

Bank of Granite

NEWS FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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Bank of Granite presents first Flo Rogerson award

Bank of Granite presented its first Flo Rogerson Outstanding Service Award to Geanina V. Neal, customer service and sales representative at the bank's Uptown Charlotte office. Bank President and Chief Operating Officer, R. Scott Anderson made the presentation.

"It's an honor to name Geanina as the first-time award recipient," said Anderson. "She is truly deserving of it as she shares so many traits that Flo exhibited."

Flo (Florencia) Rogerson, beloved Bank of Granite employee at its Lenoir office, succumbed to cancer in May 2006 at the age of 49. She loved the employees of the bank and all of her customers. Her work ethic and dedication raised the quality bar for all Bank of Granite employees. The Flo Rogerson Outstanding Service Award will be given annually to recognize an employee who, like Flo, has an extraordinary way that inspires bank employees to be better at what they do.

"Geanina is one of the most genuine people you will ever meet," said Anderson when presenting the award. "She has a passion to serve others. She is one of the first to be at work every day, is always in a great mood, and is ready to meet the day's challenges, much like Flo."

Rogerson's son, James (Jay) J. Rogerson III, presented the award with Anderson. Jay graduated recently from Hibriten High School and will attend Appalachian State University in the fall.

A native of Suceava, Romania, Neal joined Bank of Granite in 2004 and has more than eight years of banking experience. Neal graduated from Blessed Hope Baptist School in York, S.C., and was valedictorian. She completed two years of Christian education at Granite Falls Baptist College. Neal's accomplishments include becoming a citizen of the

United States in 2003 and being able to bring her family to the United States from Romania. She and her husband, Timothy, live in Gastonia and are members of Calvary Baptist Church in Clover, S.C.

“I was pleased just to be nominated,” said Neal. “To actually receive the award took me completely by surprise. I just want to treat people how I would like to be treated. To be recognized for doing what I believe to be right, now, that is truly an honor.”

“Every May, our joint staff meeting will focus on quality and service,” said Karen Warlick, senior vice president and director of human resources. “It’s always a rewarding meeting. This year it was made more so by being able to honor Flo’s memory with the Outstanding Service Award.”

Other highlights from the joint staff meeting include honoring the bank’s 10 employees who have served in the armed forces; 152 employees who are community volunteers, a 50 percent participation; 143 employees who are fund raising volunteers, a 48 percent participation; and the 22 employees from 14 offices who participated in Teach Children to Save Day.

Bank of Granite and Granite Mortgage are subsidiaries of Bank of Granite Corporation whose stock is traded on The NASDAQ Global Select Market under the symbol “GRAN.” The bank operates 22 full-service banking offices in Burke, Caldwell, Catawba, Forsyth, Iredell, Mecklenburg, Watauga, and Wilkes counties. Granite Mortgage, headquartered in Winston-Salem, originates home mortgages in these counties and in Fayetteville, Greensboro, and Salisbury, N.C.

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Geanina V. Neal