

Table of Contents

Organizational Chart.....	2
Letter from the Chair	
Tim Veal	3
Letter from the Vice Chair of Economic Development	
Roger Folsom.....	4
Letter from the Vice Chair of Community Development & Tourism	
Ed Touchberry	5
Letter from the Vice Chair of Membership Services	
Marcia Dixon	6
Letter from the Treasurer	
Spence Mullis.....	7
Letter from the Past Chair	
Phil Thacker	8
Letter from the President	
Ms. Willie Paulk	9
Letter from the Development Authority Chairman	
Roger Folsom.....	10

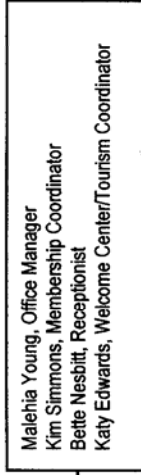


DUBLIN-LAURENS COUNTY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

1200 Bellevue Avenue - Box 818 - Dublin, Georgia 31040-0818

MEMBERSHIP

BOARD OF DIRECTORS



VICE CHAIR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT	VICE CHAIR COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT/TOURISM	VICE CHAIR MEMBERSHIP SERVICES	TREASURER	PAST CHAIR'S COMMITTEE
Roger Folsom** (work areas)	Ed Touchberry (work areas)	Marcia Dixon (work areas)	Spence Mullis (work areas)	Phil Thacker (work areas)
* Industrial Development and Economic Development * Airport * Transportation * Economic Developers Day Industry Appreciation Day Existing Industries Agribusiness Small Business Development & Awards Small Business Committee U.S. 441 Economic Dev. Council	Education Governmental Affairs Main Street Keep Dublin-Laurens Beautiful Military Affairs Tourism Young Professionals Welcome Center Community Retreat	Ambassadors Annual Meeting Membership Drive Ribbon Cuttings/Ground Breakings Technology/Telecommunications Business After Hours Newsletter Program of Work Annual Report Election of Directors Building & Grounds Membership Day Shop at Home Purchasing Alliance Solutions/Health Magazine Map	Budget Audit Keystone Supplemental funding	Past Chair's Event Long Range Planning By-Laws Reaccreditation

* Handled by the Development Authority
** Chairman of the Development Authority
November 1, 2006-October 31, 2007

email address: chamber@dublin-georgia.com
web address: www.dublin-georgia.com



2006-2007 A YEAR OF FIRST TIME EVENTS AND NEW INITIATIVES

This year has been exciting and packed with first time events and new initiatives. These events have been based upon plans set in motion by the Chamber's past leadership and the forethought of your current Chamber Board. This is an undeniable formula for the continued success of the Dublin-Laurens County business environment and a recipe for future economic development for our small businesses and large industries. Dublin-Laurens County is fortunate to have a diverse economic base which includes small business, manufacturing, medical, government, and educational facilities. However, we must adapt and change to compete in today's high tech world where information is power, a skilled and educated workforce is demanded and businesses not only compete against our sister communities but the entire world.

The exciting new initiatives set in motion by your Chamber board include the following:

- **Certified Work Ready Region** – We are partnering with the Heart of Georgia Technical College to assess our workforce's skills, train them for specific jobs and match the right person with the right position. In my practice, we have a saying "What you can measure – you can manage." This program will allow us not only to say we have a skilled and dedicated workforce; it will give us the quantitative support for that statement. In your businesses, you know that the right person for the right job is critical for your success.
- **"Entrepreneur Friendly" Initiative** – This initiative, chaired by Bill Hoyt, has established an entrepreneur support program, has provided valuable insight into understanding our entrepreneurial environment and is developing strategies to help our small businesses succeed. Dublin-Laurens County is a state of Georgia designated "Entrepreneur Friendly" Community.
- **Drug-Awareness** - This year we have formed a new committee to tackle a problem – drugs in our workforce. Claudia Peavey and her committee have provided exceptional leadership in this very difficult area. More and more of our industries are becoming drug free workplaces, with random drug testing and drug awareness programs. As these industries become drug free, they are realizing perceived barriers to a drug free workforce did not exist and their workforce became more productive, had fewer accidents and had improved quality. For years the drug issue has been fought on the supply side against those who distribute drugs. The Chamber and local industries are tackling the demand side of the equation. If you do drugs, you will not be able to work in Dublin-Laurens County.
- **Small Business Focus** – This year, the Chamber Board has implemented plans to help our small businesses succeed. We have begun offering "Mini Web Pages." These are affordable alternative for our small businesses to compete globally. We have begun our "Lunch and Learn" series. These 1 ½ hour series address topics faced everyday by our small businesses. We are also working on a video documentary to promote Dublin-Laurens County.

One of this year's highlights was the first official event at the new McGrath Keen Sr. Conference Center. If you have not had a chance to visit this facility please do. The facility is impressive and a testament to what Phil Thacker calls Dublin-Laurens County's "can do, will do" spirit. From my perspective, that "can do, will do" spirit is alive and well in Phil Thacker. The McGrath Keen Sr. Conference Center's operational success is due to the hard work of Past Chair Phil Thacker and his wife Nancy.

The McGrath Keen Sr. Conference Center is the envy of all the surrounding chambers and allows us to showcase Dublin-Laurens County by hosting meetings for Chamber members, the State of Georgia, local governments and businesses. The McGrath Keen Sr. Conference Center allows us to promote economic development, provide room for Chamber programs such as "Business After Hours" and tackle the new initiatives like those described above.

The McGrath Keen Sr. Conference Center project has been successful because of the partnership with the Dublin-Laurens County Development Authority, the City of Dublin, Laurens County and many community leaders. The contributors to this project are too numerous to thank in this forum, and I hope they understand when I single out five individuals for their vision, tenacity and hard work. Those individuals are Louie Curry for his vision, Willie Paulk for her leadership, Scott Beasley for his fundraising enthusiasm, Tom Bass for the construction and Phil Thacker for his unwavering commitment and hard work.

I am happy to report to the Chamber Membership that the initial McGrath Keen Sr. Conference Center construction costs have been fully covered by donations and pledges. THANK YOU TO EVERYONE WHO PLEDGED AND FOR THE COMMITTEE'S VISION AND HARD WORK!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

Have you ever heard the saying "many hands make light work?" This lasting impression is what I come away with most as I look back on my Chamber year. The Chamber in conjunction with the Dublin-Laurens County Development Authority, the City, the County, individuals and businesses are all striving to make Dublin-Laurens County a better place to live, work and play.

I want to congratulate Roger Folsom and the Development Authority on their strategic vision and the hiring of Cal Wray as Vice President of Economic Development. In my opinion, Cal's talents will lead us in economic development and compliment the talents of the Development Authority and Chamber staff.

In addition, I want to congratulate Marcia Dixon on her election to be your new Chamber Chair. The Chamber and its direction are in very capable hands.

This letter would not be complete if I didn't thank Willie Paulk for her commitment to our community and her leadership. One thing that was immediately evident to me was the goodwill and respect she brings to our community from throughout the state. Willie has taken on these new initiatives and adapted to change. It was my pleasure to work with her.

Malehia, Kim, Bette and Katy – THANK YOU! Thank you for your dedication, professionalism and the manner in which you promote Dublin-Laurens County.

It has been an honor and a privilege to serve as your Chamber Chair. From Tim, Lauren, Annabelle and Olivia, may God bless you and continue to bless Dublin-Laurens County.

Tim Veal
2006-2007 Chamber Chair

Roger Folsom

Vice Chair of Economic Development



Our local industries were honored at the 32nd Annual Industry Appreciation Day sponsored by the Dublin-Laurens County Chamber of Commerce. The event took place on May 25th, 2007. Over 340 golfers competed in the golf tournament which took place at the Dublin Country Club, Green Acres Golf Course, and Riverview Golf Course. Over 150 people attended the social and dinner at the Dublin Country Club following the tournament. Our sincere "Thank You" to Rob Miller and Skip Evans, Co-Chairs of this event.

There are a number of people, organizations, and businesses who contributed to this event and we would like to say "thank you" to the following: **Event Sponsors:** Allgood Pest Solutions, Bass Rehabilitation, Capital City Bank, Dominy Oil, Inc. , Don's Rentals, Dublin Chrysler Dodge Jeep, Dublin Coca-Cola, Duncan Tire, Medical Center LLP, and Y-96. **Special Awards:** Curry Realtors & Insurors, Dublin Cadillac, Dublin Chrysler Dodge Jeep, Pitts Toyota Scion, and Wachovia Financial Network-Kip Dominy. **Trophies & Awards:** Atlantic South Bank, Bank of Dudley, Capital City Bank, Citizens Bank of Laurens County, Farmers State Bank, First Laurens Bank, and Morris State Bank. **Golf Ball Sponsors:** Rep. DuBose Porter, Heart of GA Technical College and GA Power. **Door Prizes & Donations:** 1105 Home Décor and Accessories, Bank of Dudley, Bass Physical Therapy & Rehabilitation, Century 21- Durden & Kornegay, Cochran Brothers/Friendly Gus, Cox Media, Dublin Cadillac, Dublin Coca-Cola, Dublin-Laurens Recreation, Duncan Tire Co., Easter Seals of Middle Georgia, Fairview Park Hospital, First Laurens Bank, Freeman, Daniel, and Co., LLC, Judicial Alternatives of Georgia, Lakeston Muffler, Little Ocmulgee EMC, Morris State Bank, Oconee EMC, Pocket Change, Sir Shop, Steel Fab, Sullivan Environmental, The Citizens Bank of Cochran-Dublin Office, and Uniform Carousel. **Cooking Team:** Dublin Country Club & Oconee EMC Cooking Crew. **Special Thanks:** Dublin Country Club, Green Acres Golf Course, Riverview Golf Course, and Shamrock Bowling Center.

Congratulations to Fairview Park Hospital who won the 32nd Industry Appreciation Day Golf Tournament!

The Existing Industries Committee was chaired by Claudia Peavy of Farmers Home Furniture. The Existing Industries Committee meets several times during the year to discuss issues and concerns pertinent to their industry. This year the main focus was sharing the Drugs Don't Work program.

The Chamber co-sponsored the Annual Farmer Appreciation Day Luncheon with the Farm Bureau and the Laurens County Cooperative Extension. The event was held on November 20, 2007 at the First Baptist Church of Dublin. Guest speaker was Zippy Duvall, President of Georgia Farm Bureau.

The Small Business Committee has been hard at work this year. This year Dublin-Laurens County was designated an "Entrepreneur Friendly Community" by the Department of Economic Development. Adela Kelly, Regional Project Manager, assisted the Chamber in completing this process, which included interviewing 35 small businesses. The results of the surveys will be used to better serve small businesses in the future.

Congratulations to our four quarter winners of the Small Business Award: 1st Quarter Winner – Lausch Electric; 2nd Quarter Winner – Blackbird Coffee; 3rd Quarter Winner – Ambassador; and 4th Quarter Winner – LaQuinta Inn & Suites. The 2006-2007 Small Business of the Year was Blackbird Coffee.

Roger Folsom

Ed Touchberry

Vice Chair of Community Development & Tourism



As we close out another year of Chamber work, it is gratifying to reflect on the accomplishments of the committee chairs, the numerous volunteers and the staff. The efforts of so many dedicated individuals continue to make Dublin and Laurens County a great place to live, work, and play. We are all indeed blessed to live in this community!

The Chamber is committed to keeping education on the forefront. Led by Jackie Curtis, the education committee continued to work to strengthen the partnership between local businesses, industries, the school systems and the citizens of Laurens County. The Performance Learning Center, established last year by the Laurens County Board of Education, has flourished over the past year. The addition of middle and high school Graduation Coaches provides extra support to the students. Communities in Schools secured a Children and Youth Coordination Council (CYCC) grant that provides career exploration, abstinence, and life skills to alternative school students. We look forward to supporting the efforts of Heart of Georgia Technical College as it works to make Laurens and surrounding counties a Work Ready Region. Finally, we were very excited to hold our Annual Honors Reception in the new McGrath Keen Sr. Conference Center in May.

The Government Affairs Committee, chaired by Charles Johnson, did an excellent job of coordinating the Eggs and Issues Breakfast, which was a great success. Dublin and Laurens County was well represented at the annual Laurens, Dodge, Bleckley Legislative Dinner held in Atlanta.

The Main Street Committee, chaired by Emory Lake, continued its promotion of the Market on Madison located in downtown Dublin. This facility was greatly used throughout the year.

Keep Dublin Laurens Beautiful, Inc. celebrated its 25th anniversary this year. The program builds on a solid framework to create an innovative program that addresses three areas: litter prevention, beautification, and solid waste management education. Some of the projects of this past year include adding hundreds of bedding plants to the downtown streetscape, installing cigarette receptacles downtown through a grant from Philip Morris Company, and participating in many events, such as the Great American Clean Up, Arbor Day observance, River's Alive Clean Up, Bring One for the Chipper, and a Scrap Tire Roundup. Keep Dublin-Laurens Beautiful continues to make improvements that are seen daily throughout our community and we salute Patsy Baker and all the volunteers who work so hard to make this effort such a huge success.

Randy Peters headed the Military Affairs Committee this year. This committee works continuously to support the Warner Robins Air Force Base through our affiliation with the 21st Century Partnership. Randy also serves on the executive committee of the Middle Georgia Military Affairs Committee, which supports numerous events on the base, in support of both the 21st Century Partnership, the Commanding General's office, and the Public Affairs Office. Some of the events sponsored this year were the annual air show and a Lee Greenwood concert.

Tourism is a growing economy in our community. The 2006 economic impact of domestic travel on Dublin-Laurens County was \$56.59 million. This year, over 5,000 visitors came through the doors at the Dublin-Laurens Welcome Center located at the intersection of I-16 and Hwy. 441. Events such as the St. Patrick's Festival continue to bring large numbers of visitors to the region. Our marketing capabilities increased greatly this year with the creation of our new Dublin-Laurens County brochure. The brochure is displayed at multiple local welcome centers and is also found at the eleven Visitor Information Centers across the state. Dublin-Laurens County continues to stay committed to collaborating with other communities through membership in our two travel region groups, Magnolia Midlands Travel Association and the Hwy. 441 Heritage Trail Association. Plans for next year include working on projects regarding agritourism and the arts.

In closing I would like to thank Chamber Chair Tim Veal for asking me to serve on the Executive Committee. Under Tim's leadership, the Dublin-Laurens County Chamber of Commerce has continued to provide an invaluable service to the community.

Ed Touchberry

Marcia Dixon

Vice Chair of Membership Services



Have you ever thought about what our community would be like without our Chamber? Our Chamber is often taken for granted as far as contributions to make our community a better place to live. When a newcomer arrives in Dublin or Laurens County, one of the first places they visit is the Chamber and they are made to feel welcome by our very competent and accommodating staff led by Willie Paulk and the rest of the team: Katy Edwards, Bette Nesbitt, Kim Simmons, and Malehia Young. Being a part of the Chamber team this past year has only made me realize what an important part this organization plays each and every day in our community's continued growth and success.

Membership is our investment in the chamber's continued existence. However, members can play an active and participative role in all of the benefits. Building relationships is a real key in our community's future and the Business After Hours and Business and Breakfast events, which are held monthly and quarterly, are excellent tools to make this happen. Both events have continued to grow in popularity with a substantial increase this year in attendance averaging 185 attendees. The "BAH" and "BAB" are now standing room only events! Another similar annual event is the Annual Membership Appreciation Luncheon, which was held this year on August 30th. There were 175 Chamber Members attending the lunch held at the McGrath Keen Sr. Conference Center.

Our "Shop At Home" Program has been a "value-added" benefit to support our local businesses. Certificates are sold at the Chamber for use at participating chamber members which right now list 79 businesses where the certificates can be redeemed. These certificates make excellent gifts for individuals and many of our member companies use them as employee incentive awards. Thus far this year, there has been approximately \$46,000 worth of certificates sold to redeem here among Chamber member businesses.

Our community's future is centered around continued growth of our industry and businesses. Thus far, the Chamber has hosted 23 Ribbon Cuttings and 5 Ground Breakings. These events are especially important at this particular time when there seems to be some economic uncertainty in our country.

Also, in order to prepare for economic growth, we must provide a stable workforce, and our Chamber has taken a very active role in the "Drugs Don't Work" initiative. This program is geared toward removing drugs out of the workplace to enhance safety, quality and productivity in the workplace and to provide a workplace free of drugs and their influence. This project focuses on the education of employees, which in turn will have a positive impact on employee's children. Currently, a majority of our larger employers are performing new hire and random drug testing. Our goal is to eliminate drugs in the workplace of all employers in order to truly be able to make an impact.

This year a new added benefit for the membership was "Lunch and Learn". This project was geared toward bringing in "expert" guest luncheon speakers to address topics requested by the membership. As an example, one of the speakers addressed Georgia Sales Tax.

The 55th Annual Membership Meeting was held on October 23, 2007 and we were very pleased to have the Honorable Robert Benham, Georgia Supreme Court Judge, as our guest speaker. At this meeting, we also recognized the recipient of the "Carolyn Watson Award" for Community Service, Past Chair Phil Thacker.

To be able to continue the spirit of our community, it will not just happen! Our Chamber is a driving force but this vision must be shared and supported by the Chamber's 700 Members. There is no doubt that our Chamber will continue to impact our community and its future as a positive driving force.

Marcia Dixon

Spence Mullis

Treasurer



Chamber Financial Fundamentals Remain Strong

Your Chamber has had another solid year in the financial realm. We've remained vigilant in our pursuit to be good stewards of the resources provided by our members and our community. Our staff and volunteers have worked hard to build the Chamber and increase the services we provide. Under Chair Veal's direction, we began offering value added services to our members such as the Lunch and Learns Series, business forums and mini-web page services. We intend to grow in each of these areas and add others that will generate revenue for the Chamber but do more in offering our members services to enhance their respective businesses.

General membership numbers have remained solid. The City's hotel/motel tax receipts increased during our fiscal year. As such the portion allocated to the Chamber increased as well. Our members' opportunities to get together and share ideas at our Business After Hours and Business and Breakfast have continued to be a source of supplemental revenue. General and administrative expenses were even keel with the prior year.

As with any business, our focus on training and developing our staff is the number one way to enhance value for our customers (members). Our Keystone members once again have played an integral part in ensuring that we've had the resources necessary to provide adequate staff development, growth, retention and training.

Thank you for your financial support for the Chamber. We will steadfastly continue to support you through educational programs, visitor information services, and community events. Your investment in the Chamber will continue to provide a leadership partnership for a healthy and progressive business environment in our area. Please know that we only exist because we want you to succeed.

Spence Mullis

Keystone Members

Allgood Services	Hilburn & Sumner, LLC
Altamaha EMC	Little House Self Storage
Bank of Dudley	Little Ocmulgee EMC
Botkin Lumber Company	Medical Education Services
Capital City Bank	Mohawk Industries
Choo Choo Build-it-Mart	Morris State Bank
Curry Realtors/Insurors	Nelson, Gillis, & Thomas, LLC
Custom Showers Pro Glass	Nichols, Cauley and Associates
Dublin Cadillac	Oconee EMC
Dublin Construction	Rockwell Automation
Dublin Rotary Club	SP Newsprint
Farmers HOME Furniture	Thigpen, Jones, Seaton, and Co.
Georgia Power Company	Victor-Forstmann, Inc.
Geotech & Environmental	YKK AP America, Inc.
Graham Construction	

Phil Thacker

Past Chair



During my five years of service with the Chamber Board, little did I or anyone else realize how the Chamber would expand services and facilities. I have jokingly said I would have never agreed to be Chamber Chair if I had known we were going to have a building project. It was quite a learning experience and it reaffirmed what I already knew—the people of Dublin-Laurens are the most generous and supportive people I have ever known. We cannot thank the Chamber staff enough for the manner in which they have managed new programs and increased responsibilities. You are truly getting a value for your dollars of investment in this partnership.

In December we took possession of the McGrath Keen Sr. Conference Center. We are pleased to report that our first year has gone very smoothly with dozens of meetings and events that would not have been possible without this facility. The finishing details have been very time consuming and with the addition of our last portraits, additional acoustical treatments, and our beautiful garden and grounds, we will have a facility that is second to

none. I give a very heart felt THANK YOU for your donations, your ideas, words of encouragement, and patience, as this project developed.

Our Past Chair Luncheon was held at the McGrath Keen Sr. Conference Center on October 9th. At this luncheon our Chair, Tim Veal, went over the many accomplishments of his year and our Incoming Chair, Marcia Dixon, outlined her upcoming year and introduced her incoming officers.

Tim, we cannot thank you enough for your leadership and for the giving of countless hours. Marcia we congratulate you and we know our future will be secure under your leadership.

It has been an honor to be on the Chamber Board and I am most appreciative for the opportunity to serve. May God bless you and your family along with Dublin-Laurens County.

Phil Thacker

Dublin-Laurens County Chamber of Commerce Past Chairs of the Board

Ed Biederman*	1952-1953	Ben Hall, Jr.	1978-1979	Scotty Jones	1994-1995
W. W. Brinson*	1953-1954	Jim Hilburn*	1979-1980	Scott Beasley	1995-1996
H.C. Tharpe*	1954-1956	Jim Park	1980-1982	Roger Folsom	1996-1997
L.D. Woods*	1956-1958	Charlie Hunnicut	1982-1983	Helen Harper	1997-1998
W. W. Amis*	1958-1960	Louie Curry, Jr.	1983-1984	Dr. Roger D. Smith	1998-1999
J.L. McMillan*	1960-1962	Bob Walker	1984-1985	June D. Moore	1999-2000
Don Lamb, Sr.*	1962-1964	Don Crafton	1985-1986	Mike Cummings	2000-2001
Ben Williams	1964-1966	Jimmy Allgood	1986-1987	Frank Seaton, Jr.	2001-2002
David Mercer*	1966-1967	Frank Fields	1987-1988	Farrell Nichols	2002-2003
Thomas Kellam*	1967-1969	James Hudson	1988-1989	Jerry Hall	2003-2004
Ed Herrin *	1969-1971	Geva Alexander	1989-1990	Jeff Cannon	2004-2005
Don Lamb, Sr.*	1971-1973	Mike Cauley	1990-1991	Phil Thacker	2005-2006
McGrath Keen, Sr.*	1973-1975	Doyle Dominy	1991-1992		
Dr. Lester L. Porter	1975-1977	Hal Ward	1992-1993		
W.L. Wilkes	1977-1978	Jim Hilburn*	1993-1994		

Dublin-Laurens County Development Authority Past Chairs

Ben Hall, Sr.*	Mike Cauley
Louie Livingston*	Wallace Miller
Mike Wolfe	Walter McCall
Ben Hall, Jr.	Hal Ward
Doyle Dominy	James Malone

*Deceased

Willie Paulk

President



Your Chamber and Development Authority have had a great year!

Under the outstanding leadership of Tim Veal and his Chamber Executive Committee, the 2006-2007 Program of Work was accomplished with hundreds of volunteers working to make all of the projects and events so successful.

Under the outstanding leadership of Roger Folsom, the Development Authority has successfully implemented the Strategic Goals that were set through a planning session in May 2006.

In addition to the Chamber Board and Development Authority, I have the pleasure of working with a great staff. Due to the limited space, I can only make a few comments about these exceptionally talented and devoted team players, but I wanted to recognize them and say: "Thanks for making every day a joy! You are the backbone of every successful program and event. I appreciate and respect each of you for the way you do your job and for being the shining example of professionalism and teamwork."

Malehia Young, IOM, (Institute of Organizational Management recognition) is our Office Manager. She began her career at the Chamber on Feb. 4, 2000. She is a 2007 Graduate of the U.S. Chamber of Commerce Organizational Management Institute at the University of Georgia. Funding for Institute came from the Keystone funds. Malehia won a scholarship one year for her tuition from GACCE (Georgia Association of Chamber of Commerce Executives Association). I applaud her hard work and commitment to this four year program. She is a native of Laurens County and a graduate of the Dublin-Laurens Leadership Program.

Kim Simmons, Membership Coordinator, started her career at the Chamber on November 5, 2001 and has completed her second year of Institute. She was the recipient of a scholarship this year from GACCE to attend the American Chamber of Commerce Executives National Convention in Sacramento, California. The convention provided an opportunity for membership directors from across the country to network and share ideas. She is also the Drugs Don't Work Coordinator. Kim is a native of Athens, Georgia and a graduate of the Dublin-Laurens Leadership Program.

Bette Nesbitt started working at the Chamber as a part-time employee on Sept. 16, 2002 later being hired full time as Receptionist. She has lived in Dublin since 1976. Prior to her working at the Chamber, she worked for Holmes Farm and Timber and Coastal Plains, Inc. for over 17 years. Her knowledge of the community enables her to assist newcomers in relocating to our community. As with all of the staff, she has many other duties and works closely with everyone to get the job done. She is a native of Rockford, Illinois.

Katy Edwards, Tourism and Welcome Center Coordinator, is a native of Dublin. She began her career in February 8, 2005. She represents the Tourism Committee at the Magnolia Midlands Association meetings and events, the Governor's Conference on Tourism; the U.S. 441 Heritage Council; the Georgia Agri-Tourism Seminar, and various tourism related associations locally. She coordinates the volunteer schedules for the Welcome Center when she needs to attend meetings outside the Welcome Center. Katy is a graduate of the Dublin-Laurens Leadership Program.

On June 11, 2007, Cal Wray joined our Development Authority team as Vice President of Economic Development. A native of Birmingham, Alabama, Cal has already proven that he is the right person for the job. His spirit of teamwork, eagerness and perseverance will lead us in attracting good compatible industries to join our family of exceptional and diversified industries.

I am so blessed to have these talented people on my team and together we are blessed to *live, work and play* in this wonderful community that allows us to work with outstanding people everyday as we all work together as team players in promoting Dublin Laurens County as *the Business Heart of Georgia!*

Thank you for all that you did to make our year an outstanding one and for allowing me the privilege of serving as your President of the Chamber and Development Authority!

Willie Paulk

Roger Folsom

Development Authority Chairman



As Chairman of the Dublin-Laurens Development Authority, it is my pleasure to work with a hard working, caring and creative team appointed to conduct the business of economic development of Laurens County. This group clocks in many hours of service for this county and I feel privileged to serve with each of them. Each member of this authority takes most seriously their role in creating jobs and promoting development which will enrich our entire area.

Gratitude is extended to the Laurens County Board of Commissioners and the Mayor/City Council of Dublin for their support. Both not only appoint the members of the Authority, but support all that we do in numerous ways, including financially. Thank you to both Bryan Rogers, County Administrator and to George Roussel, City Manager, for their support and working directly with the Authority all year.

Our team is not complete without acknowledging the super work on our behalf carried out by Representative DuBose Porter and Senator Ross Tolleson. Their leadership and support is invaluable to the work of the Authority. Also, we thank the Chamber of Commerce, business leaders, volunteers and partners in our community who help in so many ways. This Authority could not sell this community without this support. So to each of you we say thanks, for no role is a small one in selling this community.

Our heartfelt thanks to our local industries for the economic impact you have on making this community green and for your continued growth which sustains us all. YKK's expansion is just a shining example of what happens when our local companies do well. Their \$80 million expansion is well underway and we are excited for them and our community.

Scott Beasley was recently appointed to the Authority by the City of Dublin to fill a seat vacated by Jim Hammock. Jim Hammock resigned due to his appointment by Governor Perdue to the Board of Economic Development for the state. We congratulate Jim in his new role and his appointment is both an honor to him and our county. We welcome Scott and know that he will bring a wealth of business experience and community service to the Authority.

The focus of the Authority for this year has been the continued completion of our strategic plan adopted in 2006. I am ecstatic in reporting to you that we are on track and by the end of this year will have completed the goals outlined in this plan. We feel strongly that this plan will position the Authority for the next 5-7 years and possibly longer.

An integral goal of this plan was to employ a Vice President of Economic Development to assist in marketing our community and to enhance prospect development. After an extensive search conducted by Executive Leadership Solutions, we hired Cal Wray for that position. His background and education made him the ideal person to add to our team. Cal and his family relocated to Dublin and he has become a valuable asset to all of us. We welcome him and appreciate his input. Other goals achieved have been the cataloging of our sites while establishing development priorities. Our work with a Marketing Team consisting of talented professionals throughout our community allowed us to engage Angelou Economics and the Whittaker and Associates to assist us in developing a new website, logo, and collaterals which was unveiled on November 5 in Atlanta for project managers and statewide officials. We are truly reinventing the Authority but in keeping with our deep heritage. We were excited to be able to share the marketing plan around the community and the state.

On May 4, we lost a vital resource and dear friend in the death of Jim Hilburn. I cannot express in words the deep loss I feel and that is shared by the entire Development Authority. His wit, legal counsel and genuine spirit of teammanship are sorely missed. The Authority made the decision to name Jim's partner Joseph Sumner, legal counsel. We welcome Joseph on board and he has jumped in full speed.

Thanks to my colleagues Jimmy Allgood, Scott Beasley, Guy Cochran, James Malone, Walter McCall, and Kathy Sweat, for all their time, commitment and leadership on behalf of this community. Special appreciation to Willie Paulk, President, for her day to day management of the Development Authority and her experienced leadership. Also, thanks to Malehia Young for being our recording secretary. Much appreciation to Dan McRae, in Atlanta, for his legal counsel to the Authority. This is truly an awesome team.

Laurens County is a great place and your Development Authority will continue in our task to make it even better with jobs and growth for our continued prosperity.

Roger Folsom



DUBLIN-LAURENS COUNTY

THE BUSINESS HEART OF GEORGIA

The Dublin-Laurens County Development Authority has presented their new logo, website, and branding to officials and groups throughout the community and the state.



Photo by: Ms. Willie Paulk

Cal Wray, Vice President of Economic Development for the Dublin-Laurens Development Authority (above right), presents a paperweight with the new logo to Heidi Green, Deputy Commissioner of Global Commerce.



Photo by: Kim Simmons

Georgia Power Luncheon and Presentation on November 16



Photo by: Ms. Willie Paulk

Development Authority members; Senator Ross Tolleson, and Ga. Department of Economic Development Board Member, Jim Hammock, November 5, in Atlanta for the Statewide Developers Luncheon and Presentation.



Photo by: Kim Simmons

Pictured above: City and County Luncheon and Presentation. Pictured right: Attendees at the Development Authority's community presentation held at the McGrath Keen Sr. Conference Center on December 6th.



Photo by: R.D. Harter



DUBLIN - LAURENS COUNTY DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

Strategic Goals

Goal One

Develop a measurable, perpetual marketing program that enhances the economic viability of Dublin and Laurens County.

Goal Two

Establish a plan for long-term funding to accomplish the strategic goals of the Development Authority.

Goal Three

Develop priorities for existing sites and identify sites for future land acquisitions.

Goal Four

Develop a communication plan to enhance the efforts of the Development Authority.

Goal Five

Present and implement a reorganization plan of the professional resources within the Development Authority and Chamber.

Goal Six

Develop an incentive plan that is competitive and feasible.