

April 2014

GREATER CONROE/LAKE CONROE AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE





BOARD OF DIRECTORS

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Danielle Scheiner, Greater Conroe Economic Development C	ouncil Ohairman of the Board
Dr. Don Stockton, Conroe Independent School District	Chairman Elect
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Don Spence, All Star Catering Co.	Vice Chair Membership Development
Rob Koester, Consolidated Communications	Vice Chair Governmental Affairs/Community Development
Guy Barker, First Bank	Vice Chair Special Events
Barry Carpenter, Amegy Bank	
Tamara Trow, Nova Biologicals, Inc	Immediate Past Chairman
Scott Harper	

THREE YEAR TERM (2014-16)

Rodney Anderson	Crescent Moon Wine Bar
Guy Barker	First Bank
Barry Carpenter	Amegy Bank
Amy Hegemeyer	Woodforest Charitable Foundation
Tom Jarboe	Bauer Manufacturing, Inc.
Rob Koester ·····	Consolidated Communications
Gary Milleson	Trademark Mergers & Acquisitions
Gary Milleson Clyde Tauriainen	· Easco Air Conditioning, Heat & Electric

TWO YEAR TERM (2014-15)

Walter Davis	 Protect Controls, Inc.
Terry Lassinger	 Schlotzky's/Cinnabon/Carvel
Caróline Mason	
Ricky Morton	
Linda O'Dell	
Dr. Stacey Rodgers	 Rodgers Stein Chiropractic Center
Brent Sherrod	 American Civil Engineering Services, L.P.
David Whiteley	 Whiteley & Whiteley Design Group, Inc.

ONEYEAR TERM (2014)

Donnie BuckalewBuckalew Chevrolet,	L.P.
Lindsay Duncan Conroe Regional Medical Cen	iter
Louis Holub	ists
Linda Nelson	ital
Rick Pfahl	tors
Steve Scott	
Don Spence All Star Catering	Co.
Tonya Weinzettle	ank

ONE YEAR APPOINTED TERM (2014)

Tim Budz	GEO. Care, LLC.
Courtney Galle	
Angela Glezman	
John Hamati	La Torretta Lake Resort and Spa
Casey Heathcott	
Charles Lee	The Courier Newspaper
Dr. Don Stockton	Conroe ISD
Vic Tarasik	

EX-OFFICIO DIRECTORS

Monica Bomkamp-Enia	Education for Tomorrow Alliance
Larry Calhoun	Conroe Industrial Development Corporation
Don Carpenter, Jr.	
Hector Forestier	······ City of Willis
Honorable John Fox	City of Montgomery
Tim Harkrider	Willis Independent School District
Frank R. Holmes	
Jace Houston	
Randy Johnson	
Kathy Turner Jones	Lone Star Ground Water Conservation District
Bill Kotlan	
Honorable Howard Kravetz	City of Panorama Village
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Honorable Webb Melder	City of Conroe
Honorable Leonard Reed	
Dr. Beau Rees	······Montgomery Independent School District
Honorable Alan B. Sadler	
Greg Smith	
Scott Smith	
Lloyd Tisdale	
Paul Virgadamo	City of Conroe

CHAMBER STAFF

 Scott Harper
 President

 Gina Mitchell
 Director of Operations and Finance

 Cassandra Roschen
 Director of Membership Development

 Angela Storseth
 Director of Program Development

 Lauren McCoy
 Director of Community Relations

 Barbara Marino.
 Communications Assistant

 Cindy Corey-Millenson
 Communications Assistant

MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the Greater Conroe/Lake Conroe Area Chamber of Commerce is to strengthen the economic environ ment and quality of life in Montgomery County.

VISION STATEMENT

To be known as a dynamic organization that generates awareness, creates partnerships, and provides leadership for progressive development and growth while enhancing the quality of life in Montgomery County.

The Chamber F.Y.I. is a publication of the Greater Conroe/Lake Conroe Area Chamber of Commerce located at 505 W Davis, PO Box 2347, Conroe, TX 77305. (936) 756-6644. Published monthly, it is intended as a public service to Chamber members. No part may be reprinted without permission of the Chamber. Ads in the Chamber F.Y.I. do not reflect the endorsement by the GC/LCACC of any product or service. The GC/LCACC reserves the right to refuse advertisements. The Chamber F.Y.I. is viewable online at www.conroe.org. For more information on advertising in the Chamber F.Y.I., please call (936) 756-6644

<u>A Letter From the President</u>



Here appy April to you all and hope you are ready for an exciting Spring. This time of the year typically symbolizes growth and that is what we are focused on. During the last week of March we started "weeding" and "planting". Our Chamber consultant, Chuck Ewart of The Ewart Group from South Carolina, spent 3 days with us helping us cultivate our Chamber. Chuck has over 30 years experience running Chambers and consulting across the country.

He conducted 8 one-on-one interviews with various community leaders, held 2 different focus groups with Chamber members from businesses of different sizes and with varying areas of service, hosted a Board of Director's session along with a separate staff session to continue our strategic planning process. Chuck will work with the Board to chart our course through this year to 2017. As we know, the growth of our area is rapid and we will be ready for it as it continues to occur while still maintaining the quality benefits we currently offer.

Part of the growing process is paying is forward in different ways. The Montgomery County Fair will be a community highlight for April and a lot of money is raised for student scholarships through the fair with the non-livestock and livestock auctions. Your Chamber proudly does its part as well. We will be raising over \$6,000 to go to the worthwhile cause. Our Board members, staff, and Chamber members donate to our Fair Buyer's group. Our own Board member, Brent Sherrod, leads this group for us and partners with other groups to purchase items or animals at the event. All of the money we raise goes directly into this endeavor and no Chamber monies are used. Any donation over \$100 receives an invitation to the Buyer's Group Party held before the livestock auction. If you are interested in donating or have questions, please contact Angela Storseth-Cooper at 936-538-7111 or angelas@conroe.org.

I also would like to personally invite you to Tastefest that will be held on Thursday, May 8th from 5:00pm – 8:00pm at the Lone Star Convention Center. Come join us and over 2000 guests, as we sample food and drinks from over 40 of our Chamber members. This is a great event for giving back as well....we are partnering with the Montgomery County Food Bank and will be holding a Tastefest Food Drive and Raffle. For every one non-perishable food item you donate, you will receive one entry into a drawing to win a package with gift cards donated by the local restaurants and vendors at Tastefest. So come and eat and give food to help those less fortunate than us.

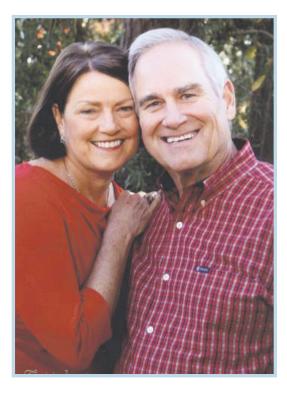
Have a great month,

Scott Harper, President Greater Conroe/Lake Conroe Area Chamber of Commerce

Member Spotlight JOHN V. PEET JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL

Namesake:

Dr. John Peet was a member of the Conroe Independent School District Board of Trustees for nine (1979-1988),years serving as President of the Board from 1984-1986. He served as Conroe High School's football physician from 1973 to 2000. Dr. Peet has lived in Conroe for over forty years with his wife, Betty, who is a former secondary math teacher. He attended the University of Texas at Austin and obtained his medical degree from the University of



Texas Southwestern Medical School in Dallas. After graduating from medical school in 1969, he enlisted in the United States Air Force. He completed a general surgery internship at Wilford Hall in San Antonio, followed by two years in Spokane, Washington as a flight surgeon and survival school instructor. In 1973, Dr. Peet relocated to Conroe, Texas where he began his practice and raised his family. In addition to serving on the Board of Trustees, he served as Conroe High School's football physician from 1973 to 2000.

In 1995, Conroe ISD named a new junior high school in his honor,

John V. Peet Junior High School. The school was located at 400 Sergeant Ed Holcomb Boulevard until the spring semester of 2013. Peet Junior High School moved to 1895 Longmire Road with the opening of a new, world class school in the fall of 2013. Simultaneously, the newlyrenovated Conroe High School Ninth Grade Campus opened and is located in the former Peet Junior High School building.

The new building: The school was planned around an expanded Commons area that separates the wing with the gym, band, and industrial technology from the academic and administrative areas The learning spaces are clustered by department for



ease of access, and all classrooms are equipped with interactive projector systems that act like smart boards so teachers can directly use technology in their teachings. For security, the entry vestibule is the only access point for visitors. Only authorized persons can buzz in visitors. In addition, security roll down grilles are capable of blocking the area off for additional safety and control.

Energy use was controlled by maximizing the use of natural light in the library through a combination of translucent panels and windows. Indirect/direct pendant lights are also provided, but are only needed on rainy days and nights. Water usage on campus was also minimized by using low flow urinals and sinks that reduce their amount of potable water. During the development of the site, care was taken to minimize excavation of soil by positioning the building



with the natural topography of the site. Soil was also reused from the storm water detention areas to minimize importation.

Peet Junior High School is a beautiful, world-class facility where the great traditions of excellence will carry on for generations to come.