

January 2007

# LEADER READER

## A Message from our President:

Dear Friends:

I trust all had a very joyous Holiday season, and I send my very best wishes to all Leadership Pinellas members for a very happy, healthy, and prosperous New Year!



Bud Elias '01  
President

Hard to believe that our Leadership Pinellas Program Year is almost half over. From all indications our program days have been well received by the class of 2006/2007 thanks to the efforts of Planning Chair, **Ed Halleran '03** and Coordinators, **Melissa Allen '01; Teresa Hibbard '06; John Kamkutis '03; and George LaBanca '03.** We look forward to these next five months with a great deal of anticipation. Our Program days are thoughtfully prepared thanks to all of our graduates who have given of their time and talents.

In terms of alumni events please be prepared for a busy and exciting schedule. Please mark your calendars for Saturday, April 14<sup>th</sup>. **Susan Benjamin '95** is chairing a special event committee that includes **Jill Carbonelli '04; Dennis DeLoach '06; Gary Hallas '06; Sean Jowell '04; Matt Novak '06; Carol Parks '99; Sarah Pickett '06; Carol Lynn Roman '06; Mark Simpson '04** and **Stephanie Zaragoza '00.** This event will offer class competition in a very unique way, as well as provide an opportunity to socialize with some of our fellow graduates in a very beautiful and elegant setting.

**Karen Seel '91**, Alumni Chair, has been busy planning some outstanding events for the balance of this New Year. Those events include a daylong trip to MacDill Air Force Base and the Strategic Command Center. **Col. Michael Monahan '06** has volunteered to work with Karen to assure the success of this year's MacDill trip. This event was well attended by our alumni last year, and it was offered on a first-come first-serve basis. Safe to say this event was one of last year's alumni highlights. Another exciting possibility for this year is a well-prepared, carefully orchestrated trip to our nation's capital. Keep checking "What's New"? at: [www.leadershpinellas.com](http://www.leadershpinellas.com) for more information.

It is time to encourage all of you to begin to think about just how you might become more involved in Leadership Pinellas. We will be sending our 2007-2008 Interest Indicator to all of our LP graduates. This vehicle provides an opportunity for you to let our Board know just how and in what way you would like to participate in Leadership Pinellas this next program year. Please thoughtfully consider your response to the Interest Indicator.

Recognizing that time has an uncanny way of fleeting by, I want to encourage all of you to begin to think about the "life blood" of Leadership Pinellas. That, of course, would be the recruiting responsibilities we all accepted as LP graduates. Applications are now available, and when you think about it, our recruiting socials of April and May are not far off.

Finally, I have long wondered if anyone ever read the President's letter. Now I know.

Bud Elias

**Class of 2007**  
**Business and Technology Program Day, December 13, 2006**  
by *Allyn Childress, Class Reporter*

The Media half of our day began at Clear Channel in Tampa where eight diverse radio stations are housed in one building. **George LaBanca '03** was one of our hosts as we toured the facility and saw the DJs in action (we even added a little melody to the 103.5 morning show!). We were also entertained by a Q/A session with AM Tampa Bay host, Jack Harris, a graduate of Leadership Tampa. Tampa Bay Magazine kindly sponsored breakfast (and cookie breaks!) to fortify the class for the day's events.

Our second stop was at the Tampa Tribune Complex, a multi-functional facility that houses a television station (WFLA) and online news source (TBO) along with the newspaper. This innovative structure allows for greater sharing of information between reporters for the different media. In addition to a tour of the facilities, we were treated to a live taping of Channel 8 Daytime with Dave Nemeth and Cyndi Edwards. During lunch, sponsored by the Tampa Tribune, we heard from a panel of experts on topics that included newspaper circulation trends and online news reporting innovations. It was also noted that Channel 8 was recently rated the #1 television station in Florida, an honor they've achieved in five out of the past six years.

The Government portion of the day began at the Clearwater Main Library where our tour included the rooftop terrace with its amazing water views and the Leadership Pinellas Collection on the fourth floor. Afterwards, Dr. James Moore, Vice President at HDR Consulting, provided an overview of redevelopment strategies for Pinellas County. His presentation provided many visual examples of historic, current, and future growth patterns. Mixing land uses and enhancing development within urban centers and along mass transit corridors is the vision he provided for Pinellas County as we face a potential 30% population growth over the next twenty years.

Commissioner Ken Welch, a fourth-generation Pinellas resident, provided an update on the Penny for Pinellas sales tax. In the past, this funding source has supported the construction of the Bayside Bridge and many other infrastructure projects. He encouraged all of us to get out and vote on March 13, 2007. (For more information, please go to [www.pinellascounty.org/penny](http://www.pinellascounty.org/penny).)

A few blocks from the library, some of our local heroes gave us an impressive display of their lifesaving tools and skills. The Clearwater Fire & Rescue Department performed a mock rescue using the jaws of life. (A few of our class joined in; see if you can pick them out in the photos!)\* We thank Fire Chief Jamie Greer and each and every one of his elite team for their daily service as well as for this special event.

We would like to thank the organizers of the day's events: **Margaret Word Burnside '85, Mo Freaney '03, Pat Gerard '90, Carolyn Moore '94**, and **Vice Mayor of Clearwater Carlen Petersen '06**. See you on January 10<sup>th</sup> for Education Day!

\*To see the photos go to [LP2007.com](http://LP2007.com) with thanks to Tracey Birch '07

**2006-2007 Program Days**

2/4/07	Health	4/11/07	Criminal Justice
3/18 to 3/20/07	Tallahassee Trip	5/9/06	Environment & Infrastructure
		5/12/07	Graduation & Annual Meeting

## Thanks from Community Pride

MANY, MANY thanks to Leadership Pinellas for your Holiday Happening Donations.

We received \$530 which will go directly to subsidize day care costs for some needy area families. By providing quality day care for the children, parents are able to work and provide for their families while we help to prepare their children for school.

My car trunk was also filled with diapers and toys. What a joy it was to deliver to our two day care centers!

I hope you all enjoyed a wonderful holiday season and that it was made a little better knowing that your thoughtfulness helped to improve some children's lives.

Thanks, too, to Karen Seel for selecting Community Pride to be this year's recipient of your thoughtfulness and gifts.

**Jan Tracy '96**

## Hands Across The Bay

**Save the date:  
Friday, February 9, 2007**

As we go to press, the committee is still finalizing plans, but it looks like the reception will be in the lobby of the St. Pete College and Florida International Museum.

As soon as more complete information is available, it will be on our "What's New?" link at [www.leadershippinellas.com](http://www.leadershippinellas.com).



**from the desk of  
Harriet Coren,  
Executive Director**

We are going to try to get an early start with 2008 Class applications. Keep checking with "How to Apply" on our website: [www.leadershippinellas.com](http://www.leadershippinellas.com) for release date.

There will be an introductory letter with more information than you really want to know and a link at the bottom to [harrietcoren@ij.net](mailto:harrietcoren@ij.net) email. This will enable us to know who has made an inquiry and then follow up with Recruitment.

Dates are confirmed on April 10, 2007 at 5:30 to 7:30 pm for the Recruitment Social and on April 24, 2007 from 7:30 to 9:00 am for the Recruitment Breakfast. Both will be in the Margarete Heye Great Room at Ruth Eckerd Hall, 1111 McMullen Booth Road in Clearwater.

There will be no charge for either of these events, but we will request an RSVP to 727-585-8889 so we can give an accurate number to the Catering Department

Please mark your calendars - it is less than 100 days away, so start to think of which of your friends and/or co-workers would be an appropriate candidate for the 2008 Class.

We will snail-mail our 2007-2008 Interest Indicators next week so you will be able to alert the Nominating Committee and Activity Chairs of your choices to participate in 2007-2008. These forms must be returned no later than Monday, January 29, 2007.

More changes for our 2006-2007 directory:

Candace Gardner '94  
email: [candyfl1@aol.com](mailto:candyfl1@aol.com)

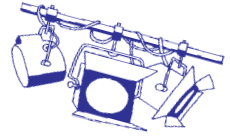
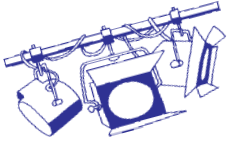
Nora Gunn (Stern) '05  
3210A W. DeLeon St. Tampa 33609 813-349-3081 (h)  
Dir. of Operations, St. Joseph's Hospital Foundation (w)  
2700 W. MLK Blvd. #310, Tampa 33607  
813-872-0979 (w) 813-957-0912 9 (cell)

Micki Thompson '02 2-1-1 Tampa Bay Cares Inc.,  
50 S. Belcher Rd. #116, Clearwater 33765 (w)

Andrea Zahn '02 Director of Communications (w)  
phone: 588-6122 fax: 588-6116  
email: [zahna@pcsb.org](mailto:zahna@pcsb.org)

# Volunteer Organization Spotlight of the Month

## Someone Is Waiting Just For You



3040 State Road 590, Clearwater, FL 33759

### **YOUR HUMANE SOCIETY OF PINELLAS**

**Volunteers are a vital part of our shelter. Without our volunteers, we would be unable to provide the current level of programs and services to our community and its homeless animals.**

**The following is a brief description of areas in which we are always looking for help.**

### **VOLUNTEER RESPONSIBILITIES AND REWARDS**

#### **WHAT WE ASK OF OUR VOLUNTEERS**

- To make a serious commitment to your Humane Society of Pinellas and to the animals
- To commit to at least three hours per week (or as necessary per assignment) for a minimum of three months
- To support your Humane Society of Pinellas' philosophies, positions and policies
- To be honest and realistic with yourself and with us concerning your needs, wishes and availability

#### **WHAT OUR VOLUNTEERS GET IN RETURN**

- The opportunity to work with a highly recognized and well respected animal shelter
- The chance to learn about animals through direct volunteer work and through a variety of educational opportunities
- Tail wags and wet, sloppy kisses and the gratitude of our four-legged friends

**Don't have the time? Help by raising money.  
Have a fundraiser at work or host a  
"Cocktails for Critters" fundraiser in your home!  
CALL TODAY FOR MORE DETAILS (727) 797-7722**

## Volunteer Organization Spotlight of the Month

We would like to make this a monthly feature of our *Leader Reader* as space permits, so if you have a suggestion for a future issue, please submit it to the Editorial Committee, Leadership Pinellas, P. O. Box 5986, Clearwater, FL 33758-5986. Deadline for the next issue is January 26, 2007.

