

## SEKTDA Wins 2005 Regional Organization of the Year



**Congressman Rogers congratulating SEKTDA for STS award.**

Van Back, Michelle Spencer, Theresa Russell, Vicki Kidd, Congressman Rogers, Lynn Cunningham, Karen Back and Jeff Crowe.

**Somerset, KY...** Southern and Eastern Kentucky Tourism Development Association (SEKTDA) was selected as Southeast Tourism Society (STS) Regional Organization of the Year for 2005.

The "Shining Example Awards highlight some of the best work in travel and tourism, and winners truly set examples that others in the industry can follow," said STS chairman Mitch Bowman.

"Showcasing great work is important because tourism is the largest, second-largest or third-largest industry in every Southeastern state."

The 2005 Shining Example Awards program was part of the 22nd annual meeting of STS. It was a black tie award gala held at the Charleston Place in Charleston, South Carolina.

Founded in 1983, the Southeast Tourism Society is dedicated to the promotion and development of tourism to its member states of Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, Virginia and West Virginia.

"This is a great honor to have won this award out of 11 different states," Vicki Kidd, executive director of SEKTDA, stated. "We are truly proud of the hard work from the staff, volunteers and Congressman Roger's vision for tourism."

SEKTDA is charged with promoting a 46-county region in Kentucky that includes some of the most economically depressed areas in the state. The association promotes Kentucky's culture, heritage and scenic beauty to travelers through national media campaigns, comprehensive web sites, motorcoach marketing programs, customer service training and community development projects.