NEBA'S MARCH MEETING: CITY OF TALLAHASSEE MAYOR ANDREW GILLUM

NEBA welcomed back guest speaker Tallahassee Mayor, Andrew Gillum. While only 4 short months into his term, Mayor Gillum is off and running with rapid movement community wide.

Mayor Gillum made visits to two "1 Gig Cities", Charleston and Chattanooga, where after an infrastructure redesign, these cities have reframed what people think with innovative economic development and creative ways to 'grow home'. 10 years back Charleston plotted their wage growth as flat with no growth. By developing small business flagship, business incubator (private sector incubator), Charleston was able to create a more dynamic community and scaled up existing businesses. They have now grown to 3 flagships with 150+ businesses developed at a 90% success rate.

Considering the success of this program in these two cities, Mayor Gillum is interested in implementing this in Tallahassee for economic development. While it would not be as dynamic as many would like to see, he sees room to grow the private sector here locally.

With focus being on Gaines Street as a catalyst to our new ecosystem through changing and remodeling Tallahassee's impression as the Capital of Florida, Gillum stated "we must sustain, build, and strengthen our quality of life through culture and activities." This will make Tallahassee a real option not only to graduates, but to maintain and grow community, family, and businesses.

Additional Tallahassee community projects include: 5 acres being developed around Cascades Park, and with the culmination of all the negative stereotypes, this opportunity to invest in to reinvent and rejuvenate the Frenchtown/Southside districts could have a positive economic impact for the foreseeable future.



Tallahassee Mayor Andrew Gillum

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NEBA'S MISSION STATEMENT

NEBA is a diverse group of business professionals who are committed to enhancing Tallahassee's business climate by advocating the interests of local business with government. Since 1991, we have promoted commerce through networking, monitoring government and informing and educating our members.

WELCOME, NEW MEMBERS!

Ben Bowersox, Captial City Trust Co.;
William Eichhoefer, Humana



Akins Campaign Strategy

GET YOUR WEBSITE AND SOCIAL NETWORKING
OFF THE GROUND

Chris Akins, 850-345-0269, chris@acstrategy.com, acstrategy.com

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2878 Mahan Drive, Tallahassee, FL 32308
850-222-1608
shrcpa.com

Certified Public Accountants & Business Advisors

CALENDAR

NEBA meetings are held on the 4th Tuesday of each month from 12:00pm - 1:00pm. Food line opens at 11:30am, \$16 per member, \$20 per guest, cash or check preferred.

Capital City Country Club
1601 Golf Terrace Drive

~ Apr. 28 ~

Skip Foster, Tallahassee
Democrat Publisher

~ May 26 ~

Leon County Sheriff Mike Wood

~ Jun. 23 ~

Dorothy B. Oven Park Summer
Gathering, 5-8 pm, \$5 per person

**guest speakers subject to
change without notice*

To receive email notices for NEBA meetings, please contact NEBA at info@nebatallahassee.org



**Network of Entrepreneurs
& Business Advocates**

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