

We're Your Neighbors

We know this community well. The businesses, the people, the schools, the needs. This is more than a "market area" to the board of directors, officers, and employees of this bank. We have a vested interest in the success of our community. It's our home. Your deposits are invested right in this



community by way of loans to the people and businesses here. We're honored to be a part of the new sanctuary construction project at Malvern Baptist Church. Pictured here at the construction site: (L to R) Joseph Johnson, SNB; Bro. Hosea Parker, Malvern Baptist Church pastor.

"Nuts About Maters" Travels To Plains Georgia

A distinguished delegation of the Wiregrass' own celebrity Peanuts were invited to participate in the Plains Peanuts & Presidents Festival and were featured in their annual parade in September. Eight peanuts, including our own "Nuts about Maters" made the trip to Plains.

For more information, contact us at:



One Hundred Years... And Still Growing.

220 East Lawrence Harris Highway
Slocomb, Alabama 36375
p: (334) 886-2367 • f: (334) 886-2364
24 Hour Telephone Banking: (888) 730-7517
Hours: Mon-Thu 9am-4pm; Fri 9am-6pm
(Drive up window opens each morning at 8:30am)



Agri-tourism: It's Not Money Growing On Trees... But Almost

Farmers looking to develop a diversification strategy may need to look no further than their back yard. More and more tourists want to learn about the rural living experience and are willing to pay for it.

Currently, agri-tourism ventures run the gamut from farm vacations, pick-your-own fruit operations, educational tours, school tours, recreational agriculture and vineyards to simple roadside vegetable stands.

While agri-tourism has grown rapidly in popularity over the past decade, it is still an emerging industry. Therefore, it's difficult to determine the revenues the industry generates as a whole. But the impact such operations make on their local communities is clear.

Tourists passing through town to visit the farm use the local gas stations, restaurants and shops. The economic impact of all these contributions over time is great. Successful ventures can even create more jobs for the local economy.

Our own Aplin Farms has embraced the agri-tourism strategy. The Aplin family welcomed hundreds of visitors to their pumpkin patch this fall. In addition, the Aplins hosted over 3,000 school children during the fall season. These visits

included a hay ride to the patch, the opportunity for school children to pick their own pumpkin, a visit to the farm animal exhibit, a corn and pea shelling demonstration, and an irrigation demonstration. The Aplins are already making plans for next fall. Ideas include a corn maze as well as night-time



hay rides and bon fires. Aplin Farms was recently recognized at Farm City Week as the 2004 Geneva County "Outstanding Farm Family." Our sincere congratulations go out to the whole Aplin family.

Pictured here, including four generations of Aplins, (L-R, at back): Brandon Hendrix, John Aplin, Gerald Aplin, Tommy Aplin, Joseph Johnson (SNB), Beverly Aplin, Vera Mae Aplin, Valerie Aplin, and Chesney Aplin.

Congratulations Slocomb Elementary School!

According to Jim Davis, Slocomb Elementary Reading Coach, Slocomb Elementary scored 2nd within its Alabama Reading Initiative region for the 2003-2004 school year. As a reward for their hard work, all school children, kindergarten through fifth

grade, were treated to a fun filled day at the movies. Slocomb National Bank was proud to help sponsor the fieldtrip and extends its congratulations to the teachers and students!

SNB Community Grill Is A Hot Commodity!

Slocomb National Bank's community grill has been busy this fall. Pictured here using the grill for a fundraiser are: Larry Reeder, much appreciated cook and husband of our own Carol Reeder; Ashlee Spivey, Miss Slocomb and daughter of our own Pam Spivey; and Wayne Avery, much appreciated cook. SNB had the grill custom built to accommodate large functions like church activities; city, school, and church fundraisers; family reunions, etc. Just contact Pam or Carol for reservations if your club or organization has something cooking.



BANK NOTES

QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

A Look At Money Matters From Your Neighbors At Slocomb National Bank

STATEMENTS
A Letter From The President.

Slocomb National Bank is celebrating! In 2005, we celebrate 100 years in the banking business. That means a lot to us here at SNB, mainly because we've been able to witness not only the birth and growth of our community, but its families as well. We take incredible pride in watching families and businesses prosper in our area, and it's always an honor for us to take some small part in their development. Whether it's a teenager's first savings account, a business owner's start-up loan or a family's retirement fund, it feels great to know we can help our neighbors realize their dreams.

Another great thing we're celebrating is SNB's new logo. To commemorate our anniversary, we wanted a new logo that symbolized our roots, our commitment to growth in the community and our growing relationships with our customers. Along



One Hundred Years... And Still Growing.

with many other exciting new materials and programs, you'll be seeing it a lot in the near future as we dedicate ourselves to another century of exceptional customer service.

So as we set our sights on the next 100 years, we hope our customers, friends and families know how much we appreciate their encouragement and support. For us and for all of you, we hope the next century will be even better than the last.

Warmest regards,

Hope H. Johnson, President

In This Issue:

- History: Chapter One – The First Thirty Years 01
- Statements: A Letter From The President
- Hundred Dollar Halftime: Kicking It Up A Notch! 02
- Teaching Teens To 'Get Smart About Credit'
- IRAs: All You Need To Know 03
- Agri-Tourism: Money Growing On Trees... Well, Almost 04

HISTORY
Chapter One – Thirty Years Of Determination

Slocomb National Bank had its beginning in the fall of 1905. Slocomb, we are told, was envisioned as a thriving community among the stately pines of eastern Geneva County. The town's charter was signed in 1901 and was named after one of its prosperous citizens, Frank Slocomb. Shortly afterwards, a unique group of men, realizing the importance of a local bank, formed a new bank and named it Slocomb National Bank. It is one of the very few banks in Alabama started in that era which is still in operation under its original name and charter.

Descendants of these original shareholders still live in the area and speak with great respect and admiration of these dedicated citizens, the founders of the bank. Their conservative values, coupled with a great sense of community service set forth the foundation for the bank. The original shareholders invested \$35,000 in beginning capital stock and deposits totaled \$48,790 by the end of the year, by all accounts a very encouraging beginning.

In reviewing the early history of the bank, the amazing thing is that the bank survived. For the most part, it was a tough time for the economy and the country. In fact, the other two banks founded in Slocomb during the same era did not survive. In 1907, a national financial crisis known as the Panic of 1907 struck the country. In 1914, World War I began, and stock and bond prices collapsed. Then, of course, World War I ended in 1918 and terrible inflation took over. Despite all of these tragedies, Slocomb National Bank stood firm. In the 1920's prosperity prevailed, but not for long. On October 23, 1929, the stock market collapsed, resulting in the beginning of the Great Depression. In March, 1933, President Franklin D. Roosevelt declared the famous "Bank Holiday." Slocomb National Bank was one of only three banks in Geneva County that was allowed to reopen after the holiday. Then, in 1941, World War II began. After all the tragedies and problems, the bank remained strong and looked to the future.

Bank presidents during these early years included: Charles E. Segrest, 1905 until his death in 1935; his son, C.M. (Clyde) Segrest, 1935-1940; and Jim Griffin, 1940-1942. The original bank building was located on the southwest corner of Commerce Street and West Slocomb Street in downtown Slocomb. In 1935, the bank building was remodeled. All of the original marble columns were removed except for the two at the front entrance. The brick façade was covered with white stucco.



(Continued Next Issue...)

Slocomb National Bank Donates \$2,000 To Slocomb Alumni Association

Slocomb National Bank recently donated \$2,000 to the Slocomb Alumni Association in memory of Harry Harris (president of SNB from



1942 to 1974.) "Mr. Harris was proud to be a 1926 graduate of Slocomb High School. The Alumni Association shares his love for our schools and in fact, since 1994, the Association has raised over \$225,000 for Slocomb schools" said Marjorie Harris (SNB) who serves on the Alumni Association's Executive Committee. Pictured here (L to R) are: Jeanette Tanner, President, Slocomb Alumni Association and Hope H. Johnson, SNB.

Slocomb National Bank, Wiregrass United Way Pacesetter

At the Wiregrass United Way fall campaign kickoff event held at the National Peanut Festival in Dothan, Slocomb National Bank was one of twelve companies recognized for



exceptional campaigns. Pictured: Senator Harri Anne H. Smith (SNB) currently serves as Campaign Chairman of the Wiregrass United Way.

Hundred Dollar Halftime: It's Up... It's Good!

To help kick off its 100th anniversary celebration, SNB teamed up with the Red Top Athletic Association and the Slocomb Band Boosters to bring you **Hundred Dollar Halftime**. Each Slocomb home football game one lucky participant lined up to see if they had the skills to send a ball through the uprights. Successful kickers walked off the field with a hundred dollars! Congratulations to all the winning kickers including: Jake Knight, Bryan Hatton, Junior Kelly, James Lee Merritt, and Noah Justice. These kickers won a total of \$600, generating \$1200 in matching donations from SNB to the Red Top Athletic Association and the Slocomb Band Boosters. Slocomb National Bank is proud to support



these two dedicated volunteer groups. Pictured here (L to R): Tammy Keller and Gail Roland, Slocomb Band Boosters, James Lee Merritt, winning kicker; Mark Casey, Red Top Athletic Association; and Kellie Ballard, SNB.

East Geneva County Senior Citizens Grand Opening

"The new Senior Center will be enjoyed by many for years to come. Projects like the new Senior Center, Centennial Park, the Gazebo, and our recreational parks are important because they improve the quality of life for all Slocomb residents" said Senator Harri Anne Smith (SNB) who was recognized at the opening for her efforts to help secure \$250,000 in State funding to build the new Center.

Slocomb National Bank donated the range, refrigerator, and microwave for the new Center. Pictured here in the new kitchen (L to R): Altomease Peoples, Senior Aid; Hope Johnson, SNB; Nina Williford, Senior Aid,



Retha Hall, Senior Aid; and Janet Tew, Executive Director East Geneva County Senior Center.

SNB Teaches Local Youth How To Get Smart About Credit

Joseph Johnson recently met and taught a great group of seniors at Slocomb High School about credit issues to mark National **Get Smart About Credit Day**, a financial literacy program sponsored by the American Bankers Association Education Foundation.

The presentation was one of many being made by bankers across the country as part of a nationwide effort to help young people take charge of their personal finances.

"The choices young adults make with their first credit card will impact their lives years later when they apply for a car loan or even a mortgage," said Joseph Johnson. "We are participating in the Get Smart About Credit program to raise awareness about the responsible use of credit. And, to show



young adults how they can use credit wisely, right from the start."

Pictured here holding their Get Smart About Credit t-shirts (L to R) are: Jenna Register, Senior Class VP; Trey Holmes, Senior Class President; and Joseph Johnson, SNB.

Today's IRAs Just Keep Getting Better

Why a Roth IRA? For some people, the thought of locking their money away in an account isn't an option. With a Roth IRA, you don't have to. That's because you can always take out the money you put in- so you can get it if you need to (see us today for all the details.) In addition, qualified distributions of earnings are also tax free.

Even More Reasons. There has never been a better time to open a Roth or traditional IRA. The Economic Growth and Tax Relief Reconciliation Act of 2001 brought about significant changes- including greater contribution limits and more flexibility to move money between IRAs and employer-sponsored retirements plans.

Tax Credit for Low-Income Savers. Certain lower income individuals may be eligible for a nonrefundable tax credit. This credit is for a portion of their contributions into traditional or Roth IRAs for tax-years 2002 through 2006. (The maximum annual contribution eligible for the tax credit is \$2,000.)

Am I Eligible for a Roth IRA? There are two requirements for eligibility to contribute to a Roth IRA: you or your spouse must have earned income and your modified adjusted gross income cannot exceed certain limits.

What About Contribution Limits? Now you can contribute more money than ever before to your Roth and traditional IRAs, and individuals age 50 and older can make "catch-up" contributions that exceed standard contribution limits. Plus, beginning in 2009, contribution limits will be subject to annual cost of living adjustments.

What if I Need to Access My Money? One of

the biggest benefits of the Roth IRA is that these original contribution amounts are returned first. They are not subject to income tax or the 10 percent premature-distribution penalty tax when distributed.

Do I Pay Taxes on My Earnings? No, provided you take the earnings as part of a qualified distribution. For some people, that's the best part of the Roth IRA.

What is a Qualified Distribution? In order for earnings to be tax free, you must first meet a five-year holding period for your Roth IRA. This period begins with the tax year for which your first contribution is made. After that, any earnings you withdraw for a qualified distribution reason are income tax free and penalty free. Qualified distributions are:

- Distributions made on or after the date on which you attain age 59 1/2
- Distributions made to your beneficiary (or your estate) upon your death
- Distributions attributable to your being disabled
- Qualified first-time home buyer distributions (up to \$10,000)

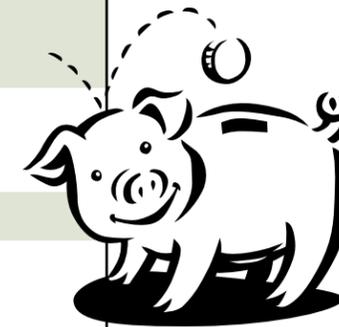
The 10 percent penalty is also waived for certain other distribution reasons, such as higher education expenses. But, income taxes may still apply.

We Can Help. Whether you're saving for retirement, education, or your first home, today's IRAs are a fast, convenient, and flexible way to save. Come in and find out more today. See an example below of how Roth IRAs compare with other savings accounts:

Account Type:	Tax-Deferred Earnings:	Earnings Withdrawn Tax Free	Tax-Deductible Contributions
Roth IRA	Yes	Yes*	No
Traditional IRA (With Deductible Contributions)	Yes	No	Yes
Traditional IRA (With Nondeductible Contributions)	Yes	No	No
Coverdell ESA	Yes	Yes*	No
Savings Account	No	No	No

**For qualified distributions*

If you're unsure about IRAs, just ask questions... we're always here to help!



Money Matters by Carol & Pam: How To Fund Your IRA

- Save what you can. If you can't invest the full \$4,000 a year, invest less. Just do it regularly. Automatic transfers make it easy. For retirement, every dollar counts, and interest continues to grow.
- Invest your tax refund. Statistics show that the average refund is \$2,300. Use it to fund an IRA.



Carol & Pam, our multi-talented customer service representatives, are pictured here having fun preparing goodies for the SNB Holiday Open House.

- Convert loan payments. Once you've paid off a loan, turn payments into IRA savings.
- Change a habit. It's worth the effort to reduce expenses. A healthy IRA creates a good tax shelter now and a happy, prosperous retirement later.

5 ATM/Debit Card Advantages

Here's why you'll like a Slocomb National Bank ATM/Debit Card:

1. **Time** - pay by check without writing a check;
2. **Flexibility** - shop by phone or mail and not use a credit card; select your own personal PIN number;
3. **Safety** - make purchases without carrying cash;
4. **Acceptance** - access checking even when out-of-town;
5. **Convenience** - withdraw, transfer or deposit money at ATMs across the nation;



Lora Kelley (SNB) and our new ATM /Debit card