

## Grasshopper Lawn Care Challenges Small Businesses

**P**hil Johnson, owner of *Grasshopper Lawn Care*, made a \$1,000 investment in the Chamber's Partners in Prosperity campaign at the Business After Hours event at *The Village at Maplewood*. Johnson presented the check to *Chamber Chair-Elect Randy Quick (LR '00)* of *South 107/Q102/WRGA/WGJK*.

"I've always wanted to do this," Johnson said. "I realized a long time ago what a great community Rome is, and I mean that from my heart. If you want it, Rome's got it."

He also issued a challenge to other service-oriented and other small businesses to match his Partners in Prosperity investment.

"Hopefully, this will encourage other businesses in the service sector and other small businesses to get involved," Johnson said. "One thousand dollars might not look like a lot to a big company, but to my business, it's a lot. It really does take all of us to pitch in and do it. Everybody looks at the big corporations like *Pirelli* and says, 'let them do it,' but we all share this community and we all need to contribute."

The Partners in Prosperity campaign was initiated in 2004 with the goal of raising \$1.8 million over five years in order to further strengthen the Chamber's role in creating greater prosperity in Rome and Floyd County. Initial pledges have exceeded that goal, committing \$2.1 million in pledges.

Many of the Chamber's activities and programs are made possible by Partners in Prosperity, including the Chamber's involvement in the Red Carpet Tour and International VIP Tour, in which the local business community has been showcased to economic developers from all over the world; executive briefings in Atlanta in which a small, rotating group of leaders from Rome-based businesses have the opportunity to address executives and primary decision makers from the state's business and industry leaders; an Intercity Leadership Visit in which several local business, community and government leaders traveled to Columbus, Ga., to learn what has worked, and what hasn't, as that community has begun to flourish over the last decade; and several advertisements in Atlanta and statewide publications.



**Phil Johnson (right), Grasshopper Lawn Care, presented Chamber Chair-Elect Randy Quick (LR '00), South 107/Q102/WRGA/WGJK, a check for the Chamber's Partners in Prosperity program and challenged other small businesses to do the same.**

## AMBASSADOR of the QUARTER

**C**ongratulations to **Missy Armstrong, Aliyah Personnel**, the Ambassador of the Quarter for the 2007 second quarter. Ambassadors serve as liaisons between Chamber members and the Chamber. They are active in various Chamber events including ribbon cuttings, groundbreaking, and recruiting new members.



Missy has been employed by **Missy Armstrong** Aliyah Personnel for almost two years. Prior to her employment with Aliyah Personnel, she was employed with HSBC as a management trainee in London, Ky. She is married to Michael Armstrong and they have one Jack Russell Terrier, Lil Bit. She is an active member of Cornerstone Church of Rome, serves on the board for the Highlands Homeowners Association and participates in many community events. She also serves on many Greter Rome Chamber of Commerce committees such as the Economic Development, Steeplechase, EXPO and membership drive, and also helped coordinate the Chamber's Salute to Manufacturing program.

Missy will be recognized at a future Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors meeting, where she will receive an award for her hard work and commitment.

**Congratulations, Missy, and thank you for all of your support with the Chamber and the community!**



### Board of Directors Nominations Due Thursday, August 16th

**According to Greater Rome Chamber of Commerce Bylaws, voting members of the Chamber have the right to petition for names of candidates as Director in addition to those to be named by the Nominating Committee. Each petition must bear the names of forty (40) qualified members of the Chamber. Such petition must be filed with the Nominating Committee by Thursday, August 16th, 2007.**

**If you would like to make a nomination, please contact the Chamber at 706.291.7663 or email Lisa Smith (LR, '07) at [lsmith@romega.com](mailto:lsmith@romega.com).**