

# PIEDMONT ECONOMICS CLUB

## 2018 - 2019 Programs

### 2018



**September 11. John Tamny, Editor, Real Clear Politics, *Key Economic Issues for this Decade.***

John Tamny is the political economy editor at Forbes, a senior economic advisor to Toreador Research & Trading, and editor of RealClearMarkets.com (RCM). A spin-off of the policy website RealClearPolitics, RCM seeks to compile top-quality information and opinions about the stock markets and global economy. Tamny frequently writes about the securities markets, along with tax, trade and monetary policy issues that impact those markets for a variety of publications, including The Wall Street Journal, Investor's Business Daily, Financial Times, National Review and London's Daily Telegraph. Tamny is the author of Popular Economics: What the Rolling Stones, Downton on Fox.



**October 9. Jody Lipford, Professor of Economics, Presbyterian College. *The SCE&G/Santee-Cooper Nuclear Power Plant Demise: What Happened?***

Jody Lipford, Professor of Economics, Presbyterian College, has just completed a study of the \$6 billion demise of the SCE&G-Santee Cooper nuclear power plant just west of Columbia. The largest SC financial collapse in modern times, the 2017 decision to halt construction of a venture involving an investor owned utility and a state owned power company reversed an earlier effort to reinvigorate the use of nuclear power in meeting the nation's energy needs. What happened? Who will pay? :Widely recognized for his applied economics research, Lipford received his PhD in economics from Clemson. He has participated as a visiting scholar in programs at George Mason University's Public Choice Center, the Property and Environment Research Center in Bozeman, MT, and as a visiting faculty member at Western Carolina University.



**November 7. Jim Otteson, Thomas W. Smith Presidential Chair in Business Ethics, Professor of Economics, and Executive Director of the BB&T Center for the Study of Capitalism at Wake Forest University. *What's So Bad about Capitalism?***

An Adam Smith scholar, Jim Otteson earned his PhD in Philosophy from the University of Chicago. He has served on the faculties in philosophy and economics at the University of Alabama, Yeshiva University, and New York University. Jim has been a visiting scholar with the Philosophy and Policy Center at Bowling Green State University; at the Centre for the Study of Scottish Philosophy at the University of Aberdeen; and at the Institute for Advanced Studies in Humanities at the University of Edinburgh. As director of Wake Forest University's BB&T Center for the Study of Capitalism, Otteson leads courses and programs that demonstrate as well as raise questions about the power of free markets to enhance the human experience.

## 2019



**February 13. Rajesh K. Gupta is a Founding Partner and Chief Executive/Investment Officer of the SeaCrest group of companies, including SeaCrest Wealth Management. *The Year ahead: What can we say about US and Global Markets?***

With over 32 years of experience, Mr. Gupta has a broad knowledge of global financial markets, business integration, portfolio management, risk management, corporate governance and compliance. He was formerly a Managing Director with Morgan Stanley Investment Management (MSIM) where he developed and implemented global strategies for the Firm's investment management division and oversaw \$180 billion of assets under management. As MSIM's Head of Alternative Investments, Mr. Gupta formulated and implemented an expansion plan resulting in asset growth from \$3 billion to \$9 billion over three years. He also coordinated the integration of four investment management departments over five years as the investment department's Chief Administrative Officer. Mr. Gupta holds a B.S. in Quantitative Analysis and an M.B.A in Finance from New York University.



**March 5. Charles Dougherty, Wells Fargo Securities, Vice President and Economist. *What's in Store for the Carolinas and the Region?***

Specializing in U.S. regional economies and the macro economy, Charles Dougherty regularly produces economic indicator reports for Wells Fargo and contributes to their strong Weekly Economic & Financial Commentary. Before joining Wells Fargo, Charles was a regional economist with HIS Markit and CertainTeed, one of America's largest building product manufacturers. A graduate of the University of Pittsburgh, Charles earned his M.A. in economics from Philadelphia's Temple University.



**April 9. Dana Beach, Founder and Director Emeritus, Coastal Conservation League. Building Institutions to Enhance South Carolina's Coastal Environmental Quality. He and his wife, Virginia are authors of *A Wholly Admirable Thing*, December 2019.**

Since founding the Coastal Conservation League in 1989, Dana has received awards from many institutions, including the United States Environmental Protection Agency, the South Carolina General Assembly, and the American Institute of Architects. In 1998, Dana was named one of ten Heroes for the Planet by Time Magazine's, Time for Kids. In March of 2000, he received the Order of the Palmetto, South Carolina's highest honor, awarded by the Office of the Governor for outstanding contributions to the state. He is the author of the Pew Oceans Commission's publication, "Coastal Sprawl: The Impacts of Development on Aquatic Ecosystems." He graduated magna cum laude from Davidson College and received his MBA from the Wharton School at the University of Pennsylvania.