



## **56<sup>th</sup> Annual Banquet Awards**

**Sheraton Gateway Hotel Atlanta Airport  
January 30, 2009**

### **Carl G. Rhodenizer Community Service Award**

*Awarded by: Board of Directors and Georgia Power*

*Current Recipient: Rep. Mike Glanton, Georgia House of Representatives*

*Past Recipients: William J. "Bill" Lee, Eddie White, Virginia Gray, Ron Dodson,  
Claudia Mertl, Don Kiblinger, Terrell Starr, Carl Rhodenizer*

Presented by the Georgia Power Company, the Community Service Award is awarded to an outstanding leader in Clayton County. This award was named in honor of the first recipient, Carl G. Rhodenizer. It recognizes commitment and dedication to and concern for all businesses and citizens of Clayton County. The recipient of this award also shows great leadership in the community by representing the county regionally as well as locally, striving to improve the quality of life in Clayton County.

### **Business of the Year**

*Awarded by: Board of Directors*

*Current Recipient: Clayton State University*

*Past Recipients: Heritage Cadillac Saab, Heritage Bank, Southern Regional Health System, SunTrust Bank, Allan Vigil Ford, Delta Air Lines*

The Business of the Year is awarded to a large employer in Clayton County who has a significant impact on the county's employment base. The Board of Directors chooses the recipient of this award, considering commitment to the county, support of the Chamber, name recognition, and longevity.

### **Lifetime Achievement Award**

*Awarded by: Board of Directors (when given)*

*Current Recipient: Allan Vigil, Allan Vigil Ford Lincoln Mercury*

*Prior Recipients: Former Chief Judge Steve Boswell, Senator Terrell Starr, Crandle C. Bray, Carl Rhodenizer, William J. "Bill" Lee, Orestus H. Adamson*

The Bylaws of the Clayton County Chamber of Commerce permit the Board of Directors, as they deem appropriate, to award honorary membership to individuals who have achieved great distinction in public affairs. The Lifetime Achievement is presented to a distinguished, longtime leader in Clayton County who is recognized

by all as an outstanding and lifelong promoter of the Clayton County Chamber of Commerce. This distinction carries with it an honorary lifetime membership to the Clayton County Chamber of Commerce.

**Additional awards presented at the Banquet:**

**Small Business of the Year Award**

*Awarded by: Small Business Development Group through a Selection Committee and Interviews*

*Current Recipient: Destiny Produce*

*Past Recipients: Paragon Systems, Inc., Fincher Denmark & Williams, Loggins & Associates, CPA, Country Inn & Suites, New South Package, Southern Crescent Personnel, Southside Seafood, Corbin Comfort Systems, Courtesy Cleaners*

The Small Business of the Year is awarded to an outstanding small business that meets the following criteria: the business must be in Clayton County, have been in business for at least three years, be a member of the Clayton County Chamber of Commerce, have less than fifty employees, and have annual gross sales less than 5 million dollars. Nominees go through a review process and the finalists are interviewed and selected by a panel of judges which include former Small Business of the Year Award recipients and professors from Clayton State University's School of Business.

**Chairman's Award**

*Awarded by: Chairman of the Board*

*Current Recipient: Shalley Bishop, Regions Bank*

*Past Recipients: Crystal Black, Bonnie Wilson, Geoff Fulton, Margie Woodhurst, Mitch Johnson, Kirby Glaze, Michael Edmondson*

This award is presented to the "Volunteer of the Year". It represents time and effort given on the recipient's part to the Chamber. The recipient is chosen for overall service to the organization by the Chairman of the Board.

**Chamber Partner of the Year Award**

*Awarded by: Chamber Staff on a Point System*

*Current Recipient: Veronica Elie, Fidelity Bank*

*Past Recipient(s): Tania Pellew, Crystal Black, Mitch Johnson*

Chamber Partners are volunteers who are instrumental in assisting the Chamber in meeting the needs of the membership. They are especially important in serving as liaisons to new members. Chamber Partners serve countless hours attending events and functions on behalf of the Chamber. The Chamber Partner of the Year Award recognizes that individual who has gone above and beyond the call of duty to serve the Clayton County Chamber of Commerce.