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(SLIDESHOW) 2008 Citizen, Business, Ambassador of Year honored

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A crowd of about 275 people attended the annual Lewisville Area Chamber of Commerce gala at the Hilton Garden Inn and Convention Center Saturday night to honor some chamber members, be entertained and raise funds for the chamber through silent and live auctions.



Dan Eakin/Staff Photo
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Owen Lyon, managing partner of a certified public accountant business called Owen Lyon & Associates, was named 2008 Citizen of the Year; Tierney's Caf  & Tavern was named Business of the Year; and Tammie Pinckard of Edward Jones Investments was named Ambassador of the Year.

Following a meal consisting of both steak and chicken, those in the audience bid on several items to raise funds for the chamber. David Magee, a sleight of hand artist and manipulator of the human mind, served as auctioneer after entertaining the crowd. A silent auction was also conducted as a fund raiser.

Mary Jacoby of Xceed Financial Credit Union, outgoing chairman of the chamber board, presented the gavel to Eyad Salloum of RE/MAX Advantage, who will serve as chairman for 2009.

Also at the event, incoming and outgoing members of the chamber's board of directors were recognized. Outgoing members are Bob Fiorendino of Group Benefits; Don Smith of Sam Pack's Ford Country of Lewisville; and Courtney Williams of United Community Bank.

Incoming board members are Greg Digby of Moore, Stoddard, Northam and Digby; and Cathy Troutz of Cat's Eye Creative.

Although it was a surprise to him, it came as no surprise to many members of the Lewisville Area Chamber of Commerce that Owen Lyon was named 2008 Citizen of the Year at the chamber's annual gala Saturday night at the Hilton Garden Inn and Convention Center.

"Owen has been an extremely dedicated supporter of our chamber for many years," said Phillip Sharp, chamber director of operations. "He has tirelessly given his time and

knowledge in helping the chamber with finances, and at one point served as our treasurer on our board of directors. He also has served on the board's Executive Committee."

Sharp said Lyon also served free as interim president when the chamber was in a financial bind a few years ago and was searching for a new president.

"He basically ran the chamber with support from our staff while still working full time at his personal business," Sharp said.

Lyon is an active member of the Crossroads Bible Church and has served as treasurer for the Lewisville Noon Rotary Club for the past four years.

Sharp also noted Lyon was one of the first to build a "new" building when Old Town Lewisville was first being redone.

Terry Allen, the 2007 Citizen of the Year, announced the 2008 Citizen of the year at the gala Saturday night.

"For the second year in a row, we honor a Citizen of the Year that is also not from Texas," said Allen, who waited until the very end of the announcement before actually naming the winner.

Allen said Lyon spent his youth "cultivating a love for animals from your typical dog to alligators and a multitude of snakes that always seemed to disappear out of their cages."

"Our Citizen of the Year has spent almost a lifetime of working sun up to sun down. From cutting lawns and basically running the country club pool in high school to entraprenuring an out-of-home accounting business despite the squeals and constant needs of three young children at the time," Allen said.

Although Tierney's Caf  & Tavern is a favorite place in Old Town Lewisville for people to go for delicious food and a wide variety of drinks, the owner of the restaurant appeared to be getting as much praise from chamber leaders as the restaurant itself.

Phillip Sharp, chamber director of operations, said Greg Tierney sponsored two Chamber Night Out events in 2008 at his establishment on Main Street. He also hosted a Leadership Lewisville Leadership Alumni networking event during 2008. He donated door prizes for two Women's Division events. He sponsored a LEADS Power Networking meeting at the chamber office and also catered a board of directors' luncheon in 2008.

Tierney also was a vendor and participant in the chamber's Community Showcase event and provided door prizes for the chamber's annual golf tournament.

Eyad Salloum, 2009 chairman of the Lewisville Area Chamber of Commerce's board of directors, noted that many city leaders are among those who can be found dining at Tierney's Caf  & Tavern.

"No one is ever a stranger at our 2008 Business of the Year, as you are routinely greeted by name," Salloum told the crowd at the gala Saturday night. "You'll also mingle with Lewisville's most familiar faces. Meet the mayor, most of the local fire and police force, postal employees, and dozens of people from our local businesses. There is also an

interesting story surrounding our 2008 Business of the Year about Bonnie and Clyde,”

Tammie Pinckard of Edward Jones Investments was named 2008 Ambassador of the Year at the Lewisville Area Chamber of Commerce’s annual gala Saturday night at the Hilton Garden Inn and Convention Center.

Salloum said Tammie Pinckard, although a rookie member of the chamber has made a huge impact since joining in September of 2007.

“As a volunteer for the chamber, she chaired the Women’s Division in 2008 and is the current chair for 2009. She is an active participant in our Leads Power Networking Group. She won Ambassador of the Month four times in 2008,” Salloum said.

“She graduated from Euless High School and is a graduate of Arlington Baptist University. Outside of her chamber life, she is a devoted wife to Scott of 25 years and mother of four beautiful children: Matthew, Lucas, Thomas and Kelsie. She is a member and active volunteer for Lakeland Baptist Church.

“In her spare time, she is an avid singer, reader and learner. She is a Financial Advisor for Edward Jones Investment in Lewisville,” Salloum noted.

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