

LEADER READER

A Message from our President:



Bud Elias '01
President

Dear Friends:

As I go about the business of Leadership Pinellas, and have the opportunity to interact with so many of our Leadership members I often think of the following quote:

***No one achieves greatness without being of service.
Service is the essence of goodness.***

All great men and women become great because they gave some talent or ability in the service of others. And no matter how small our talent, we too can contribute in some way to others - we, too, can become great."

Leadership Pinellas really is blessed with true servants. You don't have to go any further than our *Leader Reader* to see who is involved in some way or another in one of our program days, a special event, or our Leadership Board. Everyone is legitimately busy with work, family, and volunteering, and yet when I have occasion to ask one of our members to accept a particular responsibility, or to perform a certain task for the good of our program, rarely have I experienced a "no." They are true servants.

Over these past several weeks I have had the pleasure of talking with two Leadership graduates. Both expressed the need and desire to "reconnect" with Leadership Pinellas.

They said that too much time had passed without their participation, and they wanted to become involved. They have both accepted leadership positions with two of our upcoming events.

I wonder, how many organizations can boast of that kind of membership dedication? Year after year we read of the same individuals accepting positions of responsibility, and at the same time we see the names of recent graduates accepting responsibilities and taking on leadership roles.

How fortunate we are to have graduates who identify with the good works of Leadership Pinellas. These members are willing to give of their time and talent to assure that future graduates will have the same opportunities to experience the unique values of Leadership Pinellas.

Absolutely true servants!

Bud Elias

Human Services Program Day - September 13, 2006

by

Allyn Childress, Class Reporter

Gray skies greeted the Class of 2007 on September 13th for our first program day. At first blush the weather seemed a good match for the day's agenda. After all, it was to be a tough day discussing homelessness, abuse, mental and physical impairments, and other massive and complex issues facing our youngest, our oldest, and everyone in between.

Challenges? Yes. Insurmountable? Not necessarily, thanks to many of the organizations and individuals we met on our first Leadership program day. The ultimate goal of each organization is to provide the tools and means for clients to become self-sufficient quickly, confidently, and permanently.

We started the day at the Homeless Emergency Project (HEP) in Clearwater. While enjoying breakfast (sponsored by BT Bones for HEP) we heard about their campus and programs, as well as Pinellas County's Human Service Initiative and the 2006 Class BIN Project.

Then we were off to Lighthouse of Pinellas where we had a sighted tour (easy) followed by a blind-folded expedition (hard! Even though it was actually just a short walk down the hallway...) courtesy of their orientation and mobility specialists. Interactive client discussions provided personal accounts on the Lighthouse and other programs in Pinellas County, including The Haven of RCS (Religious Community Services), Habitat for Humanity, and Neighborly Care Network. These individuals, facing and conquering extreme challenges, were the silver lining to our cloudy day. We heard statements such as "They gave me my life back" and "It's given me back my independence" thanks to these organizations.

A luncheon (sponsored by the Lighthouse of Pinellas) included a panel discussion on mental health services with representatives from the National Alliance of the Mentally Ill, the Suncoast Center for Community Mental Health, and the Clearwater Police Department. We were also treated to a few minutes with Jamie Dolan whose courage after losing his sight in a violent attack was documented on *Extreme Makeover: Home Edition*.

Our final stop was the Wildwood Recreation Center. There we learned about the Guardian ad Litem program and the services it provides to children needing a voice in the courts system. We also were invited to try our hands at an art and poetry project by the Youth Arts Corps and were able to view some of the handmade quilts and garments of their Quilting Club.

The overarching needs repeatedly voiced throughout the day were:

- More people (volunteers*)
- Better understanding in the community
- Increased and continuous financial support

This full and informative day was arranged by **Liz Barlowe '03**, **Barton Cobb '06**, **Felicia Leonard '05**, and **Nora Stern '05**. Our thanks goes to them and all the speakers for a great start to our year!

The day wrapped up with a discussion regarding our Class Project. The group was torn between many concepts and opportunities. We ended the day looking forward to further defining our project on the next program day: **Arts and Culture, Thursday, October 19th**. See you then!

*If interested in volunteering, please contact these groups directly or go to VolunteerMatch.org.

2006-2007 Program Days

10/19/06	Arts and Culture (Thursday)	3/18 to 3/20/07	Tallahassee Trip
11/8/06	Business and Technology	4/11/07	Criminal Justice
12/13/06	Government and Media	5/9/07	Environment & Infrastructure
1/10/07	Education	5/12/07	Graduation & Annual Meeting
2/14/07	Health		

Leadership Pinellas
future events
now being planned . . .

Save the date:
November 18, 2006
Holiday Happening
more information
next month

watch for dates for the
Legislative Reception
Golf Tournament
Scavenger Hunt
Washington DC trip

Keep checking
our website:
www.leadershoppinellas.com

585-8889 for info

We extend condolences to
James Steffen
on the loss of his Godfather,

Gabriel "Gabe" Cazares

Clearwater Mayor 1975-1978
Pinellas County Commissioner 1980-1984



from the desk of
Harriet Coren,
Executive Director

Michael J. Faehner '02 Wealth Advisor, Raymond James Trust, 880 Carillon Pkwy, St. Petersburg 33716
phone: 567-7483; fax: 567-7482; cell: 692-4398 (w)

Duggan Cooley '07, CEO of Religious Community Services (w)

Pierre Vogelbacher '07;
email: pierrev@haperkynes.com (w)

C.S. Chuck Warrington, Jr. '95
2305 Williams Drive, Clearwater 33764 (h)

As dues continue to come in, we welcome back
Cozee Lynn Smith '84, Director of Marketing
American Momentum Bank, 4830 W. Kennedy Blvd.,
#200, Tampa 33609; phone: 813-282-8888x1004; fax:
813-282-3935; email: csmith@amomentumbank.com

Due to a computer glitch, please ad Liz back:
M. Elizabeth "Liz" Williams '93
3231 Masters Drive, Clearwater, 33761 785-8173 (h)
Director of Development, Gulfcoast Legal Services (w)
Gulfcoast Legal Services, 641 First Street South (w)
St. Petersburg, 33701 phone: 821-0726 x371 (w)
fax: 821-3340; email: Liz@gulfcoastlegal.org (w)

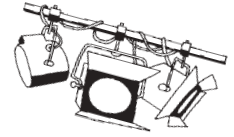
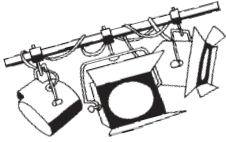
Please add the following 2007 class members:
Shary Hauer '07, CEO The Hauer Group,
1016 Mandalay Ave., Clearwater 33767
phone:298-8894; email: shary@thehauergroup.com
Rick Stuart '07, CPA, Bollenback & Forret, P.A.,
1000 Pinellas Street, Clearwater 33756;
phone: 446-5858; fax: 443-3389;
email: ricks@bollenback.com

Janice Howard and Barbara Hubbard listed in the
welcome page 2 of the July LR did not join the class.

A very special thank you to
Arlene Walker Kaslander '04
for the 2006-2007 directory
she has made available to
all of us at no cost.

We are all deeply indebted to you, Arlene,
for your generosity and commitment
to Leadership Pinellas and to the
memory we all cherish of your
beloved husband, Paul Kaslander '81

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



The Hospice of the Florida Suncoast depends on many caring volunteers to provide support to our patients, their families and hospice staff.

Whether you are a retiree with a desire to improve your community, a student hoping to fulfill service requirements and gain wisdom, or just have a genuine desire to help others, there is a wide array of opportunities at The Hospice.

As a volunteer, you can help in ways that can mean so much to others

- | | |
|----------------|----------------|
| Hold a hand | Use a computer |
| Answer a phone | Feed a pet |
| Make a speech | Join an event |
| Ring up sale | Greet a guest |
| Give a hug | Touch a heart |

Change a life (maybe your own)

No matter which path you choose, your help is significant.

Kathy Roble, M.S., Director of Volunteer Services
The Hospice of the Florida Suncoast
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kathyroble@thehospice.org

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 October 25, 2006.

