

Monarchians

Monarch Leaders Move into New Roles

THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS of Monarch Financial Holdings, Inc. and Monarch Bank announced the election of three senior officers to top leadership positions. William F. Rountree, Jr., current and founding President and CEO, has been elected to serve as President and CEO of Monarch Financial Holdings, Inc., the parent of Monarch Bank.

Brad E. Schwartz, currently Executive Vice President and Chief Operating and Financial Officer, has been elected to serve as Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Monarch Bank. E. Neal Crawford, currently Norfolk Regional President, has been elected to serve as President of Monarch Bank. All three members also serve on the Board of Directors for both companies.

Monarch's decision to split the positions of CEO and President will allow Schwartz and Crawford to each focus on their areas of expertise, and the strategic responsibility of running and growing Monarch Bank and all its related companies on a day-to-day basis. Together our new "dynamic duo" has nearly 50 years of banking experience, with 10 of those years right here at Monarch.



Pictured above (from left to right): Neal Crawford and Brad Schwartz

Schwartz is a graduate of Longwood University, has a Masters Degree in Business Administration from the University of Richmond's Robins School of Business and is a graduate of the Stonier Graduate School of Banking. He is also a certified public accountant. He is active with the Virginia Bankers Association and currently serves as the president of Virginia Beach Court Appointed Special Advocates, Inc. (CASA).

Crawford is a graduate of East Carolina University and a recent graduate of the Stonier Graduate School of Banking. He presently is on the board of Cruise International and serves on the Virginia Opera Board, is Chairman of the Norfolk Convention and Visitor Foundation, and is a Board member of the Cultural Alliance.

William F. Rountree stated, "I have enjoyed working with Brad and Neal for the past five years as they helped guide our tremendous growth. I expect them to excel in their new positions and help me strategically position Monarch to grow and prosper in our second decade, and hopefully beyond. The day-to-day affairs of the Bank are in good hands." ♦

GETTING TO KNOW

Robert M. Oman

Position:

Mr. Robert M. Oman has served on the bank's Corporate Board of Directors, since 1998. President of Oman Funeral Homes, Inc.

Business:

Mr. Oman is a member and past-President of the Virginia State Board of Funeral Directors and Embalmers and is a guest lecturer and instructor at ODU, Tidewater Community College, and the Chesapeake Public School System. He is a former President of the Tidewater Funeral Directors Association and serves as President of the Chesapeake Hospice Council.

Community:

Mr. Oman is a Chesapeake native, member and past two-term Chairman of the Chesapeake Hospital Authority and a board member of the Chesapeake Community Trust. He currently serves as a member of the Board of Deacons at Great Bridge Baptist Church and is former President of the Gideons International, Chesapeake East Camp.



Board Member Michael Inman's Sheltering Ways

NEARLY 25 YEARS AGO, the pastor at Mike Inman's church asked him for a favor. That pastor and several other pastors in Virginia Beach had been opening their homes to troubled kids with no other place to go.

"There were enough knocks on the door, so to speak, that [the pastors] said we need to set up a shelter," said Inman, a partner at Virginia Beach law firm Inman & Strickler P.L.C.

Inman was asked to use his legal expertise to help set up what would become Seton Youth Shelters. All these years later, he's still helping out as the nonprofit's chairman of the board.

"I got caught up in it," Inman said. "I have three daughters myself and thought it was a great cause."

Seton Youth Shelters provides shelter and counseling services for at-risk youth. It takes in those who lack food, clothing or even a roof over their head or those who are in such despair that the streets appear a better option than their homes.

What started as a shelter for girls has turned into two shelters – one for boys and one for girls – and an agency that offers various outreach programs and educational classes. Seton Youth Shelters was named agency of the year by the United Way of South Hampton Roads in 2008.

Inman, named a Virginia Super Lawyer in 2006 by *Law & Politics*, has seen similar growth in his profession. Under his leadership his firm's community association law practice group has grown to four attorneys and involves the representation of condominium and homeowner associations as well as developers/builders of those communities.

Outside the office and community service, Inman enjoys playing golf and sailing his 38-foot sailboat *Seasprite*. Occasionally, he'll mix his pleasures.

"You don't see many people walking up the pier with a set of golf clubs on their shoulders," said Inman, who has been known to boat up or down the Intracoastal for a round of golf. "You can sort of combine them, but I haven't been hitting shots off the stern of the boat." ♦

