



**January 12<sup>th</sup>**

**Monthly Business  
Meeting**

**GUEST SPEAKER: Andrew Rudisill**

**Building Point Southeast**



**TOPIC: "That's the way we've  
always done it!"**

**Is there any need to change  
the tools of estimating?**

**Chapter Officers:**

President – Patty Delgado

President-Elect – TBD

1<sup>st</sup> Vice President – Chris Lefevers

2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President – Will Clayton

Secretary – Randall Williams

Treasurer – Melissa Swanson

Newsletter Editor – Melissa Swanson

**Professional  
Construction Estimators  
Association  
Catawba Valley Chapter**



Market on Main  
535 Main Ave SW  
Hickory, NC 28602

Join us for Social Hour at 5:30

Dinner will be served at 6:30

**PLEASE REGISTER/RSVP NO LATER  
THAN TUESDAY, January 10th!**

**Register online at :**

**[www.pcea-catawbavalley.org](http://www.pcea-catawbavalley.org)**

PCEA-Catawba Valley Chapter  
PO Box 547  
Hickory, NC 28603  
[www.pcea-catawbavalley.org](http://www.pcea-catawbavalley.org)

Email: [info@pcea-catawbavalley@charter.org](mailto:info@pcea-catawbavalley@charter.org)

## UPCOMING PCEA EVENTS

**January 12<sup>th</sup> –  
Monthly Business  
Meeting**

**February 9<sup>th</sup>—  
Monthly Business  
Meeting**

**March 9<sup>th</sup>—  
Monthly Business  
Meeting**



## HEALTH & HAPPINESS



Please send any Health & Happiness to  
Melissa Swanson,  
[Melissa.swanson@rmcc.com](mailto:Melissa.swanson@rmcc.com)

Please share your opinion of an early afternoon Monthly Business Meeting as we begin the New Year. We continue to struggle with member attendance at our Monthly Business Meetings & are exploring ideas to get a larger turnout.

Send opinions/thoughts to  
[info@pcea-catawbavalley.org](mailto:info@pcea-catawbavalley.org)



## North Carolina Employment Conditions: November 2016

*Employers added 9,000 new jobs in November, bringing year-to-year employment growth in North Carolina to 82,700 jobs. The jobless rate inched up to 5.0 percent, as labor force growth outpaced employment again.*

### Solid Month of Hiring as the Year Winds Down

North Carolina's unemployment rate inched up in November, rising 0.1 percentage point to 5.0 percent. The increase reflects stronger labor force growth, which once again eclipsed another strong monthly increase in employment. The number of employed North Carolinians grew by 21,100 in November but the labor force grew by an even larger 27,300 workers. The acceleration in labor force growth is an encouraging sign and likely reflects job seekers returning to the workforce because they sense there are now more viable job opportunities available to them. The National Federation of Independent Business' small business optimism survey's measure of hard to fill positions rose to its highest level since April 2006 this past month.

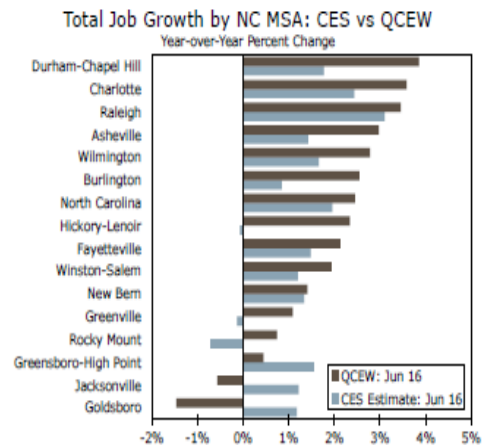
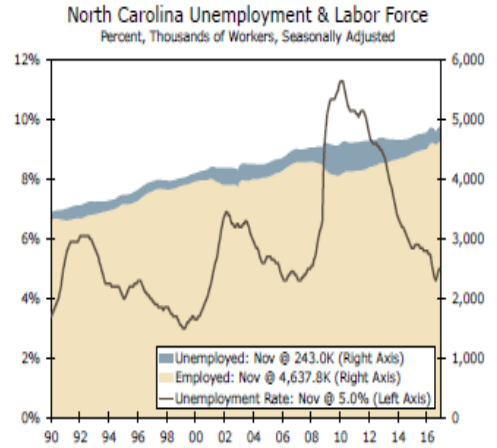
Nonfarm employment continues to increase across the state. November's 10,800-job private sector increase was led by gains in professional & business services. Hiring also picked up in the leisure & hospitality and manufacturing sectors but inexplicably fell in construction.

### New Data Dispute Recent Slowdown in NC Job Growth

Actual job growth was stronger than first reported, according to the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages (QCEW). Employment was 2.7 percent higher in June 2016 than the previous year, a meaningful improvement from the 2.0 percent Current Employment Statistics (CES) gain for the same period. The QCEW also ranks North Carolina among the top ten states for job growth for the first time since the recession.

Job growth in Durham, Charlotte and Asheville turned out to be stronger than the CES estimate. Durham's undercount was largely in the tech and business services sectors while Charlotte's construction employment surged by more than 10 percent year to year, reflecting a bevy of projects in the Central Business District (CBD). Average weekly wages in Charlotte's construction industry also rose nearly twice as fast as wages for the metro as a whole. In addition, QCEW revealed that the Hickory, Greenville and Rocky Mount metro areas all added jobs, rather than lost them, while Jacksonville and Goldsboro posted modest declines, rather than gains.

The QCEW provides a look at county-level job growth through June 2016. Catawba County, home to Hickory, saw employment jump 4.4 percent over the past year, which marks the 11<sup>th</sup> fastest gain among the 345 largest counties in the nation. Most of Catawba's new jobs this year were in professional & business services, though the region's manufacturing sector also expanded. New data showed that gains in Durham-Chapel Hill and Charlotte were not limited to the CBD. Orange County added over half of the new jobs in the Durham-Chapel Hill MSA despite accounting for 25 percent of total employment. Cabarrus County similarly punched above its weight class in Charlotte.



Source: U.S. Department of Labor and Wells Fargo Securities

Information found on [www.wellsfargo.com](http://www.wellsfargo.com) site—authors noted at top of article

# WE NEED YOU!!!!!!



## *PCEA BOARD OF DIRECTORS: OPEN OFFICES*

The Catawba Valley Chapter of PCEA currently has openings on the Board of Directors for the offices of Secretary and the President-Elect. The Board of Directors meet monthly during lunch on the last Wednesday of each month at 12:00 pm at the Olde Tavern on Hwy 127 in Viewmont. For details of the officer positions and duties, please [CLICK HERE](#) for a downloadable PDF file. Please consider if you are able to serve in either of the open officer positions and [EMAIL PCEA](#) if you are interested.

## *REMINDERS:*

**The 2017 PCEA National Convention will be held in Myrtle Beach, SC, look for the Call to Convention in the next few months.**



## Board of Directors Meeting Dates

*(Please Save these Dates)*

**January 25<sup>th</sup>**  
**February 22<sup>nd</sup>**  
**March 29<sup>th</sup>**  
**April 26<sup>th</sup>**  
**May 31<sup>st</sup>**



**PCEA - Catawba Valley Chapter**

PO Box 547  
Hickory, NC 28603

