

The Chamber Welcomes Our New Members In 2002

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 South's Finest Meats - Cottondale
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School Design Teams Involve More Than 80 Teachers

The organization on the frontlines for the School-to-Career initiative is the School Design Team; it's this group of teachers at each school that will determine how successful the School-to-Career partnership will be.

"With one exception, we have fully staffed, functioning Design Teams at all of the schools involved in the School-to-Career initiative," said **Dick Johnson**, Director. "A total of nearly 80 teachers are serving on teams at 15 schools in the city and county systems and at Holy Spirit Catholic High School."

Johnson said School-to-Career is fortunate to have some outstanding leadership in the Design Team chairs. "We have chairs who are supportive of and excited about what School-to-Career efforts can mean to the students they serve," Johnson said.

Primary among the Design Team's responsibilities is to help insure that teachers use the nearly 400 lesson plans that have been developed over two summers of work by about 80 teachers. "Last summer and this summer," Johnson said, "teachers spent a week working at various businesses and industries around the county, and then prepared five lesson plans each. These lessons meet state academic objectives, but also teach one or more job skills that will help students when they look for a job after high school or college."

The plans are available in hard copy format at each school and also at the School-to-Career website, www.SchooltoCareer.tv.

Design Teams can also call on their School-to-Career fellows for help with program-related activities. Seven highly motivated students from the College of Education at the University of Alabama have been assigned to one or more Design Teams. "We look at these fellows as aides de camp for the Design Teams," Johnson said. "We've also asked the fellows to do an after action report on the mini-grants we awarded last fall and on this year's grants."

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Tournament Turn-Outs

Adopt-A-School Tournament Benefits Partnership Program

A net score of 42 enabled the **Tri-Cities Convenience Stores** team to once again capture the championship trophy for **Crestmont Elementary School** at the recent 12th annual Adopt-A-School Golf Tournament. The Tri-Cities team included **Don Thomaston, Nate Richardson, Russell McDonald, and Joey Swinsick.**

Not only did the win earn **Crestmont** the opportunity to display the trophy at the school for a year, but the school also received \$500 for being the

school for which the winning team played. First place net score teams in both morning and afternoon flights received DVD players as prizes for their winning scores.

Alagasco, CTX Mortgage Company, and **Jim Myers Drugs** were Corporate Sponsors for the event. "We were delighted with the support that this tournament received from the community," stated tournament chairman **David Kelly.** "In addition to the generosity of our corporate sponsors, the tournament

had 35 hole sponsors and a total of 47 teams."

The Adopt-A-School tournament is the annual fundraising event to benefit the coordination and administration of the Adopt-A-School program. The event is held on a Thursday afternoon in mid-October of each year. For additional information about the tournament or about Adopt-A-School, contact Deloris McMullen at 391-0563 or deloris@tuscaloosachamber.com.

Women's Doubles Tennis Tournament Fills to Capacity for Adopt-A-School

The annual Adopt-A-School Tennis Tournament has become such a popular event on the women's doubles circuit that it was necessary to close entries the week prior to the tournament for the second consecutive year. Tournament chair **Angela Burton** explained, "This tournament has become a regular annual event for many local tennis players."

While the annual Adopt-A-School Golf Tournament was taking place at TCC, thirty-seven women's doubles teams battled it out on the tennis courts. Prizes were awarded to first place teams and runners up in A, B, and C Divisions. Those winners were:

Division A - 1st Place: **Sharon Quimby and Marnie Elmore;** and runners-up: **Amelia DeLos Reyes and Mary Nelson Notaro.** Division B - 1st Place: **Sally Bussman and Gwen Ringo;** and runners-up: **Rhonda Allen and Deanna Jackson.**

Division C - 1st Place: **Beverly May and Amy Jo Aikens;** and runners-up: **Tina DeLoach and Sara Marlowe.**

A beautiful fall day of fun-filled tennis benefited the Adopt-A-School

program, and **Alberta Elementary** also had a great day by winning the \$250 random draw at the tournament.

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The Beat Goes On for Adopt-A-School

Adding new adopters to the Adopt-A-School program is an on-going process! Even though the school year is well underway, new adopters continue to join the program. We are pleased to welcome two recent adopters into the program: **Comcast** is a new co-adopter for **Verner Elementary School**, and **Tingle X-Ray Products, Inc.** has joined in the partnership with **Brookwood Elementary School**.

The program now has a total of 73 businesses and professional organizations serving as adopters for 47 schools in the Tuscaloosa City and County School Systems. There is always a need for additional help either as an adopter or as a specialty partner for schools.

Both **Sprayberry Regional Education Center** and **Tuscaloosa Center for Technology** are currently

without an adopter. Other specific needs at this time include, but are not limited to: **Central Elementary, Central High East, Echols Middle, Skyland Elementary, Taylorville Primary, Tuscaloosa Alternative Learning Center.**

The fall of 2003 will bring new excitement to both public school systems as they anticipate the opening of new schools. At that time, adopters will be needed for two middle schools in the Tuscaloosa County System, **Emerson Davis Middle** and **Northside Middle**; and for two new high schools in the Tuscaloosa City System, **Paul Bryant High** and **Northridge High**.

For additional information without obligation, contact **Deloris McMullen** at 391-0563 or deloris@tuscaloosachamber.com.



2002 - 03

ADOPT-A-SCHOOL ADOPTERS

Thanks to each business and organization below for serving as an adopter for a public school in the Tuscaloosa City or County school system.

- Alabama Gas Corporation
- Alabama Power Energizers
- Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity Alumni
- AmSouth Bank
- Arts Council of Tuscaloosa
- B.F. Goodrich Employees Federal Credit Union
- The Bank of Tuscaloosa
- Black Warrior Methane
- Bryce Hospital
- Burchfield Real Estate
- Charter Communications
- Colonial Bank
- Comcast Cable
- Compass Bank
- Corus Tuscaloosa
- Courtyard by Marriott
- Creative Child Development Center
- DCH Regional Medical Center
- Fairfield Inn
- First Federal Bank
- Geological Survey of Alabama
- Harrison Engineering, Inc.
- Hudson Poole Fine Jewelers
- Hunt Refining Company
- International House of Pancakes
- Jim Walter Resources
- Junior League of Tuscaloosa
- JVC America, Inc.



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(See page 35)

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Tuscaloosa architectural firm
Ward Scott Veron Architects, Inc. is
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architect Robert C. Lanoux AIA, to
its staff.

Mr. Lanoux graduated from
Louisiana State University with a
degree in architecture. Fifteen years
of his professional work experience
has been in the
Birmingham market.
Mr. Lanoux's

design experience includes corpo-
rate, educational, federal, judicial,
commercial and residential projects,
with a special concentration in
healthcare facilities.

"We are very happy to add
Robert's experience and talent to
our staff. Our firm is very grateful
to the West Alabama community
for making our continued growth
possible," states firm founder,
Jim Ward.



Thomas Keith Scott, AIA; James W. Ward, AIA; Robert C. Lanoux, AIA; Rex B. Veron, AIA.

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ViewPoint

by *Johnnie Aycock*
President



At this time of the year - as we move through the Thanksgiving, Christmas, Advent seasons - as we begin to reflect on the past twelve months and look forward to a new year - it's a time of reflection. It's a time to review progress as well as dream and set new goals, individually, corporately and as a community.

Looking back over the past year, The Chamber has enjoyed a productive and meaningful year, as our members have worked together to solve issues, implement new ideas, and carry out our mission. It has indeed been a year of progress!

But more importantly, perhaps, it's exciting to look forward, always seeking new horizons and opportunities to serve and impact our community for the better - to imagine the possibilities.

Over the past few weeks, The Chamber has been running a series of messages that have sought to help us all realize the possibilities - and to move us to recognize how blessed we are as a community and the vast resources we have to build an even better community.

The Tuscaloosa metropolitan community has many of the ingredients needed to be the preferred 21st century, All America address. Consider the following ingredients that go into the recipe for success:

World-class businesses and industries - a productive, competitive

workforce - gateways to quality learning and career preparation at all levels - an entrepreneurial climate that rewards bold thinking - business/education partnerships that work - an expanding retail marketplace - the promise of a vibrant, revitalized river front and central business district.

A thriving cultural arts community - quality, accessible health care - an exceptional menu of recreational opportunities - cherished traditions - caring, diverse neighborhoods - energetic, innovative people - a winning, All America spirit.

With all of these ingredients and more, just imagine the possibilities if we work together.

And to achieve a new level of excellence and to turn dreams and possibilities into results, it takes leadership and all of us working together. We certainly have the ingredients to be that preferred 21st century address.

The Tuscaloosa-Northport area has always celebrated a special spirit of community. Our community has a long, cherished tradition of meeting challenges and coming together to solve problems, focusing our shared energies on what is best for one and all. And we are beginning to understand and recognize that we are indeed interdependent upon each other.

But at the same time, we must continue to ask the question, "what do

we believe is possible together that is not possible alone?" Will there be a renewed and sustainable sense of community trusteeship in the future? Do we understand and accept that our creativity, our prosperity, and our desire for an even higher quality of life blossom when the heart of our community is clear and beckoning?

In mixing all of the ingredients - in weaving the tapestry of our community, we need to remember that "we must envision the future and weave the whole web of community, not just the parts that are ours. It's important to begin. It's our turn to weave. And as our hands hold the strands, the strands begin to hold us."

We are indeed a blessed community and our hearts should be full of gratitude with a focus on a bright future, full of promise, hope and dreams. The future of our community is in our hands. We have the chance and the choice to fulfill the best qualities of our own spirit.

From the entire leadership team of The Chamber, best wishes for a meaningful and blessed Christmas season and a prosperous, happy new year!

And we encourage your involvement in weaving the tapestry of our community. Join with us in helping to turn dreams and possibilities into reality in the coming year and contributing to making the Tuscaloosa area the preferred 21st century, All America address.

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Together

We're building a brighter future for West Alabama.

True understanding, in life as well as law, depends upon recognizing the connections among seemingly diverse issues, problems, and personalities.

Through their involvement in a variety of community organizations, attorneys at Phelps, Jenkins, Gibson & Fowler L.L.P. are helping to build bridges that lead to greater insight and understanding.



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Seated left to right: Sam M. Phelps, James J. Jenkins, C. Barton Adcox, and J. Russell Gibson, III.

Standing left to right: W. David Ryan, Randolph M. Fowler, A. Courtney Crowder, Stephen E. Snow, Farley A. Poellnitz.



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