



# Northside Business Leaders, Inc.

Post Office Box 28554 • Jacksonville, Florida 32226-8554

Meetings: 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of the month. Time: 11:45A.M. Place: Jacksonville Zoo & Gardens, Samburu Room



## ***“The Northside”***

### ***December 2009***

#### **Mission Statement**

To continually improve the Jacksonville business environment and quality of life in Jacksonville, while serving the best interests of our members and the North Jacksonville community.

The Northside Business Leaders have taken pride these past 8 or 9 years in supporting the Safe Harbor Boys Home.

We have our members bring canned goods, socks, underwear, etc. (plus, of course, CASH!!) to our December meeting as donations to the Home. We also invite Doug and Robbie Smith, founders of the Home and ask them to bring some of their boys to that meeting. Our club is quite proud that one of our members, John Benso of Express Printing, recently donated a Volvo automobile to the Home.

Just in case you happen not to be familiar with the Home, it is located just off Heckscher Drive, its entrance about 100 yards west of the Blount Island entrance (4772 Safe Harbor Way, 32226, 757-7918). Their web site is [www.boyshome.com](http://www.boyshome.com)

The boys at the Home are NOT delinquent juveniles. They are troubled youths, some homeless, some abandoned, some sent there by parents or grandparents for a safe alternative home environment. They live on boats on the river, several of which they have renovated or restored after their being donated to the Home. Ages accepted are 15 –17, though a youth may remain there until 20 after the initial acceptance. One year is the minimum commitment for the education and training they receive.

To review the boys’ wishlist, please visit [www.northsidebusinessleaders.com](http://www.northsidebusinessleaders.com). Your contributions would be most appreciated!

*Season's Greetings!*

## Letter from The President

Dear Members,

December is almost here!

As I get older, time passes by more quickly than when I was a young adult. I also seem to get busier than I did when I was much younger. That seems backwards but nevertheless it's just the way it is.

Hopefully, we'll all remember to express our gratitude for what this season really represents; the birth of our Savior...Jesus Christ.

On December 8<sup>th</sup>, 2009 we'll once again have the privilege of listening to the First Coast High School chorus and Safe Harbor Boys Home will be at our meeting.

I hope you'll come on December 8<sup>th</sup> to show your appreciation for the chorus and your support for the boys at Safe Harbor. Also, the boy's home has a wish list for Christmas. Please go to the [website](http://www.northsidebusinessleaders.com) at: [www.northsidebusinessleaders.com](http://www.northsidebusinessleaders.com) to see what's on their list and hopefully you'll be in a position to help in some way. I know these boys will appreciate whatever you can give.

Economically speaking, most of us are in the same boat this year, in that we've suffered some monetary losses....some more than others, however, I truly believe that our giving should continue in spite of the obvious economic climate. It really does reflect on who we are as individuals and reflects on the generosity of the greatest nation on the planet.

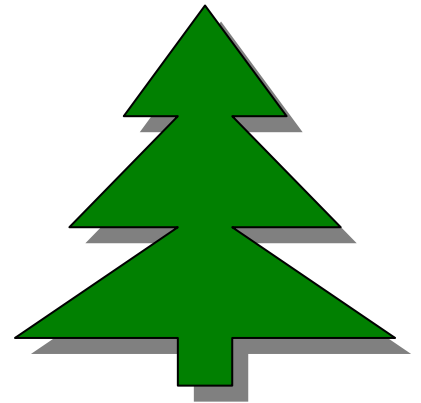
Personally, I'm blessed and have many reasons to be grateful; A God that's Perfect and loves me unconditionally, an awesome family, good health, loyal friends, dedicated employees, the best country in the world, the best neighbor's, established business, a cool home on hot days, a warm home on cold days, food, a car that runs and has a warranty, health insurance that I pray I never have to use, my dogs that make me laugh, shoes that fit, books that inspire me and hope for tomorrow. Add all that up and what I don't have certainly pales in comparison.

Remember our joint [Christmas Party](#) with the Eden Group held on [December 10<sup>th</sup>, 2009](#) at the Holiday Inn at Airport at [6:30 p.m.](#) Dress is casual. Cost is [FREE](#). Hope to see you there.

Merry Christmas!

God Bless You!

Patricia Hamn / President



## Mark Your Calendar

December 1, 2009  
Board Meeting

December 8, 2009  
First Coast High School Chorus & Safe Harbor Boys Home

December 10, 2009  
6:30 P.M.  
Christmas Social w/The Eden Group

**\*\*\*WE HAVE A NEW CLASSIFIED SECTION ON OUR WEBSITE!\*\*\***

### 2009 Banquet

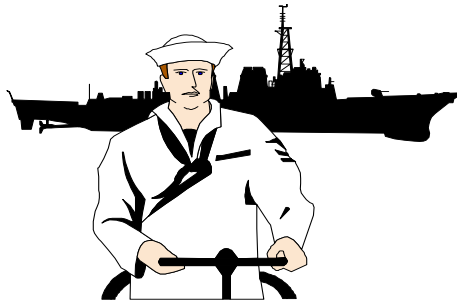
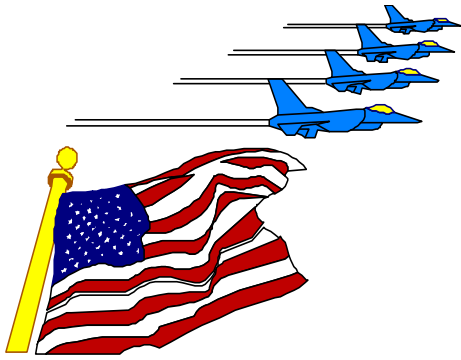
There are video clips of the banquet (including the NBL "Roar" on the website. You will have your choice of the standard or high resolution version. It is recommended that you have a DSL connection due to the large size of the files.

## **Birthdays for December**

Patricia Hamn	02	Steve Tillman	11
Sandy Gibbs	15	Isaac Jones	16
Karen Wilmer	24	Thomas Reeves	27
Helen Reaves	29		

**REMEMBER TO WISH YOUR FRIENDS HAPPY BIRTHDAY!**

Check out our website at: [www.northsidebusinessleaders.com](http://www.northsidebusinessleaders.com)



Remember the men and women in the U.S. Armed Forces in your prayers!

# MEMBER NEWS!

## The 2008-2009 OFFICERS

President: Patricia Hamn 1<sup>st</sup> VP: Rev.Ray Turner 2<sup>nd</sup> VP:Glenn Fowler 3<sup>rd</sup> VP: Michael Fisher  
Chaplain: Isaac Jones Secretary/Treasurer: Nancy Burnett  
Sergeant at Arms:Shannon Elian, Mark Kaleel, Darrell Kelly, & Karen Wilmer

### *Members*

*The price for our luncheons is \$15.00. We will no longer mail the newsletter each month, but we will instead Email the document to all members. If you do not have email, please let us know and we will get you a copy. We will have copies available at the luncheon meetings and you can pick one up from Nancy.*

### THE FRANCES AND CLYDE MEMORIAL FUND

Contributors to Date

John Benso  
Steve Burnett  
Gary Wallace

Bob & Debbie Birtalan  
Grady Parker

Sidney & Kim Broward  
Les Wages

If you have any exciting news or events to share with members, please forward this information to Nancy Burnett or Paul Forte by:

Fax: 904-714-4596 or E-MAIL [nmb7144596@bellsouth.net](mailto:nmb7144596@bellsouth.net).

**This is your Newsletter and we want to share your news!**

All of our Club Members are so special. Please let me know if you have any news for our Member column and keep us apprised of any special event or announcement.

# Member News

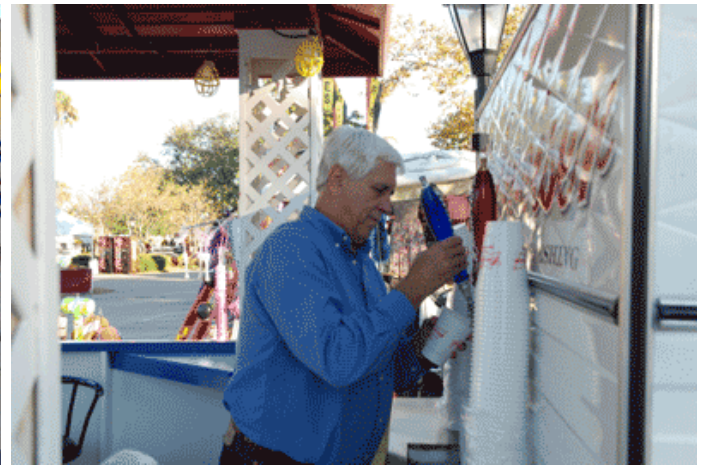
## The Jacksonville Fair

The 2009 Jacksonville Fair is over. We had some excellent weather and some that could have been better. I wish to thank those members, spouses and friends who served beer to earn funds for our Scholarship Program. A special thank you to Jim Fair and his friend Stewart who were there every day that the Northside Business leaders were to serve beer. Last we cannot thank Stan Story and Steve Burnett enough for their assistance in scheduling, managing and controlling the funds received by the members at this event. The beauty of this event it is a great time to network and get to know your fellow members better. I wouldn't want to forget to mention also how much fun we have at this event!

Patricia Hamn, President, Northside Business Leaders



Patricia & Tony Hamn



Jim Fair



Fun with Friends



Looking at the Mid-Way

# Of Interest

## ATLANTIC MARINE LANDS \$10M CONTRACT FOR SHIP REPAIR

Atlantic Marine Mayport has landed a nearly \$10 million contract to do repairs on the USS Robert G. Bradley, a frigate based at Mayport naval Station.

The contract calls for drydock and topside maintenance on the ship. It includes eight options that could bring the value of the contract to nearly \$12 million. The work is scheduled to be completed by March 2010.

The contract was competitively bid, with five proposals solicited and two received.

**JAX Bus. Journal Nov. 13 – 19, 2009**

## CORNERSTONE: JOBS CREATED IN NORTHEAST FLORIDA IN 2009

The economic development arm of the chamber cites the new companies moving her.

Despite the down economy of 2009, the Jacksonville Regional Chamber of Commerce's Cornerstone Regional Development Partnership had good news to spread at its quarterly luncheon at the Hyatt Regency Jacksonville Riverfront Hotel.

Cornerstone, the economic development arm of the chamber is dedicated to creating and retaining jobs in Baker, Clay, Duval, Flagler, Nassau, Putnam and St. Johns counties.

During a presentation, Cornerstone Chairman Greg Smith touted the accomplishments of the organization over the past year. He said Saft, A French battery manufacturer, is to create about 300 jobs at Cecil Commerce Center. A Federal Deposit Insurance Corp. center dedicated to asset reallocation for failed banks east of the Mississippi River is to employ about 500. Science First/STARLAB, a manufacturer of science education equipment and water sampling equipment, has moved its headquarters from Buffalo, N.Y. to Yulee. InEnTec Chemical LLC is moving its new headquarters to Clay County's Fleming Island, and the National Direct Response call center which employs about 40, is to expand by another 60 by June.

Smith also noted the city's new identity as "America's Logistics Center" as an accomplishment.

"We are truly achieving the goal of recruiting employers," Smith said.

The event's keynote speaker, Florida House Speaker-designate Dean Cannon, R-Winter Park, said Jacksonville's successes in courting new businesses this year prove that the city's efforts are working.

The fact that in a down economy, you're bringing in businesses here – not just from other states, but from other countries – is a testament to the wisdom of Jacksonville's collaborative partnering spirit, Cannon said. "I love this community. Individuals and groups here tend to set aside differences to focus on common problems. You see people from the business community cooperating with local government, cooperating with the civic and charitable community to address any number of challenges."

That spirit of cooperation is needed as businesses navigate the transitional economy, Cannon said.

"This region shows the degree of cooperation that should be throughout the state," he said.

And while it will get better, the artificially inflated boom economy of 2006 may never return, Cannon said. But when better times return, he said, they will be fueled by an unfettered private sector, not the public sector.

"If excessive borrowing and spending by the private sector created the crisis, it's foolish to think that excessive borrowing and spending by the public sector will get us out of it," he said.

Cannon said the state's resources, such as the St. Johns River's water, should be available to everyone in the state. Last month, he introduced a proposal to end a ban on oil drilling in Gulf of Mexico waters owned by the state to raise money, produce energy and create jobs.

Cornerstone also announced the winners of its international leaders awards at the luncheon. The Grimes Cos. Took the small business category; the large company award went to Rayonier, Inc. and the individual award was given to Roy Schleicher, chief of commercial services for JaxPort.

**Fla. Times Union Wed. Nov. 25, 2009 Bus. Section**

## **TPO PLAN INCLUDES \$777M IN BUS, COMMUTER RAIL AND MORE**

2011 start expected for Downtown rapid transit work

The plan for Northeast Florida's transportation system for the coming two decades will, for the first time, bet on more than just roads.

The nearly \$777 million worth of bus transit, commuter rail, trolley and bicycle and pedestrian projects reflects the area's growing understanding that cars alone are not going to cut it. The 20-year and 25 year plans created by the North Florida Transportation Planning Organization will be voted on by its board Nov. 12. The plan, which is updated every five years, was created after various public workshops where attendees pushed more for mass transportation projects. The public shift was spurred by gasoline hitting \$4 per gallon in summer 2008, and increased publicity about commuter rail and the impact of vehicle emissions on the environment, said Marci Larson, the organization's spokeswoman.

The main projects withing the \$5 billion plan are:

\*Construction of the First Coast Outer Beltway is expected to coast about \$1.8 billion. The four-lane limited access toll road with 13 interchanges spanning more than 46 miles will start in Clay County at Interstate 295 and connect Interstate 10 on the Westside of Jacksonville to Interstate 95 in northern St. Johns County.

\*About \$45 million to rebuild the Mathews Bridge to six lanes with a lane for bus service.

\*The widening of State Road A1A to six lanes from Interstate 95 to east of County Road 107 in Nassau County is expected to cost about \$142 million.

The major share of the \$776.8 million for non-road projects is for study and construction of commuter services. About \$350 million will be spent on connecting planned commuter service to Jacksonville Transportation Authority's center, which will be a hub for various transportation ranging from Amtrak trains to buses. The plan calls for spending about \$4 million to study using CSX Corp. lines from Jacksonville to Green Cove Springs and Macclenny for limited commuter service.

The state is separately applying for about \$268 million through the federal stimulus package to allow 90 mph Amtrak passenger trains to use the Florida East Coast Railway line. The line would connect Florida East Coast cities that do not receive Amtrak service through the current Miami-Tampa-Orlando-Jacksonville line.

The TPO's long-range plan also calls for about \$110 million to be spent on JTA's multi-transportation center, which will connect to the authority's planned bus rapid transit system and Skyway and trolley systems. About \$151 million will be spent on the system, which would improve bus timeliness by giving buses their own exclusive lane. The bus rapid transit system will include weather-protected shelters, pre-boarding ticketing machines and more attractive buses.

The authority chose to invest in the bus system rather than a light rail system because it is less expensive and it is a good way to build a customer base before shelling out for a rail system.

Scott Clem, the authority's director of strategic planning, said construction of the first part of the system – the Downtown part—is expected to begin in early 2011 and be finished in less than a year.

The entire system through Jacksonville is expected to be completed within five years.

According to the TPO plan, about \$105 million will be spent on building a high-frequency trolley service from Downtown to Five Points, Springfield, King Street in Riverside and Jacksonville Municipal Stadium.

Clem said if the authority relies on local funding, the trolley service could be running in one or two years. It will take three to five years to gain the increased trolley service if the authority waits for federal funding.

Lastly, the TPO's plan calls for about \$55.8 million to be spent on bicycle and pedestrian paths.

## TODAY'S THOUGHTS

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#### THE BEST AND WORST OF TIMES

"It was the best of times, it was the worst of times," The opening line of Charles Dickens' A Tale of Two Cities is a paradox that aptly describes this ladies life this past year.

I know our bodies are designed to wear out, and I have always been an overachiever, but did I have to soar ahead in this area of life as well? Couldn't I give the over-achieving role a rest, jus this once? Sadly, my bones are deteriorating at a rapid rate -- 20 years ahead of my chronological age! My thyroid went whacky a year ago. And the force of gravity is pulling the upper part of my body to an all time low, just like the winter weather in Chicago.

My midriff has thickened so much that my granddaughter mistakes it for her mini-trampoline. My blood pressure runs so low shoppers have mistaken me for a store mannequin and attempted to remove a piece of my clothing so they could try it on. (I guess I should be flattered they like what I wear.)

With so many body parts rusting out or failing entirely, I'm amazed that my body runs -- OK, walks -- at all.

Financial challenges have plagued me as well this pas year. Albert Einsten would have only spent a few seconds at the chalkboard and then declared, "It's impossible, There's no way one can pay \$950 a month house payment on an annual salary of \$4,000. It simply can't be done.

I tried to sell my house. My realtors offered so many gimmicks, I thought my house was a blue light special. First they gave away free pens and pencils, but my only takers were the neighborhood kids on their way to school.

Next, they advertised free dog food to the first 20 viewers. All that showed up were the dogs -- barking dogs that could be heard for miles.

Many would have viewed my challenging year as the worst of times. But it was also the best of times. I am thankful for may body parts that still work. (And there are a few.)

Miraculously I made my house payments through the generosity of family and friends. Even strangers offered a helping hand.

To top it all, I've had a mystery in my life that to this day remains unsolved. And who doesn't like a good mystery? Out of nowhere, heart shapes began to appear. The first showed up as a white floured heart in the center of a wheat tortilla. One morning as I poured my raisin bran cereal, out popped a heart-shaped clump of raisins. Next, I found a tiny silver heart on my driveway.

Then one morning I awoke and did a double take as I glanced out of my sliding glass door. There on my back porch, leaves were arranged in the shape of a giant heart. How awesome and amazing is that!

Life will always be filled with hardships; yet even in the worst of times, we can still experience some of our best moments.

**Mature Living -- August 2009**

**SEE YOU NEXT MONTH!**

**Nancy Burnett, "Secretary/Treasurer" & Shannon Elian, "PropVoice Management"**



# Northside Business Leaders, Inc.

Post Office Box 28554 • Jacksonville, Florida 32226-8554

Meetings: 2nd Tuesday of the month. Time: 11:45 A.M.

Place: Jacksonville Zoo and Gardens



## MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

*Revised: September 20, 2009*

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

BUSINESS NAME \_\_\_\_\_

BUSINESS ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

ZIP CODE \_\_\_\_\_

BUSINESS PHONE \_\_\_\_\_ Ext \_\_\_\_\_ FAX \_\_\_\_\_

HOME ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

ZIP CODE \_\_\_\_\_

HOME PHONE NUMBER \_\_\_\_\_

E-MAIL ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

BUSINESS CATEGORY \_\_\_\_\_

BIRTHDAY \_\_\_\_\_ SPOUSE \_\_\_\_\_

Category of Membership (**Circle**):    Individual        Corporate        Retired Spouse

COMMITTEE OF INTEREST: (**Circle those of interest**) Annual Banquet, Directory, Fair, Finance, golf Tournament, Government Affairs, Membership, Mentoring/Scholarships, Speakers, Web Page

Send Newsletter and Information: Home Address        Business Address        E-mail

Sponsored by: \_\_\_\_\_

One Time Application Fee **50.00**

Annual Dues Individual **115.00**

Annual Dues Corporate **300.00**

Annual Dues Retired Spouse **35.00**

**Mail Application to:**

**Northside Business Leaders**

**P.O. Box 28554**

**Jacksonville, FL 32226-8554**

Questions Contact: Glenn Fowler, Membership Chair

Work: 765-2355 • Email: glenn\_fowler@bellsouth.net

## CATEGORY INFO ON WEBSITE UNDER MEMBERSHIPS