

## **Kyle Russell Honored at Graduate School of Banking at Colorado Graduation Celebration with the James C. Scarboro Memorial Award**



There are those people who, by their lives, have so added to the goodness and fullness of life that we feel they should be memorialized as a symbol and challenge to all of us to do better with our lives. In the area of commercial banking such a person was James C. Scarboro, one of the founders of, formerly the Colorado School of Banking in 1950, now the Graduate School of Banking at Colorado (GSBC). He was Executive Manager of the Colorado Bankers Association, and Trustee and Secretary of the Colorado School of Banking. He passed away in August, 1973.

The Board of Trustees of the Graduate School of Banking at Colorado established the JAMES C. SCARBORO MEMORIAL AWARD in honor of Jim, to be presented to a commercial banker or bankers, or to a banking educator, who has, or have provided outstanding leadership to the banking community and/or banking education. The award is a beautiful small silver bowl, suitably engraved, and appropriate for an office.

On July 24, the award was made for the 21st time. Kyle Russell, President of Verus Bank, NA in Derby, KS is a banker who has truly given of his talents and energy to the advancement of banking by his outstanding leadership. Kyle is a 1993 honors graduate of GSBC and served as a Trustee and Chair of the Trustees. Kyle demonstrated exemplary leadership skills through a difficult transition period of the school. His many achievements through such leadership to GSBC, the banking community and to banking education are exactly the characteristics deserving of this award.

Kyle was born and raised on a family farm near Winfield, Kansas. He graduated from Winfield High School in 1981 and graduated with honors from Oklahoma State University in 1985 receiving a Bachelor of Science degree in agriculture.

Kyle began his banking career in 1985 and presently serves as President, Chief Financial Officer, and a member of the board of directors for Verus Bank, NA in Derby, Kansas. He has participated in many professional organizations within the banking industry including the Kansas Bankers Association, Kansas/Nebraska Schools of Banking Advisory Committee, and Robert Morris & Associates.

Kyle has been a Rotarian since 1993 serving as a past President and board member of the Derby Rotary Club as well as an Assistant District Governor within Rotary International. His other community involvements have included United Way, City of Derby Task Forces, Derby Chamber of Commerce, First Presbyterian Church of Derby, and Crestview Country Club.

Kyle has a wife of 23 years, Debbie, and three children: Adam – 19, Erik – 15, and Lauren – 10. Kyle's hobbies include golf, snow skiing, and being an avid sports fan of his children and Oklahoma State University.