

CAM SEES A WINNING FUTURE IN WAR AGAINST DRUGS

A sold out crowd of almost 400 generous Gordon County citizens came out in support of the 21st annual Sequoyah Ball. Citizens Against Methamphetamine and Other Addictive Substances was chosen as recipient of the ball proceeds totaling more than \$53,000 which was the largest amount raised in the club's history. CAM wishes a tremendous thank you to everyone who contributed to this very important cause. The non-profit group would like to express sincere gratitude and appreciation for all the long hours and hard work that went into this fundraiser. Special gratitude to this year's co-chairs for the ball, Patty Gilmer, Donna Gregory and Debbie King.

After the unfortunate fire that CAM experienced, the chairladies went beyond their normal duties to ensure that CAM would be able to recover quickly and go to the next level with a paid coordinator. CAM endeavors to see every citizen in Gordon County benefit from these funds. We will continue efforts to educate the public, provide resources and funds for our schools and coordinate a referral service for individuals addicted to methamphetamine and other addictive drugs.

CAM was especially grateful and excited when a historic announcement was made at the ball. Superior Court Judge Scott Smith announced that the Cherokee Judicial System has established a Drug Court. "CAM has been a driving force, encouraging progress toward the establishment of a drug court in Gordon County," stated Judge Smith. The proposed starting date is July 1, 2008.

In 2005 CAM worked diligently to bring the Drug Court to reality. With 3,000 signatures in hand from Gordon County Citizens, CAM made a plea to the Gordon County Commissioners for a Drug Court. CAM also urged local and state officials to visit the Conasauga Drug Court to see first hand the positive impact a Drug Court would have on Gordon County.

Citizens Against Methamphetamine would also like to thank the sponsors of this year's Sequoyah Ball:

Janice Self Smith, Lucy and Joel Coopridner, Patti and Jeff Gilmer, and Shepard L. Howell.

Special Sponsorships: Drug Task Force and Northwest Georgia Orthopedics.

Services and facilities: Baxter Moving, CHS Junior Service League, Coosa Valley Technical Video Production Dept., Debbie Gilbert, In-Focus Studio, Monica Pierson and Mulkey Men's Store

Platinum sponsors: Amy and Scott Fletcher, Billie Jean Erwin, Bobby F. Harris Foundation, Calhoun Primary, Elementary, & Middle Schools, Debbie and Steve King, Georgia Bank and Trust,

Helen Jones, Pearl and the late Raymond King, Russell Shepard Smith, Northwest Georgia Paving and Shelba Hall.

Gold: City of Calhoun, Donna and Dane Gregory, Fox Systems, Gordon County Drug Task Force, Gordon Hospital, Justin Dodge Chrysler Jeep, LLC, Mohawk, Sequoyah Garden Club, Starr-Mathews Insurance and Zaxby's.

Silver: Becky and Case George, Billie and Charles Moore, Billy Sanders, Bobbie and Bill Mathews, Bulk Carriers, Inc., C.L. Craig,

Carol and Dick Inman, Cherokee Mechanical, Chick-Fil-A, Debra and Richard Guintier, Designs by Tabitha, CAM's website designer,

Fox and Brindle, Edward Jones Investments, Gwen and Larry Roye, Jackie and Lee Purgason, James Billy Green, Jean and Enoch Overby, Jim W. Lay, Kent Chapman Insurance Agency, Mathews and Parlo Carpet, Mattie Lou Strain Sunday School Class, First Baptist Church, North Georgia National Bank, Optimist Club, Rebecca Brown & Associates, Sherry and Joe Campbell, the staff of Sonoraville High School, Tom Shanahan, Tot Roost and Wanda and Al Westmoreland.