



Lake Martin Area Economic Development Alliance

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2006 BOARD MEMBERS

Jerry Allen
T.C. Coley
Steve Crowe
Bobby Davis
Susan Foy
Frank Harris
Cal Johnson
Tom Lamberth
Terry Mitchell
Tim McCraney
Robert Parsons
John Patten
Lynn Patterson
Les Sellers
Gloria Sinclair
Joe Smith
Glenn Thomas
Barbara Young
John Webb

Wellborn Forest Expands Again

About 18 months ago, Wellborn Forest completed a \$3 million expansion, and now it's ready to start another.

In the coming weeks the cabinet company located at the Airport Industrial Park will begin its fourth expansion since it opened in 1989.

This time it will be adding a distribution warehouse and another addition to the paint room at the plant. Wellborn will invest about \$3 million in the expansion, which should be complete in the summer of 2006.

"We're getting ready to break ground as soon as the weather breaks, and it should be complete in July or August," said Tim Wellborn, president and CEO of Wellborn Forest. "We're excited about the future. It

looks good."

The expansions means about 70 to 100 new employees at the plant which will bring the total employment at Wellborn to more than 300.



Wellborn expanding for a 4th time since 1989.

"Sales have went from \$11 million in 1998-1999," Wellborn said. "In 2005, we'll do about \$40 million. We've increased quite a bit in the last six years."

Employment at the plant also has jumped. In 1999, Wellborn employed 110, and today that number is at about 265 and will exceed 300 when the expansion is complete.

Wellborn Forest makes 41 different cabinet door styles out of three different wood species that come in about 1,600 variations of color.

Although the fourth expansion for Wellborn Forest has yet to begin, Wellborn said a fifth expansion is already in the works.

"Yes we are planning to go even bigger," he said. "In another 18 months we're looking at adding another 74,000 square feet and we're also looking into a door manufacturing facility that we would build here."



Thank You Funding Partners

Thank You to our 2006 Funding Partners

Alabama Power

Alexander City Chamber

Aliant Bank

City of Alexander City

City of Dadeville

Colonial Bank

Coosa County

Coosa County Chamber

Dadeville Chamber

Lake Martin IDA

Lynn Patterson

Russell Corporation

Russell Lands

Russell Medical Center

Tallapoosa County

Wachovia Bank

Alliance Board Member, Tom Lamberth, Named "Businessperson of the Year"



Chamber President, Tommy Spraggins, presents plaque to Tom Lamberth, President of Russell Lands.

At the annual Alexander City Chamber of Commerce banquet and gala on January 22, Lake Martin Area Economic Alliance board member, Tom Lamberth, was named 'Businessperson of the Year'.

Tom Lamberth, president of Russell Lands has played a key role in developing Lake Martin and moving the community forward.

Tommy Spraggins, outgoing president of the chamber,

said in addition to being a father, he is also an active leader in the community.

"He's a humble leader," Spraggins said. "He's worked on so many projects."

From working to develop The Ridge and renovating the golf course at Willow Point Golf and County Club, as well as working to bring business to Alexander City. Lamberth has done it, Spraggins said.

Tom is also a board member of the Lake Martin Area Economic Development Alliance where he serves on the Executive board. Russell Lands is a major contributor to the alliance and has been since its creation.

"Throughout the years, Tom has been pro-active in this community to provide a better quality of life for all its citizens", Don McClellan said.

"However through it all", Allen said "still the most important key to success for the bank has been quality customer service".

Representative Betty Carol Graham is presenting to Jerry Allen a resolution from the House of Representatives.

Allen Retires from Aliant Bank

Allen, Economic Alliance Board Member, retired from Aliant Bank Jan. 1, 2006

In 1982 Allen joined the bank as branch manager of the Aliant Mill Square branch. Allen replaced Hugh Thompson, who Allen admits he was a little nervous to follow. Thompson had been with the bank almost 50 years and also served as mayor.

"Those were some pretty big shoes, and that branch was probably the most active in those days," Allen said. Then,



there weren't personal computers and bank notes had to be typed.

But despite all the activity and work to be done, Blasingame, incoming President with Aliant, said it was like family at the branch. However that family would be broken up in 1997 when Allen was moved to the main office on U.S. Highway 280.

Blasingame would become branch manager at Mill Square, and Allen would assume his current role as president of the bank. The main office had just been built and many in the community were reluctant to go there, but once Allen moved, that all changed.

In Allen's 24 years at Aliant Bank he's worked with nearly three generations, and he's also seen several changes.

From having virtually no computers at the bank to having a PC on every desk and going from typing notes to having them printed by a laser

printer, business has certainly changed.

However through it all, Allen said still the most important key to success for the bank has been quality customer service. Allen knows his customers by name, and in many cases, also knows their children and grandchildren.

"I've probably got two or three generations," Allen said. "I've got people I've waited on their grandfather, and now their grandson."

Allen started in the banking business in 1963, and in retirement he said he looks forward to spending time with his wife and traveling.

"Jerry Allen has probably been one of the best things for this bank, and he's been the best mentor I've ever had," Phil Blasingame said. "I've kind of followed in his coat-tails, and he's been a pleasure to work with. Now I've just got to try to fill his shoes."

Re-cap of 2005—'the year that was'

2005 was a good year for the Lake Martin Area Economic Development Alliance. We saw some expansions and three new companies coming to the Lake Martin Area.

Having complete an expansion a little over a year ago, Wellborn Forrest Products is at it again. The previous expansion included 60,000 sq. ft. of additional building and has resulted in close to an additional 100 employees. They added an automated painting department that is high-tech and environmentally friendly. They are now in the process of a \$3,000,000 expansion and square footage that will exceed the past expansion. Wellborn has had a total of 4 expansions since locating in our area and plans are on the drawing board for even more expansions.

Nexcel Synthetics LLC located in Dadeville had an expansion this year of almost \$3,000,000. Their expansion was in the Expansion of Synthetic Yarn production. They manufacture extruded carpet yarns and artificial turf concrete fiber.

American Technologies are expanding from a 30,000 sq. ft. building to a

"We expect a good year in 2006 and are setting our goals higher than 2005."

130,000 sq. ft. building. They will be adding more employees in the new facility.

A&E Metal Supply is a new company that located in the Lake Martin Regional Industrial Park in Kellyton. A&E manufactures metal roofing and their business is off to a better start than was expected.

Lee Apparel built a building in the Tallapoosa County Industrial Park in Dadeville. Their operation is going well and they have only good things to say about the commission and the City of Dadeville. The two Randy's are positive about the future of Lee Apparel.

Dynamic Air is a new company owned by Stan and Susan Knighton and will have temporary residence at the old Russell training center on 22 West pending a new building being built. More on this company in the next few weeks.

We are very proud of all of our existing companies that have weath-

ered many business storms in the past and not only survived but prospered in our area. Russell Medical Center has become a premier health care center not only in our area but around the entire southeast. They continue to grow and provide excellent healthcare.

Russell Corporation, Robinson Group, Alabama Food Group, Russell Lands, Madix, Prime Healthcare, and all our companies and all the commercial/retail businesses that together provide jobs and services to make our lives better: "We Thank You!"

We expect a good year in 2006 and are setting our goals higher than 2005. With everyone's help we can continue to prosper and improve the quality of life for everyone.

May you be blessed in 2006.

Till Next Time.
Don



"We are very proud of all of our existing companies that have weathered many business storms in the past and not only survived but prospered in our area."

Available Sites

Speculative Building located in the Lake Martin Regional Industrial Park in Kellyton, Alabama

- 60,000 Sq. Ft. Pad w/ 40,000 Sq. Ft. Expansion
- Ceiling Height 28'-32'
- Column Spacing 50'x50'
- 4" Gravel Bed Floor w/ 10'x6' Deep Exterior Perimeter Slab
- 4-Dock Level Doors, 1 Drive Thru Door
- 10.7 Acres
- Cost \$890,000 (Negotiable)



AmTech Building at Lake Martin Regional Industrial Park in Kellyton, Alabama

- 30,000 Sq. Ft. (Expandable)
- Ceiling Height 20'-24'
- Column Bay Spacing 25'-50'
- Exterior—Front Split Brick, Remaining Metal
- 2 Truck Docks with 1 Drive Thru
- 14.3 Acres
- Cost \$1.2 Million (Negotiable)



Speculative Building located in the Tallapoosa County Industrial Park in Dadeville, Alabama

- 40,000 Sq. Ft.
- Ceiling Height 30'
- 4" Gravel Bed
- Exterior—Front Split Brick, Remaining Metal
- 2 Dock Level Doors
- 11.2 Acres
- Cost \$420,000





Lake Martin Area Economic Development Alliance

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The objective of the Alliance is to aggressively promote the economic development of the Lake Martin area served by the Alliance and to enhance the quality of life for its citizens.

Life as it should be.....



ATN- CACC Alexander City January-March 2006 Event Schedule

<u>DATE</u>	<u>COURSE</u>
Feb. 2	Violence in the Workplace 4-hour course designed to provide leaders, managers, & supervisors with the skills to recognize warning signs & take appropriate action to prevent or deal with potential workplace violence. Price: \$195.00 per person; material included.
Feb. 6-10	HAZWOPER Waste Site Worker (40-hours) This course meets the requirements of 29 CFR part 1910.120 by providing basic training for hazardous waste site workers. Some of the topics covered in the course are regulatory review, toxicology, medical monitoring, chemistry, site characterization, site safety plan, air monitoring equipment, personal protective equipment, sampling, spill control, and emergency response. Hands-on exercises and scenarios are used throughout the class to reinforce the training. Price: \$695.00 per person; material included.
Feb 8	Principles of Lean Manufacturing-Lean 101 Eight hours of hands on simulation, lecture, and discussion on lean manufacturing. The participant will experience the application of lean tools and leave with a more complete understanding of lean concepts and how they are applied. Price: \$295.00 per person; material & lunch included.
Feb. 15	Forklift Train the Trainer This 6-hour course includes: * Four hours of class instruction. * Coursework Testing. * Driving Skills Testing. * Licenses for participants successfully completing the course. Price: \$195.00 per person; material and lunch included.
Feb. 23	Value Stream Mapping This 8-hour course teaches a method of visually mapping a product's production flow from "door to door". VSM can serve as a starting point to help everyone from management to customers recognize waste & identify its causes. Price: \$295.00 per person; material & lunch included.
March. 1- April 5	LMD-plus Teambuilding This course includes 40 hours indoor classroom training on leadership, management, and teambuilding training, including, Leadership, Communication, Motivation, Documentation, Overview of Diversity in the Workplace, Overview of Teamwork, People Opportunities, Legislation in the Workplace, Performance Management, Personal Development Planning, Workplace Violence. This course also includes 16 hours of outdoor Teambuilding training at Heritage Trail Conference Center. Price: \$850.00 per person; material & lunch included.

For registration information, please contact **Kelley Carden** at (256) 215-4305 or kelley@atn.org or **Greg Barnett** at (256) 215-4307, (256) 596-2755 cell, or gbarnett@atn.org, or register online at www.atn.org.