

# LEADER READER

## A Message from our President:

Dear Friends:

Before I begin my letter, I would be remiss if I failed to recognize my good friend, **Art Shand '00** for his inspiring leadership as President this past year. Art truly invested himself in every aspect of the class year. He brought great enthusiasm and dedication to his position and continues to lead by example. Thanks, Art!



Bud Elias '01  
President

This is my “inaugural” President’s letter, and I will begin by saying that I am honored to have the opportunity to serve an organization that is near and dear to my heart. Leadership Pinellas is truly a unique organization that has given more to me than I can ever repay. It is for that reason that I look forward to this new class year with much anticipation and enthusiasm.

A good part of my enthusiasm stems from my relationship with other Leadership members who generously and graciously give of their time and talents. I am pleased to serve with, **Art Shand '00**, Past President; **Odalys Laura '94**, President Elect; **Suzanne Patrick '04**, Treasurer; **Cyndie Goudeau '96**, Secretary; **Ed Halleran '03**, Program Chair; **Karen Seel '91** Alumni Development Chair; **Pat Perzel-Geller '93**, Selection Chair; **Susan Benjamin '95**, Special Events Chair; **Kim Briggs '00**, Youth Leadership Chair; **Carla Mattern '02**, PR and Communications Chair; **Chris Ruppel '03**, Recruiting Chair; new board members: **Georgetta Doyle '05**, **Amy Hudock '03**, **Jeff Joiner '05**; **Honorable Jack St. Arnold '91**; and **Harriet Coren '99**, Executive Director.

In terms of this new class year I think it will be characterized by the words, “energy,” “passion,” and “pride.” If you had an opportunity to attend either of the two recruiting socials you would understand what I mean. There was a discernable “energy” that you could almost feel pervading the entire room. There were as many enthusiastic members as there were recruits. Members were talking with potential recruits with animated passion. They talked about their own experiences. They talked about going to the “dump” and looking upon that visit as an “eye opening” experience. They talked about their monthly bus rides, the program days, their ride-alongs, and the life-long friendships made with individuals who, in the normal course of the day, they would never have met.

For those who have attended any of the “alumni” events throughout the year, you would be sensitive to the “pride” exhibited by many of our fellow graduates. Pride in our association as one of the area’s most recognized and successful leadership programs, pride in Leadership’s community involvement, and pride in the community leadership positions held by many of our graduates.

With the support and encouragement of all of our Leadership Pinellas members, the class year 2006-2007 is destined to be one of the best. It will be an exciting journey for all of us!

Bud Elias

Class  
of

# Congratulations

2006

Lester Aradi Police Chief, Largo Police Dept.  
Ryan Barack Attorney, Kwall Showers Coleman & Barack  
Karen Blackburn Vice President, Human Resources, Nielsen Media Research  
Bonnie Bollenback Manager, Human Resources, Smith & Nephew, Inc.  
Geraldine Campos Director Economic Development & Housing, City of Clearwater  
Barton Cobb Development Director, Habitat for Humanity  
Dennis "Rep" DeLoach, III Attorney, DeLoach & Hofstra  
Joe Falanga Owner, PakMail  
Karen Fenton Director Research & Development, MPM Healthcare Foundation  
Colleen Flynn Attorney, Johnson Pope Bokor Ruppel & Burns  
Evan Frayman Attorney, Harper, Kynes, Geller & Buford  
Helena "Lee" Guthrie Senior Engineering Tech. Support Specialist, Progress Energy  
Gary Hallas CEO/Owner, Tsunami Marketing  
Teresa Hibbard Director of Development, Watson Center for the Blind  
Lisa Hurley Attorney, McFarland, Gould, Lyons, Sullivan & Hogan  
Germaine Jackson Client Account Representative, St. Petersburg, College  
Sally Lindberg Owner/President, Sally Lindberg & Associates  
Janice Luth Director, Heritage Village  
Shannon Martin Client Service Coordinator, Aging Wisely, Inc.  
Paul McBroom Consultant, Transamerica Retirement Services  
Michael Monahan Vice President/Business Assistant, Upper Tampa Bay Chamber  
Matthew Novak Director of Marketing, Mease Hospitals  
Courtney Orr Vice President Government Affairs, Clearwater Chamber  
Carlen Petersen City Council Member, City of Clearwater  
Carol-Lynn Roman Administrator & Marketing Director, Mark Roman Law Group  
Janet Rosenquist CPA/Partner, Bollenback & Forret  
Margaret "Peg" Rowe Assistant Director Personnel, Pinellas County  
Neil Ruiz Assistant Vice President, Bank of America  
Diane Vollbracht Vice President Investments, SmithBarney

## Another Busy Month for the Class of 2006

by  
Colleen Flynn '06

The 2006 Leadership Pinellas Class had another busy month. On May 10 the class had Criminal Justice Day which was truly a highlight for the entire class. We started off at the Southeastern Public Safety Institute in St. Petersburg where we were treated to driving lessons. While driving lessons may not sound that interesting, we were actually taught how to drive police cars on the police driving course. We learned which members of our class really should have been police officers in addition to our own two beloved officers in the class of 2006 and we learned who the cautious drivers are and who can't see over the steering wheel of a police vehicle.

After driving lessons we headed to the criminal complex where we were treated to a panel discussion over lunch with the public defender and the state's attorney. We also toured the Pinellas County Jail, which was an eye opening experience.

Our final stop on Criminal Justice Day was at the Clearwater Police Department Sub Station in Countryside where we not only received a demonstration from the SWAT team and the K9 units but were permitted to shoot a variety of fire arms. All in all, Criminal Justice Day was not a typical Wednesday at the office for most of our class.

On May 13, the Class of 2006 ended its year. In the morning, we had a Closing Retreat with Judy Siracusa. Not only did we all reflect on the infamous DiSC personality profiles and the Opening Day Retreat when we were not familiar with one another, but we saw how everyone contributed in their own unique way to the Class of 2006. That evening ended with a delicious dinner and our graduation at Bon Appetit where Father Tom gave a presentation about our class project. We all had a wonderful time at the dinner.

As our year comes to a close, the Class of 2006 has bonded and made wonderful friendships not only within the class but with the Leadership Pinellas alumni. Our year was wonderful and it is bittersweet to come to a close. We deeply appreciate all of the work by Art Shand, Bud Elias, Ed Halleran, the program day coordinators, the sponsors, and of course, Harriet. We thank everyone who supported us throughout the year and in our group project. As we graduate, we can only hope to pass on the legacy and knowledge that was imparted to us by the alumni of Leadership Pinellas and thank everyone for welcoming us to the Leadership Pinellas family.

*Ed Note: Thank you, Colleen, for your dedicated monthly reports of the 2006 Program Days. Job well done!*

### Tentative Schedule of 2006-2007 Program Days

8/25-8/26/06	Opening Retreat	2/14/07	Health
9/13/06	Human Services	3/18-3/20/07	Tallahassee Trip
10/19/06	Arts and Culture	4/11/07	Criminal Justice
11/8/06	Business and Technology	5/9/07	Environment and Infrastructure
12/13/06	Government and Media	5/12/07 am	Closing Retreat
1/10/07	Education	5/12/07 pm	Graduation and Annual Meeting



*This is not my desk*

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

As Leadership Pinellas begins our 29th year, we are proud to recognize the illustrious list of Presidents who guided us to his milestone. Please look at the list in the front of your membership directory. They have given generously of their time and expertise to maintain the high standards established back in the Presidency of **Tim Johnson '78**. With the exception of two and those of Blessed Memory, all have remained active dues-paying members and continue to take part in our programs.

There was no talk of email communication back then, nor the importance of a website. Have you visited our website recently? It is up to date with an added link to "What's New?" We include activities in the community that are not sponsored by LP, but involve a member of LP. Since the Leader Reader can only include events sponsored by Leadership Pinellas, this opens a new avenue to so many of you who are involved in other volunteer organizations. It cannot be used for a sales pitch nor an advertisement of a product or service, but an opportunity to keep our membership aware of other county-wide functions. Send your "What's New" items to [harrietcoren@ij.net](mailto:harrietcoren@ij.net) and if it is appropriate, I'll be glad to include it.

Dues notices and directory questionnaires were mailed to you on June 1. Included was a pre-addressed envelope for your convenience to return your dues check and information. Please do this soon so we will have ample time to update the directory and get it to Dial Directories for printing.

This is a big project and does take several weeks. We would like to have it delivered and ready for your pick-up at the 2007 Class Retreat on August 25, 2006 ... see our website: [www.leadershoppinellas.com](http://www.leadershoppinellas.com).

As the graduating class each year adds to our numbers, so in turn, does their influence on our ongoing plans to achieve new goals. The Class of 2006 was outstanding in their project accomplishment with a wealth of creativity and dedication in their midst. They now are a part of our alumni and we thank them along with all those who continue to advance our reputation as a contributing source of knowledge and leadership in our community.

Our good friend, the late **Paul Kaslander** of Blessed Memory named us "The Who's Who of Pinellas County." Let us all be part of this legacy we have been given to perpetuate. Future Leadership Pinellas classes will be the benefactors. Thx. H.

The Clearwater Main Library is the home of the



Leadership Library, a collection of books and materials established in partnership with our own Leadership Pinellas. The public is invited to the Special Collections Room on the 4th floor where they will find our collection.

Our "lunch series" invites you and your guests to join us on the first Thursday of every month from noon until 1:00 p.m. We meet in the first floor conference room at the Main Library, 100 N. Osceola Avenue in downtown Clearwater. Bring your lunch or buy one at Joffrey's Cafe.

Each month, members of the business community, local government and others will share books and authors who have inspired personal and professional growth and development.

**Presenters, Thursday, July 6**  
Bud Elias '01  
President of Leadership Pinellas  
Beverley Billiris  
Mayor of Tarpon Springs

For information about donations to our Leadership Library Foundation, please call 727-480-3515.

### Legislative Reception May 25, 2006

We again wish to thank our sponsors for the very successful Legislative Reception held at the Radisson Hotel on May 25, 2006:

**Gold:**

Worknet Pinellas  
Johnson Pope Bokor Ruppel & Burns LLP

**Silver:**

Peter R. Brown Construction  
M. T. Causley, Inc.  
Liberty Bank  
Palm Pavilion of Clearwater, Inc.  
South East Personnel Leasing Services  
Lauralee G. Westine, P.A

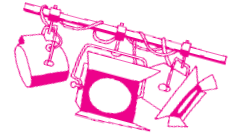
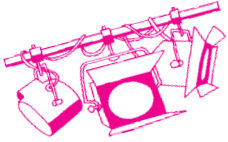
**Bronze:**

Aude Shand & Williams, Inc. AIA  
Mackin & Associates, inc.

And all the alums and guests who attended

*Ana Maria Schweitzer '05, Chair*

## Volunteer Organization Spotlight of the Month Someone Is Waiting Just For You



**Pitch  
For  
Pink!**

**Breast Cancer Awareness Night  
Friday, August 18th at 7:05 pm  
Clearwater Threshers vs Sarasota Reds**

### **HELP STRIKE OUT BREAST CANCER**

**Do something fun and something helpful at the same time. When you purchase a ticket to see the Threshers play the Reds, all the proceeds benefit your local Susan Cheek Needler Breast Center and the Morton Plant Heart Foundation.**

**The first 1,500 women will receive a commemorative pink ball cap! There will also be an auction including autographed pink game jerseys worn by your favorite Threshers players. Jerseys will be presented to winning bidders on the field after the game.**

**What a better way to throw a strike against breast cancer! Get involved today and help the Threshers and the Morton Plant Mease Foundation support the fight.**

**Tickets will go fast so get them right now!**

**Tickets can be purchased on the Thresher website  
at [www.thresherbaseball.com](http://www.thresherbaseball.com) or phone 727-567-4457.**

**For more details, contact Amanda Warner at 727-712-4405**

## 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 June 23, 2006.

