

PRESS RELEASE

December 2008

Gladewater Employees Honored

Austin Bank recently honored Gladewater employees **Shari Berry** and **Brenda A. Kaster** at its 2008 Service Award Luncheon. Both were recognized for five years of service. They were among 36 bank employees feted for outstanding service and longevity on the job at a luncheon held December 4 at Cascades Club in Tyler.

The annual luncheon recognized Austin Bank employees who completed five, 10, 15, 20, 25, 30, 35 and 40 years of service in 2008.

"We are proud of all these employees because they work as a team to provide financial services to our friends, neighbors and the businesses within East Texas," said Austin Bank Vice Chairman Jeff Austin, III. "These valuable employees serve our bank customers on a daily basis through their excellent service and support to the community."

"At Austin Bank our employees are the difference. We proudly recognize the commitment and dedication each of these individuals has made to the Bank and its customers," said John P. Williams, President and CEO.

Shari Berry, a Loan Assistant, joined the Austin Bank team when City National Bank was purchased by Austin Bank in February 2008. She has a total of 28 years banking experience. A resident of White Oak, Shari and her husband, Terry, have two sons, Kyle and Wesley, and one daughter, Lauren. She is a member of the White Oak Community Church.

Brenda A. Kaster, the Retail Office Manager at the Gladewater office, has 30 years total banking experience. She has worked as Loan Officer, Operations Manager, Branch Manager and Compliance Officer. Kaster also joined Austin Bank when it was acquired City National Bank. A resident of Gladewater, Kaster and her husband, Terry, have five children and 11 grandchildren. She is a member of the Chamber of Commerce and Lions Club and volunteers with the Cub Scouts and school functions..

Austin Bank is a community bank with \$1 billion in assets. Headquartered in Jacksonville, Texas, Austin Bank serves the needs of East Texas families and businesses through 28 locations in nine counties.

More information about Austin Bank can be found on the bank's website at www.austinbank.com.