



Hoggatt Named Ambassador of the Month

For Immediate Release
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Edwardsville — National Bank is pleased to announce that Gary Hoggatt Jr., AVP – Branch Manager and Mortgage Loan Officer, has been recognized as the April 2008 Ambassador of the Month by the River Bend Growth Association at their May Ambassador’s meeting.

Gary joined the Ambassador Committee in January 2007. He has been in the banking business since 1987 starting his carrier as a part-time teller. He has managed various branches for 13 of those years. He also spent 3 years as a small business lender and relationship manager. Currently he is the Assistant Vice President and Branch Manager for National Bank in Edwardsville where he focuses on residential mortgage lending and business development. In addition to his management duties, Gary is acting Security Officer for National Bank and keeps the National Bank website up-to-date. National Bank with headquarters in Hillsboro, IL has 9 locations serving south central Illinois. The Edwardsville banking center, located at 1611 Troy Road, opened in May 1997.

Although Gary joined the chamber several years ago, it was not until this past year that he decided to become more active. He started attending all of the Breakfast Connections, Total Networking lunches, Lunch and Learn Networking events, Business After Hours and Ribbon Cuttings. Between two chambers this can become a real challenge. Gary found that the ribbon cuttings are a great way to get connected. “I have found the ribbon cuttings to be an untapped resource for networking. You have the opportunity to meet business owners while they are showing off their business. You do not even need to be an Ambassador to attend and I would encourage others to attend when they can.”

Another way Gary has connected with the Growth Association and the Ed/Glen Chamber is to accept the call as an Ambassador. “I look forward to representing the chamber in a positive and professional manner. I am excited about demonstrating to others in the business community how they can get the most out of their chamber membership.” Gary’s advice for members: “If you feel like you are not getting any value from your membership, I ask you to evaluate what you are putting into your membership. Are you attending all of the functions or as many as you can? Do you actively speak to people and network when you do attend? Have you ever gone to the chamber office and sat with the staff. They are a wealth of knowledge and can give you many ideas of how your chamber can partner with your business for the benefit of everyone in the community. My advice is to GET CONNECTED and start building those relationships.”