



**Laurinburg/Scotland County Area  
Chamber of Commerce**

*For Immediate Release*

**For More Information, Contact:  
Matt Kendall, Program Director  
910-276-7420  
mkendall@laurinburgchamber.com**

**Dee Hammond Named 2011 Chairman-Elect for  
Chamber of Commerce**

The board of directors of the Laurinburg/Scotland County Area Chamber of Commerce named Dee Hammond 2011 chairperson-elect. Hammond, city clerk for the city of Laurinburg, current chamber Vice President of Internal Affairs, and the current President of the North Carolina Association of Municipal Clerks, will lead the organization after Drew Williamson, 2010 chairperson.

Born just across the state line in Bennettsville, South Carolina, and raised in Laurinburg, Hammond graduated from Laurinburg High School. Afterward, Hammond moved away from Scotland County and attended college in Charlotte, where she received an associate in science degree in business. She returned to Scotland County after living in Charlotte and in North Myrtle Beach, SC. "Moving back to Laurinburg was the best move I could have made," Hammond said.

"I am truly humbled and excited to have this opportunity to be a part of leading this organization," Hammond continued. "I have always had a special interest in our chamber, and my association with the chamber began long before I became a member." Hammond says she first became involved with the chamber in 2000 when she participated in the Leadership Scotland Program. The program led her to attend the Leadership North Carolina Program.

Hammond believes the chamber is vital for the growth and retention of businesses in Scotland County, and a focal point of contact for Laurinburg and Scotland County. She will continue to lead the organization's advocacy for the membership. "The Chamber has always worked to promote business and industry here. We believe we can still have a positive impact on our economy by developing programs which will assist with job growth and retention efforts. The majority of our members are small businesses, and we intend to do everything we can to help those businesses grow and prosper."

Community involvement is important to Hammond as she has spent time on several local boards. She served on the United Way Board, serves on the local Scotland County ABC Board, and currently serves on the chamber's Board of Directors. She acted as the first female chairperson for the ABC Board during her term in 2004.

Hammond's work with the chamber is impressive. She has chaired the chamber's Christmas Parade Committee and Membership Committee; she was instrumental in the start of the Chamber on the Half Shell Oyster Roast in 2008, and is looking forward to the second annual event in November. Hammond was the chamber's Ambassador of the Year in 2001 and the chamber's Volunteer of the Year in 2002.

Hammond was awarded the Region N Clerk of the Year award in 2002 by the Lumber River Council of Governments, and received the North Carolina Governor's Volunteer Service Award in 2002.

Hammond looks forward to working with business and community leaders, members, and the community during her term. "We have been fortunate to have great leadership here at the chamber, and I look forward to following Drew Williamson, who I know will do a great job next year as chamber chairperson. I'm also confident that our membership will continue to grow under the direction of Theresa Lamson. I hope that we can continue to be the voice of business for Scotland County."

# # #