

# Leadership Rome Alumni Highlighting Success



**Ryan Earnest**  
**Senior**  
**Vice-President**  
**Heritage First**  
**Bank**  
 (LR '98)

- **Personal:** West Rome High School; West Georgia College (BA Mass Communications). Ryan has been in banking for 12 years and is married to Susan and has one son, Carson, age 7.
- **Civic Organizations:** Ryan serves on the Board of Directors for the Rome/Seven Hills Rotary Club; Past President, Past Treasurer of the Rome/Floyd County Commission on Children & Youth; Past President of the Breakfast Exchange Club of Rome and is the current Alumni Advisor for the Chi Phi Fraternity at Shorter College.
- **What did you learn most from your Leadership Rome Experience?** The power of networking with other business people and learning how working together can accomplish any task is a huge part of what I learned through my Leadership Rome experience.
- **What was your most memorable moment from your Leadership Rome Program?** The weekend rafting trip is definitely one of the highlights of my program. I still see and laugh about the trip with the others on my raft – we were all good sports.
- **Do you still keep in touch with your Leadership Rome Class?** Yes, I still keep in touch with individuals from class through business and personal relationships.

- **What did you learn about the community in which you work and live?** I mainly learned a lot of how business gets done in our community and how the Chamber recruits business and industry. It was interesting to see how many different companies, agencies and offices come together for a common purpose to promote the Greater Rome area. I've learned how to relate things that I experienced through Leadership Rome into my career each and every day; it was a worthwhile experience. ■



**Kristy Cordle**  
**Attorney**  
**Brinson, Askew,**  
**Berry, Seigler,**  
**Richardson**  
**& Davis**  
 (LR '01)

- **Personal:** Model High School; Mercer Law (1999 graduate) & Shorter undergrad (1995). Engaged to Lee Treadaway (associate at Fuller & McKay).
- **Civic Organizations:** Kristy currently serves as the Vice-President of the Rome Bar Association, Co-Regional Coordinator for the Mock Trial Program (Northwest Georgia region) and teaches Sunday school at her church. She is also a previous **High School Leadership Rome** graduate and High School Leadership Rome Co-Coordinator.
- **What did you learn most from your Leadership Rome Experience?** I learned so much from my Leadership Rome experience. Building from my experiences in High School Leadership Rome, I continued the knowledge that I had gained there and really got to "connect the dots" as an adult; it's a great program.

- **What was your most memorable moment from your Leadership Rome Program?** Like Ryan, I really enjoyed the weekend rafting trip that we took at the end of the program. All the participants had bonded and our leaders did a great job in demonstrating how industry, education, law and healthcare all work together to form our great community.
- **Do you still keep in touch with your Leadership Rome Class?** Yes, I still keep in touch with my Leadership Rome class. It was very easy to bond with the members of my class because of all the great team-building experiences we had throughout our program.
- **What did you learn about the community in which you work and live?** Even though I am a native of Rome, I still learned quite a bit about how our community operates and how important each aspect of business is and how it contributes to the community. ■



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