

NCPLA President's Message

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President
Amy Fullbright
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When I first entered the Legislative Building 17 years ago, I quickly realized that this building is about relationships; with legislators, with staff and with lobbyists. I have had the good fortune of working with some brilliant lobbyists and a lot has changed in my 17 years and will continue to change, but one thing remains constant, the importance and value of relationships with fellow lobbyists. It is truly an honor to serve as your President for the next two years. This Association should do many things, and will, and one of its most important roles is advocating regulatory groups regarding our ethics laws and regulations, but ultimately if this Association enhances the relationships among the lobbying community, if it nurtures and grows lobbyists who share their experiences and provide examples of honesty and integrity, it will preserve this profession.

For the past two years, John Policastro has served as your President and we owe him deep gratitude. He "got our house in order" by making sure that our financial and organizational needs were addressed. He worked to structure legislation regarding the compensation reporting of lobbyists, and he worked hard to see that legislation passed in the last Session. John, we thank you for your dedication, your time and your commitment to the NCPLA. I would also like to recognize the efforts of Joe Stewart, our outgoing Membership and Directory Chair. I cannot begin to tell you the hours that Joe put into producing the directory that you received earlier this week. It is no simple task to produce a directory of this size and scope, and Joe worked tirelessly to make sure it was accurate and that the process moved along smoothly to deliver it to you, the General Assembly and the Executive Branch as early in the Session as possible. Our NCPLA staff; Lisa, Joanne, Gail and Elizabeth have provided valuable assistance and guidance to me already and I know to John and Susan before me. They have served this organization very well and I appreciate their efforts.

Finally, please read this newsletter carefully, look for ways you can participate, celebrate the successes of your peers, and lend your strengths to this Association. I have challenged our new slate of committee chairmen to organize and consult with strong, thoughtful and enthusiastic committees. Consider the place where you can serve best, reach out to that chairman or seek me out. We will make sure that you find the right fit. I look forward to the opportunity to lead and serve this Association and I appreciate the confidence that you've placed in me. Working alongside all of you, we will make sure that the NC Professional Lobbyists Association truly fulfills all of its potential.

Thank you and have a great Session!

Amy



Above, incoming President Amy Fullbright stands with Past President John Policastro after being presented her president's gavel.

Lobbying 101 Offered By NCPLA

NCPLA is offering a brown bag “Lunch & Learn” session designed specifically for new lobbyists! The event is free - just bring your own sack lunch & we’ll supply soft drinks & water. If you are new to lobbying, please be our guests for this event. Or, please pass this information along to any new lobbyists you know.

This informative event will include:

- Basic Lobbyist Reporting; Registration & Disclosure Requirements

Speaker — *Doug Heron*

- How a Bill Becomes Law - Basics of the legislative process, including the “civics book” version as well as additional insights regarding exceptions illustrating how it really works

Speaker — *Lu-Ann Coe Perryman*

- Resources Available to Lobbyists at the NC General Assembly

Speaker — *Elizabeth Robinson*

- Do’s and Don’ts of Lobbying

Speaker — *Michelle Frazier*

- Ethics and Effective Advocacy

Speaker — *Kevin Leonard*

- Attributes of a Successful Lobbyist: Lessons Along the Way; Q & A Panel Discussion

Moderator — *Amy Fullbright*

Date: Monday, March 14, 2011

Time: 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Location: The Quorum Center
323 West Jones Street

It’s not too late to sign up!
RSVP today at 919-821-6860

Changes to Principal Expense Reports

On December 20, 2010, the lobbying community received new guidance from the NC Secretary of State for the 4th Quarter Principal Expense Reports, which required that the allocation of principal expense reporting for compensation to lobbyists be broken down into multiple categories. Being regulated by multiple sources — statute, State Ethics Commission opinions, and the regulations and forms of the NC Secretary of State’s office — makes our job challenging. We want to adhere to the letter of the law but sometimes find regulatory forms challenging to comply with. The most recent example was the form created by the Secretary of State that would require lobbyists to break down their compensation in six different categories. We did not believe that was the intent of the General Assembly, and it was impracticable from a compliance standpoint.

Led by our President Amy Fullbright, over the Christmas and New Year’s holiday weekends, many people in this Association worked to ensure that these lobbyist reporting guidelines were changed. Most notably, working with President Fullbright, was John Mc-Millan, John Policastro, Bill Scoggin, George Teague, and Susan Valauri who consulted, advised and met with legislators and staff to achieve a most favorable result. As you will note, while still requiring a breakdown of compensation paid to each lobbyist, the allocations of individual categories of lobbying activities are no longer required on the Principal Expense Reports. We appreciate the NC Secretary of State’s Office and members of the NC General Assembly for working with us to ensure our regulations are clear and practical, while serving the public interest. On behalf of all lobbyists, many thanks to those who worked on getting these important changes made.

NCPLA Membership Directories Available

The new NCPLA Membership Directories are here and available for pick up in the Phone Room at the Legislative Building.

NCPLA members will each receive two copies of the Directory simply by going to the Phone Room and signing for them. Copies of the new Directory have also been distributed to the Legislative Branch as well as the Executive Branch.

Many thanks to the NCPLA members who volunteered to help distribute the directories.

General Assembly Web Site Has New Look

You have likely already noticed the new look of the NC General Assembly Web site (www.ncleg.net), which went live on January 1. According to NCGA Web Manager Kelly Stallings, the goal was to refresh the appearance of the site, but maintain the organization. "The good news is that there is a new look," said Stallings. "The better news is that everyone will still be able to find the information they need where they're used to looking for it." Stallings said, beyond the cosmetic refinements, the main change is to the search function, now featured prominently on the top banner of the NCGA home page.

The Web site also features updated directory listings on all members of the 2011-2012 General Assembly.

Stallings hinted that further changes would be made after session begins, at the instruction of the new leadership. She also said the Web site would be expanded to include more information on redistricting.

2011-2012 NCPLA Committees

Communications	Amy McConkey <i>NC Beverage Assn.</i>	Legislative	Kim Crouch <i>NC Bar Assn.</i>
Education	Kathy Hawkins <i>Duke Energy Carolinas</i>		John Policastro <i>NC Automobile Dealers Association</i>
	Erin Schuettepelz <i>Univ. of NC-Chapel Hill</i>		Bill Scoggin <i>Troutman Sanders Strategies, LLP</i>
Ethics	John McMillan <i>Manning, Fulton & Skinner, PA</i>	Membership	Elizabeth Robinson <i>NC Retail Merchants Assn.</i>
	George Teague <i>Nelson Mullins Riley & Scarborough, LLP</i>		Lauren Whaley <i>NC Credit Union League</i>
Events	Ken Melton <i>Ken Melton & Associates</i>	Website/IT	John White <i>Greater Durham Chamber of Commerce</i>
	Lu-Ann Coe Perryman <i>DLC & Associates, Inc.</i>		Kevin Leonard <i>NC Assn. of County Commissioners</i>
Finance	Doug Heron <i>Williams Mullen</i>		

2011-2012 NCPLA Board of Directors

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L.A. Harris & Associates, Inc.

Kathy Hawkins
Duke Energy

Evelyn Hawthorne
Evelyn Hawthorne Government & PR

Kevin Howell
NC State University

Henry Lancaster
Lancaster, Craig & Associates

Kevin Leonard
NC Association of County Commissioners

John McMillan
Manning, Fulton & Skinner, P.A.

Ken Melton
Ken Melton & Associates

Paul Meyer
NC League of Municipalities

Stan Pace
Frontier Communications

Lu-Ann C. Perryman
DLC & Associates, Inc.

Joyce Peters
JP Associates

John Policastro
NC Automobile Dealers Association

Bill Scoggin
Troutman Sanders Strategies

Paul Stock
NC Bankers Association

George Teague
Nelson Mullins Riley &
Scarborough, LLP

Johnny Tillet
McGuireWoods Consulting

Susan Valauri
Nationwide Insurance & Affiliates

Anita Watkins
UNC General Administration

Leanne Winner
NC School Boards Assn.

Rick Zechini
Progress Energy

In Memoriam



Jennie Dorsett
1951-2011

In memory of our dear friend and fellow lobbyist **Jennie Dorsett** who passed away recently. Jennie had a significant impact on the public policy of our state, serving the North Carolina General Assembly for more than 30 years first as an attorney, then as a lobbyist. She will truly be missed in the halls of the General Assembly.

NCPLA will make a contribution to the Boys & Girls Club of Raleigh in Jennie's honor.

Welcome New NCPLA Members!

Linda Andrews
North Carolina Farm Bureau
Fred Baggett
Smith Moore Leatherwood, LLP
Cynthia Barnett
Christian Science Committee on Publication for North Carolina
Amy Bason
NC Association of County Commissioners
Suzanne Beasley
State Employees Association of NC
Marty Bocock
ECC Technologies, Inc.
Alan Briggs
NC Association of Feeding America
Kerri Burke
McGuireWoods Consulting, LLC
John Bussian
The Bussian Law Firm, PLLC
Christopher Caldwell
DuPont
Jason Cannon
Greensboro Partnership
Lesley Cates
University of North Carolina-General Administration
Damon Circosta
North Carolina Center for Voter Education
Anne Coan
NC Farm Bureau Federation
Jennifer Cohen
Insurance Federation of North Carolina
J. Crystal Collins
North Carolina Trucking Association
John Cooper
CompassNC, LLC
William Craigle
Jason Deans
Bailey & Dixon Solutions, LLC
Laura DeVivo
Womble Carlyle Sandridge & Rice, PLLC
Betty Doster
University of North Carolina at Charlotte
Allison Fowler
North Carolina State Grange
Franklin Freeman
McGuireWoods Consulting, LLC
Anna-Marshall Gauss
Capstrat

Maeve Goff
Smith, Anderson, Blount, Dorsett, Mitchell and Jernigan
Tina Gordon
North Carolina Nurses Association
Katie Hallaway
Lowe's Companies, Inc.
James Harrell
Harrell and Associates, LLC
David Heinen
North Carolina Center for Nonprofits
Joy Hicks
NC Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services
Betty Huskins
Ridgetop Management, Inc.
Philip Isley
Blanchard, Miller, Lewis & Isley
Robert Kearley
Sunovion Pharmaceuticals, Inc.
Kristen Laster
Fetzer Strategic Partners
Charles Marshall
Brooks Pierce McLendon Humphrey & Leonard, LLP
Scott Mason
Lowe's Companies, Inc.
Ann McColl
North Carolina State Board of Education
David McGowan
North Carolina Association of Realtors
Beau Memory
North Carolina Department of Transportation
John Merritt
McGuireWoods Consulting, LLC
Alex Miller
Kochanek Law Group
Edgar Miller
Conservation Trust for North Carolina
George Miller
Haywood, Denny & Miller, LLP
David Miner
Bailey and Dixon Solutions, LLC
Drew Moretz
Greater Raleigh Chamber of Commerce
Will Morgan
North Carolina Sierra Club
Annette Newkirk
North Carolina Childcare Coalition

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Welcome New NCPLA Members!

Tyler Newman

Business Alliance for a Sound Economy (BASE)

James Norment

Ward and Smith, P.A.

Ian Palmquist

Equality North Carolina

Ernest Pearson

Nexsen Pruet PLLC

Cheryl Posner-Cahill

North Carolina School Psychology Association

Katherine Ross

Parker Poe Adams & Bernstein, LLP

Sharon Scudder

North Carolina Association of County Commissioners

Wilma Sherrill

North Carolina Medical Society & Mission Hospitals, Inc.

Ray Starling

NC Department of Agriculture & Consumer Services

M. Durwood Stephenson

U.S. 70 Corridor Commission

Meredith Swindell

The Policy Group

Michael Taylor

Michael W. Taylor, Attorney at Law, PLLC

Warren Thornton

Fibrowatt, Inc.

Lynette Tolson

Public Health Associations of North Carolina

Marcus Trathen

Brooks Pierce McLendon Humphrey & Leonard LLP

Ed Turlington

Brooks Pierce McLendon Humphrey & Leonard LLP

Leslie Walden

Fidelity Investments

Nurham Warwick

Nurham Warwick Associates

Thomas West

Poyner Spruill LLP

Kathryn Westcott

American Council of Engineering Companies of NC

John White

Greater Durham Chamber of Commerce

Charles Wilkins

Broughton Wilkins Sugg & Thompson PLLC

Stan Williams

North Carolina Symphony

Paula Wolf

Paulatics

Matthew Wolfe

Parker Poe Adams & Bernstein, LLP

Teross Young

Food Lion, LLC

NCPLA 2011 Calendar

Here are events the NCPLA Board is working on — be sure to mark your calendars!

March 14

Lobbying 101

April (date TBD)

NCPLA Networking Event

May (date TBD)

Education Event

June (date TBD)

NCPLA Member Appreciation Event

Board of Directors Meeting

August 26

Durham Bulls Game

NCPLA & YLA

October (date TBD)

Annual Meeting

Board of Directors Meeting

If you find yourself stressed out on a constant basis, and you want to talk to someone about it —

Help is available!

- HELPLINE: 800- 451-9682 (NC only) Monday - Friday 8:30 am to 5 pm.

- Email anytime mail@naminc.org

- Suicide Help 24 hours:

1-800-273-TALK (8255)

NCPLA Member News

Congratulations to NCPLA Board member **Elizabeth Biser** and her husband Blair on the birth of their daughter, Ella Katherine (8 pounds, 1 ounce, 20 inches), on August 7, 2010. Have you ever seen a sweeter face?!



Congratulations also to **Kristi Huff** and husband Nathan on their second child! Henry Dale Huff was born on February 3rd (8 pounds, 9 ounces, 21 inches). Big sister Caroline loves to help with baths and changing diapers. She also refers to him as "Cutie Pie." We agree! Kristi reports that after just a few weeks, he's already in the 95th percentile for weight and 90th percentile for height! Go Henry!



Dan Crawford and wife Sarah also had their second child in February. Abigail Christine Crawford was born on February 7, 2011 (7lbs 8oz, 21 inches). Dad reports that Abigail is a great sleeper, usually sleeping 5-6 hours a night! "I think God knows that Mommy and Daddy are weak and couldn't handle anything else," Dan said. "I've already started immersing her into a life of mediocrity by making her watch NC State basketball and Chicago Cubs baseball."



Just before we went to press with the newsletter, we received a wonderful report from **George Teague** that he and wife Nancy are now grandparents to Griffin Michael Teague. Griffin (8lbs, 2oz, 22 inches) was born March 9th at 8:05 p.m. to parents George and Jen Teague of Raleigh. Congratulations Teagues!

Angie Whitener, Director of Policy Development & Communications for the North Carolina Pork Council is now Angie Whitener Maier! Angie wed Neal Maier on September 5, 2010. Congratulations and best wishes to the new couple.

WRAL-TV and reporter Cullen Browder are continuing their story, "Life With Lo Lo" and the staggering costs of dealing with Alzheimer's. Lo Lo is the mother of **Dave Simpson**. WRAL began airing the stories and posting a blog by Simpson last year and a documentary is planned. The latest story is posted on the WRAL website.

Kudos to **Joe Stewart** who organized a group of lobbyists for a bowling tournament on February 19 in support of Big Brothers and Big Sisters of the Triangle. Along with Joe, Team Lobster included **Henry Lancaster**, **Tim Kent**, and **Stan Pace**. Many thanks to all lobbyists who contributed, enabling Joe to surpass his fundraising goal by raising more than \$1200.



Members of Team Lobster shown above left, Stan Pace; above right, Tim Kent; and below, Henry Lancaster

