

Local Chamber Members Visit Washington, D.C.

In April, the Greater Rome Chamber accompanied 20 Chamber members to Washington, D.C. to lobby on behalf of this region.

Meetings were scheduled with *U.S. Senators* Johnny Isakson and Saxby Chambliss and *Congressman* Phil Gingrey. As in the past, the issues that were discussed with these Congressional leaders included air quality, transportation and the need for a direct connection between U.S. Hwy 411 and Interstate 75, and issues related to continued improvements to **Richard B. Russell Airport**.

Chairman Steve Kemp, **United Community Bank**, stated that transportation was our number one key issue. "All of the legislators agreed that the direct connection between U.S. Hwy 411 and Interstate 75 was a priority," Kemp said "We were encouraged on our efforts."

Local business leaders also talked to the legislators about funding needs for upgrades at Richard B. Russell Regional Airport and the continued monitoring of our water supply.

The Chamber is very grateful to each of those who went on this trip. It makes a very positive statement to those in Washington, D.C. to have these business people donate their time to support their community. Be sure to thank them when you see them:

- Martha Bryant, **Bryant & Garrett Travel**
- Curtis Hart, **Georgia Power Company**
- Cheryl Huffman, **Northwest Georgia Federal Credit Union**
- Pete McDonald, **Coosa Valley Technical College**
- Ansley Saville, **Chieftains Museum**
- The Honorable* Ronnie Wallace, Mayor, **City of Rome**
- Terry Williamson, **Coosa Valley Technical College**
- Linda Jaynes, **Exchange Club Family Resource Center**
- Sam Freeman, **Coosa Valley Technical College**
- Steve Kemp, **United Community Bank**
- Jeff Franklin, **Georgia Power Company**
- Craig McDaniel, **Coosa Valley Technical College**
- Al Hodge, **Greater Rome Chamber of Commerce**
- Debbie Cannon, **Greater Rome Chamber of Commerce**
- Dean Saville, **Coosa Steel**
- Clinton Agnew, **Prudential Preferred Realtors**
- Gena Agnew, **Northwest Georgia Regional Cancer Coalition**
- Sammy Rich, **Floyd County**
- Duane Reid, **Rome Ford Lincoln Mercury**

Local Rome Chamber members and Georgia Congressional Leader Phil Gingrey gather together in Washington, D.C.



Chamber Chair Steve Kemp, United Community Bank, greets Senator Saxby Chambliss, Senator of Georgia.

U.S. Senator Johnny Isakson addresses the Rome crowd during their 2005 annual governmental affairs trip to Washington, D.C.



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