



The Navigator

VOLUME XXXI NO. 10

DECEMBER 2016

A Look Over the Past Years, and Looking Toward 2017

by Margie Buentello, President & CEO

The Chamber will be celebrating its 40th Anniversary at the Annual North Channel Area Chamber of Commerce Annual Awards and Membership Gala. The gala will be Saturday, January 28, 2017 at the Houston Marriott Hotel located at 9100 Gulf Freeway. Social hour begins at 6:00 PM and dinner at 7:00 PM. There will be a dance following the program.

The gala committee is planning an extra special evening. **Wayne Oquin** is the speaker and he will give, "A Look Over The Past 40 Years." If you know Wayne, you know he will make it very entertain-

ing. We will be honored with the presence of many of the past 40 chairmen. **Lucia Bates**, 2016 Chairman of the Chamber Board will present awards for 2016 and hand over the gavel to **Adam Lund** as the 2017 Chairman. Lund and the 2017 board (see page 4) will be installed by **Constable Chris Diaz**, Precinct 2. Lund has already started preparing for 2017 during his November Board Retreat.

Don't miss out on the fun. Make your reservations as soon as possible: go online to www.northchannelarea.com; call the Chamber office at 713-

Sponsored by:



SERVING THE NORTH CHANNEL AREA SINCE 1950

450-3600; or email blanca@ncachamber.com.

Please consider supporting the Chamber through a sponsorship or donating a silent auction item of \$100 value or more. A Silver sponsorship includes a premium table for eight; recognition on marketing flyers and Annual Report; and one complimentary bottle of wine at table. Silver Sponsorships are \$1,500; corporate tables for eight are \$650; and individual seats are

\$80per person. The dress for the gala is formal. Tuxedos are not required.

A big THANK YOU goes out to those who have already committed to a sponsorship: Gold Sponsor, **United Community Credit Union** and Silver Sponsors, **Arkema, Inc., LyondellBasell, East Houston Regional Medical Center, CenterPoint Energy, Port of Houston and Woodforest National Bank.**

Inside this issue:

Board of Directors	2
New Members	2
Renewals	3
Port Briefs	3
Chamber Pictures	4



December 23-26
Christmas Holidays
Chamber office closed

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

January 2
New Year Holiday
Chamber office closed

NO JANUARY LUNCHEON

Tuesday, January 10
Ambassador Meeting

11am @ The Chamber office
Everyone welcome

Saturday, January 28
40th Annual Gala
Houston Marriott
9100 Gulf Freeway, 77017
Social—6 pm
Dinner—7 pm

2016 Board of Directors

Lucia Bates—Chairman
LB Marketing Solutions

Adam Lund— Chairman-Elect
Capital Bank

Shalonda Dawkins— 1st Vice Chairman
United Community Credit Union

John Moore— Treasurer
Galena Park ISD

Christie Gates— Secretary
Sheldon ISD

Kimberly Gonzalez – Immediate Past Chair,
Platinum Copier Solutions

Alice Adams, East Houston Reg. Med. Center
Marcile Barnett, Bates Collison Centers
Brandan Baird, Woodforest National Bank
Angela Broussard, Broussard's Real Estate
Rick Brown, Arkema, Inc.
Marlene Clowers, Congressman Gene Green
Ronny Dwairy, Bestway Oilfield
Pedro Garcia, Port of Houston Authority
June Harris, Halo Branded Solutions
Gretchen Knowles, Harris County Pct. 2
Erika Koehler, Wendel D. Ley YMCA
Kris Lynn, Channelview ISD
Bill Palko, Amegy Bank
Dr. Bill Raffetto, San Jacinto College North
Garland Rutherford, LyondellBasell
Joe Stephens, Farmers Insurance
Lon Squyres, City of Jacinto City
Jim Wadzinski, Community Toyota/Kia/
Honda
Mike Williams, Edward Jones

Staff

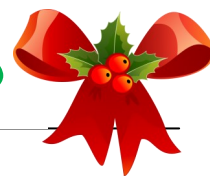
Margie Buentello, President & CEO
Margie@ncachamber.com

Blanca Beltran, Member Relations Coordinator
Blanca@ncachamber.com

Joselin Escobar, Administrative Assistant
joselin@ncachamber.com

North Channel Area
Chamber of Commerce
13301 I-10 East Freeway, Suite 100
Houston, TX 77015 (713) 450-3600

NEW MEMBERS



Angel's Tax Service

Terecita Robles, Owner; E-mail:
Angelstax17@gmail.com
11929 East Freeway Suite D
Houston, TX 77029
(832) 370-0590
www.angelstax17.com
Tax Services

Caroline Dwairy

16030 Market St.
Houston, TX 77530
(281) 452-2525
Individuals

Gus Dwairy

16030 Market St.
Houston, TX 77530
(281) 452-2525
Individuals

FIT 4 LIFE

Christopher Flores, Owner; E-mail:
fitchris4@gmail.com
Norma Wyatt, Owner; E-mail:
nwyatt02@gmail.com
6464 East Sam Houston Pkwy.
Houston, TX 77049
(520) 858-6850
www.GoHerbalife.com/wyattnorma/en.us
Nutrition

Frost Bank

Andrew Harrell; E-mail: Andrew.Harrell@FrostBank.com
13630 East Freeway, Suite 300
Houston, TX 77015
(713) 388-7600
www.frostbank.com
Banks

Hillco Building Service

Dusty Kent; E-mail:
dusty@hillcobuildingservice.com
1109 Hub Street
Houston, TX 77023
(281) 785-0639
General Contractor

Eric Robinson

6802 Latchmore Ln
Houston, TX 77049
(713) 494-0666
Individuals

The Law Offices of Luis Garcia PLLC

Luis F. Garcia; E-mail:
luis@luisgarcialaw.com
13364 Woodforest Blvd
Houston, TX 77015
(713) 999-8006
Attorney at Law

Wayside Custom Wheels

Moe Bahro, Owner; E-mail:
moe@waysidecustomwheels.com
10960 East Freeway
Houston, TX 77029
(713) 678-7669
www.waysidecustomwheels.com
Automobile Parts & Supplies -
New

The North Channel Area Chamber of Commerce's mission is to promote economic development and provide real solutions for business and community prosperity.

MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS

A special thank you to the following members who have shown their dedicated support of the Chamber and the community by renewing their membership investment.



21-38 Years		Harris County WCID #36	16 years
Nadolney Real Estate	39 years	Basic Equipment	12 years
Arkema, Inc.	36 years	Sterling Wood Church	12 years
Woodforest National Bank	35 years	Debbie Palko	6 years
Wendel D. Ley YMCA	34 years		
Don White & Co.	34 years	1-5 Years	
Havard Welding	33 years	Jacob Stern and Sons—Texas	2 years
Reichold, LLC	33 years	Youth Reach Houston	2 years
Pineforest Jewelry	30 years	A & B Environmental Services	1 year
		Channelview ISD Education Foundation	1 year
6-20 Years		King Davis	1 year
GB Biosciences	18 years		



PORT BRIEFS



Bayport RoRo Terminal received its first shipment of new automobiles,” Executive Director Roger Guenther announced in his report to the Port Commission of the Port of Houston Authority during the last regular Port Commission meeting for the year. On November 30, Grimaldi Line’s M/V Grande Sierra Leone delivered 428 FIAT® 500X automobiles to the terminal, soon after this year’s lease agreement with Auto Warehousing Company to handle these vehicle imports. Guenther reported that the “operation went seamlessly” through the “collaborative coordination of staff, customers, and labor” who “all helped make this first call a success.”

Regarding 2016, Guenther said “it has been a banner year for Port Houston business,” adding that there was still one month left in the calendar year to continue to build on the record performance in container activity, which is ahead now by two percent at this same time last year. Through the month of November, Port Houston’s general and container cargo facilities collectively handled more than 32 million tons of total tonnage.

Noteworthy actions taken by the Port Commission today included its approval to reissue and amend Port Authority Tariffs Nos. 8, 14 and 15, covering the Turning Basin Terminals, Barbours Cut Terminal and Bayport Container Terminal, and rescind Tariff No. 17, covering cruise operations at all Port Authority terminals, all effective January 1, 2017.

During the meeting, Port Commission Chairman Janiece Longoria also praised the Congressional passage of a new water resources development bill. Ms. Longoria acknowledged the bipartisan support for the bill’s passage noting matters of particular interest in regards to the maintenance of the 52-mile long Houston Ship Channel.

Port Houston is the local sponsor of the Houston Ship Channel, the busiest waterway in the United States with annual vessel calls of more than 8,300 large ships.

The next regular Port Commission meeting is scheduled for January 31, 2017.



2017 Chamber Board

Adam Lund, Capital Bank – Chairman
 Shalonda Dawkins – Chairman Elect
 John Moore, Galena Park ISD – 1st Vice Chair
 Christie Gates, Sheldon ISD – Treasurer
 Dr. Allatia Harris, San Jacinto College – Secretary
 Lucia Bates, LB Marketing – Immediate Past Chair
 Marcile Barnett, Bates Collision Centers
 Brandan Baird, Woodforest National Bank
 Angela Broussard, Broussard's Real Estate Inv.
 Rick Brown, Arkema, Inc.
 Marlene Clowers, Congressman Gene Green
 Ronny Dwairy, Bestway Oilfield
 Pedro Garcia, Port of Houston Authority
 June Harris, Halo Branded Sol.
 Erika Koehler, YMCA
 Gretchen Knowles, Harris County Pct. 2
 Greg Ollis, Channelview ISD
 Bill Palko, Amegy Bank
 Dr. Bill Raffetto, San Jacinto College North
 Garland Rutherford, LyondellBasell
 Lon Squyres, City of Jacinto City
 Jim Wadzinski, Community Toyota



2016 Chairman Lucia Bates and her husband, Robert, out and about attending a charity fundraiser.