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### **Greater Knoxville SCORE Chapter Announces “Client of the Year”**

Knoxville, Tennessee --- The Greater Knoxville chapter of SCORE celebrated “May is Small Business Month” by naming a local business as the winner of its third annual “Client of the Year” contest.

First place winner Dynamic Dragon Boat Racing LLC organizes and manages events using its unique boats to raise funds for charities. Owner Penny Behling began free counseling sessions with SCORE in 2009, focusing on how to revive a struggling business and reach an untapped market. Working with counselor Bill Beres over a two year period, Behling created a business plan which allowed the firm to increase the number of events it manages from three in 2008 to ten in 2011. She also has added new equipment to her fleet. In 2010 these events raised more than \$200,000 for the charities they benefited. Behling added that “my SCORE counselor encouraged and equipped me with methodology to reach what I thought originally might be impossible goals. It’s been a long road, but now the ride has been worth it.”

Knoxville SCORE Chairman Jerry Carlson stated that the selection “reflects our goal of mentoring small businesses, not merely counseling them. Both have utilized the skills and experience of our counselors over a period of time, not just for a few sessions, and are prime examples of our motto: “*For the life of your business.*”

*Since 1964, SCORE has assisted more than 8 million aspiring small businesses and their owners through counseling and workshops. The Greater Knoxville chapter, one of 389 chapters nationwide, covers 18 counties in East Tennessee. Its more than 30 volunteer counselors are dedicated to the formation, growth and success of small businesses and in fiscal 2010 provided more than 3,000 counseling sessions. All SCORE services are provided free of charge to small business owners. For more information regarding starting or managing a current business, call (865) 692-0716, or visit our local SCORE site: [www.scoreknox.org](http://www.scoreknox.org).*

**SCORE is a resource partner with the U. S. Small Business Administration**