



# Quitman-Brooks County Chamber of Commerce NEWSLETTER February, 2005

March 14-18 is School Board  
Member Appreciation Week  
Brooks County School Board Members  
Brad Shealy, Chairman  
Larry Cunningham, Vice-Chair  
Chip Carroll  
Llysses Marable  
Myra Exum  
Frank Thomas  
Gary Rentz

## Chamber Happenings

**Banquet 2005 Awards**  
Photo Spread inside!

### 2005 Membership Placards Are In!

The current membership placards proudly proclaiming your support of your chamber are in! These beautiful double-sided signs can be displayed either in your business window or on your countertop. Drop by the Chamber office to pick up your placard and stand!

**New Membership Investment Schedule** and Rates have been implemented. Please watch your mail in the next several days for this important announcement!

## **JR. EXECUTIVE BOARD PLANNING GIANT EASTER EGG HUNT**

The Junior Executive Board of the Quitman-Brooks County Chamber of Commerce is currently organizing the 2<sup>ND</sup> annual Community Easter Egg Hunt. We are anticipating over 500 children from all over Brooks County to participate. Your help is needed to make this event a continued success. Please donate generously...there will be *thousands* of eggs needing to be purchased and stuffed! Contact the Chamber at 229/263-4841 today, *please!*

## BOOMERS AND FINANCES

An interesting debate rages over the amount of money that will be passed down to the Boomers from their Silent Generation parents. One school of thought is that this will determine how long the Boomers will stay working. There are some 50 million Silent Generation Americans, and they are the wealthiest group of seniors in U.S. history. Estimates are that they control as much as two-thirds of the country's financial assets—including 40% of the mutual funds, 60% of annuities, and 48% of luxury cars. Still, with all this wealth, the amount earmarked for inheritance is dwindling on a couple of fronts. First, the Silent Generation is facing unprecedented health-care costs and other expenses. Second, as they live longer and better, the Silent Generation is less willing to sock it away for their children. In the early 1900s, 56% of those over the age 65 felt it was important to leave an inheritance. By 2000, that figure had dropped to less than half, 47%. This is credited not only to increased life expectancy and rising expenses, but also to realization that their children are doing even better than they did.

At the same time, Boomers are notoriously poor savers. The Me Generation spends, spends and spends. They buy more products and services than any other generation. They may need that inheritance when it's all said and done.

Excerpt from *The New Work Force* by Harriet Hankin

## Welcome New Members!

Gary R. Zeigler, PC  
Southern Tour Magazine  
Barwick News Advertiser  
Anthony's Lawn Service and Landscaping  
Metro Entertainment Alliance  
United Irrigation  
Green Hill Dairy

## COLD TRUTH ABOUT FIRING

- The real reason you are being fired is rarely the reason you are given.
- The best time to hire people is during a downturn when everyone else is firing them.
- When a smart boss fires someone, the first question they should ask is NOT: How do I feel about this person working for me? The first question they should ask IS: How would I feel about this person if he or she were working for my competitor?
- It's not the people you fire who make your life miserable... it's the people you don't fire who make your life miserable.
- The time to start worrying about what you'll do when you're fired is the day you get hired.
- The nicest, most loyal, and most submissive employees are often the easiest people to fire.
- When the domestic labor market is tightest and your job seems most secure is exactly when companies may try the hardest to move your job offshore to China or to India. Be Prepared.
- The resume that explains an unhappy firing situation clearly and honestly is not the one that potential employers find suspicious. The suspicious resumes are the ones with unexplained voids or breaks in a career.
- It doesn't matter who hired you yesterday. It only matters who can fire you today.
- The likeliest managers to get fired are often those who have the most trouble firing others.
- Maybe what you did wrong got you fired. It's only what you can do right that will get you hired again.

Excerpt from *We Got Fired!* By Harvey Mackay

**BANQUET 2005 AWARDS**



**GUEST SPEAKER  
TIM GOLDEN**



**SMALL BUSINESS OF THE YEAR  
TWISTED SISTERS!**



**LARGE BUSINESS OF THE YEAR  
MICRO CRAFT**



**PROFESSIONAL A  
BILL LONG**



**TEACHER OF THE YEAR  
DIANE ZIPPERER**



**2005 JUNIOR EXECUTIVE BOARD  
(L-R, HORACE MAI, JENNA PHILLIPS, ALISA MCCALL, LACEY RENFROE,  
CELIA DAVIS, NOT PICTURED-COLEMAN WALLACE AND AMBER STAHL)**



**SPECIAL R  
OUTSTANDING INTERNSHIP  
VANESSA JONES  
(NOT PICTURED, OUTSTANDING CHA**



**QUITMAN FAMILY DENTISTRY RIBBON CUTTING**



**AMERICAN RENOVAT**

# AND SPECIAL RECOGNITIONS



**ACHIEVEMENT AWARD** Agri-Business of the Year, Co-Winner  
**R.L. CUNNINGHAM AND SONS**  
 Agri-Business of the Year, Co-Winner,  
**BCT GIN (NOT PICTURED)**

**OUTGOING PRESIDENT**  
**LADON TOOLE**

**2004 DIRECTOR OF THE YEAR**  
**GLORIA GILBERT**



**COGNITION AWARDS**  
**OUTSTANDING CHAMBER SUPPORTER**  
**PRESBYTERIAN HOME**  
**CHAMBER SUPPORTER, BURTON REALTY AND AUCTION)**

THE QUITMAN-BROOKS COUNTY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE would like to thank EVERYONE who MADE THIS YEAR'S BANQUET A GREAT SUCCESS! SPECIAL THANKS GO TO QUITMAN STEAK AND SEAFOOD RESTAURANT, DR. CHARLENE BLACHE, CITIZEN'S NATIONAL BANK, COLONY BANK, COMCAST, FAMILY DISCOUNT MUFFLER, FRED'S STORE, THE GRISHAM TREE OF TWISTED SISTERS!, HERITAGE COMMUNITY BANK, JACKIE'S 30-MINUTE WORKOUT, KIS Co. of TWISTED SISTERS!, MCCARD AND COMPANY, MOONFLOWER VINE of TWISTED SISTERS!, POT of GOLD MINISTRY, QUITMAN FREE PRESS, ROSIE'S BUFFET, TOWN AND COUNTRY FURNITURE, AND SANDRA WORTMAN. THANK YOU SO VERY MUCH FOR YOUR DONATIONS!



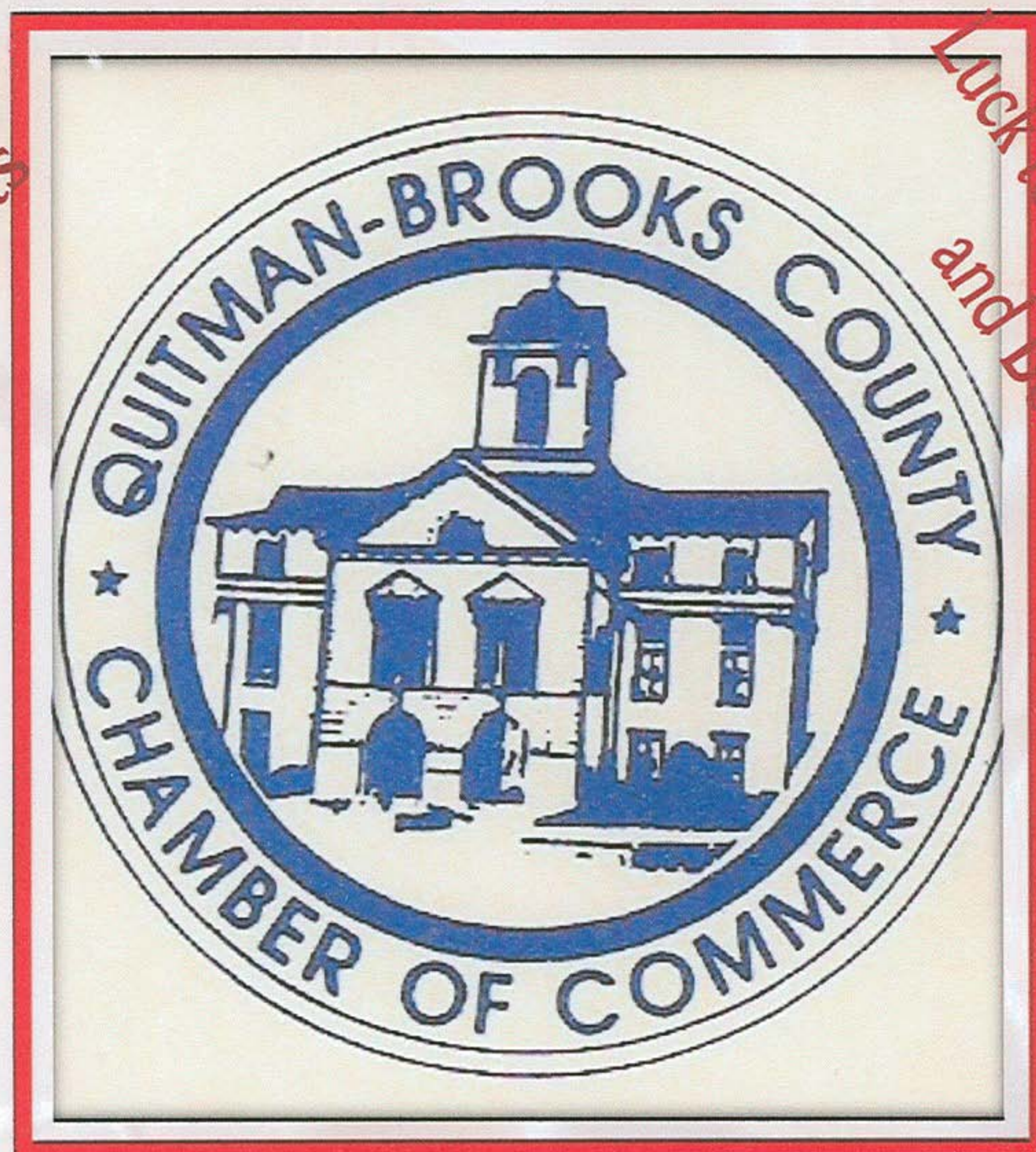
**WOMEN'S RIBBON CUTTING**

# Banquet 2005

Thursday, January 20, 2005 at 7:00pm

Quitman Steak and Seafood Restaurant

*Celebrate the  
accomplishments  
of 2004*



*Welcome and Wish Good  
Luck to the Chamber Members  
and Board in 2005*



Special Guest Speaker  
Senator Tim Golden

Tickets \$20.00 each

Advance Ticket Sales Only



Mastercard/Visa Accepted



Call 263-4841 for more information