

The Northeast Vision

Volume 10, Issue 1

February 2010

Highlights:

- *NC's Northeast State of the Region Event February 26, 2010 at the Bob Martin Ag Center in Williamston*
- *NEED planning retreat held*
- *Trade Shows and Conferences highlighted*

Inside this issue:

Reser's Expansion	2
Trade Show & Marketing Events	2
Hub and Spoke Tourism	3
Committee of 1000, Need, CONE	3
Ag Biotech	3

NC's Northeast Commission Staff

Vann Rogerson
President/CEO

Ray White
VP Marketing

Anita Johnson
VP Project Development

Sarah Jackson
Finance Officer

Hannah Jones
Regional Assistant

Innovation for the Future

By Vann Rogerson, President/CEO

As we move into the year 2010, we recognize more the importance of innovation and new technologies as the basis for the future of North Carolina's Northeast. Our highlighted regional industry clusters of Automotive, Aerospace, and Agricultural Biotechnology are strengthened by a focus on the research and development that is coming to the region.

NCCAR is in the final stages of Phase IA construction bringing the possibilities of automotive testing and automotive development to the region. Elizabeth City State University and College of the Albemarle continue to develop their aviation science and support programs, which will lead to an increase in the skilled and available workforce for our aerospace cluster.

New crop developments being perfected in the lab will allow our fields to become factories for the pharmaceutical, nutraceutical, and cosmeceutical industries.

As we commercialize new technologies and perfect new innovations, we will develop new wealth and new jobs that are globally competitive. Close associations with our universities, public and private researchers, and

Recent Expansions and Locations

Bowman Consulting recently purchased The Vision Group, and civil engineering firm that opened an office in Edenton in 2009. The company performs civil engineering work and prepares site plans for new development and commercial construction and provides engineering studies for new sites. This includes meeting any state requirements for storm water, sewer, landscaping, environmental, or other structures. They also provide Master Planning for large developments. The Vision group is currently working on the Tanglewood Development in Elizabeth City and on the Wells Fargo Center project in Norfolk.

HQ Kites & Designs, Inc., a German-based kite distribution company has announced plans to locate their North American distribution facility in Powells Point, an Outer Banks community located in lower Currituck County. The new location will provide office and warehouse space for recreational and performance kites, garden and wind art, and flying toys to be distributed to customers throughout North and South America.

"Because so many people come here to enjoy the natural resources, it offers great exposure for our products," stated Chris Shultz, General Manager of the local subsidiary.



LT. Governor Walter Dalton brought the NC JOBS Commission to NC's Northeast in November 2009. The JOBS Commission was appointed by the NC Legislature to study existing educational programs and economic clusters and then to find ways to connect our economic industries with our educational programs.

Rogerson Receives Award



Vann Rogerson, President/CEO of NC's Northeast Commission is shown here accepting a tourism award from Coast Host. The Northeast Commission's Tourism vision involves a collaboration with the Eastern and Southeastern economic development regions that are working together to develop a 40-county Heritage Tourism Area focusing on "Gateway to

Reser's Fine Foods Expands in Halifax County

From the Halifax Economic Development Commission—Reser's Fine Foods, Inc., a nationally-recognized manufacturer of prepared foods and salads, will expand the company's existing operations in Halifax County as a part of a three-phase, five-year expansion project.

In January, Governor Perdue met with local government and business leaders and announced that Reser's will create 500 jobs. The company's decision to expand in North Carolina was made possible in part by a \$1,000,000 grant from the One North Carolina Fund.

James H. Pierce, Chairman of the Halifax County Board of Commissioners stated, "Reser's is a first-class company and we are extremely pleased they have chosen Halifax County for this major East Coast investment."

Reser's Fine Foods Inc., headquartered in Beaverton, Oregon, makes prepared salads, dips, side dishes, Mexican foods and specialty products under a variety of brand names. The company has facilities nationwide, including an existing manufacturing facility at the Halifax Industrial Center on NC Highway 903. Reser's products can be found throughout the US in most leading

grocery chain stores, club stores, commissaries, convenience stores and



Gov. Beverly Perdue visited Halifax County to announce the Reser's expansion.

Trade Shows and Marketing Events

**Aviation Week
MRO Show**
Phoenix, April 2010

**Biotechnology International
Conference and Trade Show**
Chicago, May 2010

**SAE World
Conference**
Detroit, April 2010



IBEX - Ray White, VP of Marketing, is shown here with members of the SBTDC at IBEX, or the International Boatbuilders' Exhibition and Conference, a technical boat building trade show held annually.



NBAA -Wayne Harris, David Peoples, Ray White, and Peter Bishop represented NC's Northeast at the National Business Aviation Association Conference (NBAA) in October 2009. The group is working to attract aviation and aerospace businesses to the regional airports in NC's Northeast Region. The conference provides opportunities to interact with purchasing agents from aviation businesses around the world.



Charlotte Underwood, Nancy Nicholls, Sara Lilley Phelps, and Penny Leary-Smith and Hannah Jones represented the region at recent American Bus Association Marketplaces. NET (Northeast Tourism) also attended the NC Motorcoach Association Trade Show and the Fun Tours Marketplace. NET also sponsors regional FAM (familiarization) tours twice each year to introduce bus tour operators to

NC Commerce Provides Training on New Database

In January 2010 John Correllus and Tiffany McNeil of the NC Dept of Commerce traveled to Edenton to provide training to the Commission and NEED on the new EDIS and buildings and sites database. EDIS can be found at www.nccommerce.com and provides county, regional, and state demographic and economic data that can be used by economic developers, counties, and anyone involved in reporting on data within the state.

Visit www.visitncne.com to plan your family vacation to NC's Northeast!

Committee of 1000 Tours Nucor Steel—Hertford County

The North Carolina's Northeast Committee of 1000 held their January meeting in Cofield, NC at the Nucor Plate Mill. After the regular business meeting, the group toured the manufacturing facility. "I was impressed," stated Eddie Lynch, Chair of the Committee of 1000. "I knew it would be a phenomenal place, but I wasn't ready for that. The tour was amazing." Nucor takes scrap steel and turns it into plate that will be used for wind towers, barges, and heavy equipment.

At the quarterly meeting in July 2009, the group toured Avoca, Inc, a commercial botanical extraction company located in Merry Hill, NC. The next Committee of 1000 meeting will be April 9, 2010 at the Commission office in Edenton. Any businesses interested in regional economic development are welcome to join. The Committee of 1000 also sponsors the Northeast State of the Region event scheduled for February 26th in Williamston. The public is



Committee of 1000 members tour Nucor Steel's manufacturing plant in Hertford County.

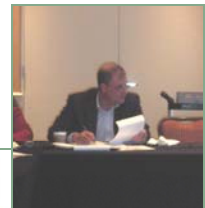
NEED Group Looks to the Future

The NC's Northeast Economic Developers (NEED) met in Roanoke Rapids in February to discuss regional marketing strategies. After making plans for each of the industry clusters, the group toured the Halifax Regional Airport and Industrial Park where they saw plans for future growth. The group then traveled to NCCAR, North Carolina's

Center for Automotive Research and viewed the progress since the near completion of the Phase IA construction. The test track is now paved and the facility is open for business. Self-sufficient maintenance bays are available for lease to companies involved in vehicular testing, and recruitment efforts are underway. Driver training events sponsored by car clubs



NEED—Northeast Economic Developers Planning Meeting Feb 2010



CONE Builds Chambers

Chambers of the Northeast (CONE) met in January to plan their legislative agenda for the year and to learn about tax incentives for businesses. Jonathan Tart of McGladrey Pullen, a statewide accounting firm and member of the Committee of 1000, spoke to the Chamber Directors from throughout the region at their regular quarterly meeting. The group plans short informational sessions for each meeting, and the Chamber Directors then have additional information to share with their member businesses.

CONE also works together each year to set a legislative agenda for the group. Regional and county visits to the NC legislature will be scheduled during the year. The current CONE Chair is Allen Purser of the Roanoke Valley Chamber of Commerce.

Ag Biotech Update

NC's Northeast Commission and NC-NAAB (NC's Northeast Alliance for Ag Biotech) are continuing work on the goal of developing the region into a center for Agricultural Biotechnology. Building on the existing assets of agriculture and with a reputation for skilled farming practices, the Northeast Region can build its natural economy starting with what we have in place now.

Operating from a grant from the Golden LEAF Foundation, we have contracted with Dr. Scott Shore of Shore Biotechnology to develop a B-Cert program for the training and certification of growers of biotech crops. This project builds upon the work already completed and practiced by Dr. Ron Heiniger and others at the Vernon G. James Research and Extension Center in Washington County.

In addition, the Northeast Commission is working to obtain funding for construction of the Pilot Scale Botanical Extraction Facility. This facility will be available to companies and researchers involved in developing plant extractions for nutraceuticals, pharmaceuticals, and other plant-based products. Construction is scheduled to begin once we receive confirmation of all funding

Discover the Difference

North Carolina's Northeast Commission is the regional economic development organization for the northeast corner of North Carolina. Situated just south of the metropolis of Hampton Roads, Virginia, the Northeast Region of North Carolina is the halfway point between Jacksonville, FL and Boston. Call us or visit our website to learn more.



Reports Available Online

The 2008-2009 Annual Report for NC's Northeast Commission is available online at http://www.ncnortheast.info/Resources/Publications_Etc.htm

The "Preliminary Design and Location Analysis of the Pilot Extraction Facility" is also available for download from the same link. This project was funded by NC Tobacco Trust Fund Commission, NC Biotechnology Center, and NC's Northeast Commission.

Or if you prefer a printed copy, send an email request to info@ncnortheast.com.

To subscribe to this newsletter, contact us at:

119 W. Water St.
Edenton, NC 27932
www.ncnortheast.com

Phone: 252-482-4333
Fax: 252-482-3366
info@ncnortheast.com

Visit our regional tourism website: www.visitncne.com

Check recent updates on [Twitter.com/ncnortheast](https://twitter.com/ncnortheast)

Become a fan of our Facebook page:
NC's Northeast Commission



119 W Water St
Edenton, NC 27932
www.ncnortheast.com