



THE BULLETIN

FLORENCE EXCHANGE CLUB
THE OLDEST SERVING SERVICE CLUB IN THE SHOALS BEGINNING JUNE 1921

What is SEDA?

The Shoals Economic Development Authority (SEDA) is a professional organization dedicated to economic development in Northwest Alabama, including Lauderdale and Colbert Counties. CEO/President Forrest Wright spoke to the Florence Exchange Club Tuesday.



“SEDA provides assistance to companies planning new or expanded facilities. The Authority serves as a point of contact to the network of private sector and local, state, and federal government entities that support a company relocation or expansion decision. It is organized as a public/private, non-profit organization funded by local governments and area businesses,” he reported.

The SEDA staff has 60+ years combined in economic development, which means that inquiries are handled professionally and with discretion. Services are provided without cost to the company.

“Thank goodness that the Presidential election is over,” Wright said. “There was some down time as to our work during this past few months. Prospects were slow in making any ventures, waiting to see what would be the outcome. Now I can see the up turn and there are two or three “prospects” in the making.”

One is a woodworking project looking at a site for several hundred employees and one million dollar plant. Wright did not elaborate any further.

“Another good prospect is the Computer Programming company which is now down to two sites in the Shoals area,” he said. This would be hiring about 300 people. “We are looking at locations which would be “cool”. This means a good location with a renovated building maybe in the downtown area.

“It is a good time to be in the Shoals,” Wright remarked. “Plentiful recreation, good education facilities, transportation to and from is improving and companies look for good working people.”

UPCOMING PROGRAMS

November 29
Brian Maples

December 6
James Barnett

December 7
Pearl Harbor Day

December 12
Board Meeting

December 13
Christmas Party

No meetings on
December 20 and 27

2016-2017

OFFICERS

Bert Bretherick

President

Brian Maples

Pres. Elect

Doug Evans,

Vice President

Adin Batson,

Imm. Past Pres.

Laura Williams

Secretary

Howard Tinsley,

Treasurer

DIRECTORS

One Year

Peggy O'Steen

Vance Persall

Joe Patterson

Two Year

B. W. Gibbons

Parrish Riedel

Custom Synthetic Fibers recently had their Grand Opening celebrations at their 80,000 square-foot facility located in the Rogersville Business Park. The company announced plans to locate in Rogersville in December 2015, at which time expansions began in order to accommodate the new start-up business, doubling the size of the then 40,000 square-foot speculative building.

Custom Synthetic Fibers produces high quality polyester fiber to be used in a variety of industries, including furniture and automotive. The company aims to produce 40 million pounds annually of the recycled fiber and currently has almost 50 employees. Many local officials and community leaders, along with representatives from the state, were in attendance showing their support. Joseph Ku, President of Custom Synthetic Fibers, was appreciative of the Rogersville community, the Shoals Economic Development Authority, and other state and local authorities for their support of Custom Synthetic Fibers.



Please get with Adin, who is our chair of the Membership Committee, to bring in prospective members. Our programs help this community in so many different ways. It is time to look forward in rebuilding our club.

Of special note we welcome new member this month: Buddy Brook



Congrats to Vance for his efforts in recruiting this young man.

December Birthdays

William Bowen 12/13
Teresa Robertson 12/19



Vance says the PEEECANS did arrive late,



however sales between now and Christmas will be brisk. Pick up from Teresa's office. About 30 cases of REGULAR are available.



Please mark your calendar for the BIG events in December:
December 6 regular meeting; speaker will be from the Healing Place.

December 7 Pearl Harbor Day; 75th Anniversary.

December 13 Christmas Music and celebration.

NO meetings on December 20 and 27.



“God of power and might, thank you for the service of men and women who protect the United States now and who have served in the past. Bless them and their families, strengthen and encourage them, and let them know that they have not served in vain. Amen.”

