

# February 2005

## LEADER READER

### A Message from our President:

Your board of directors, committees, 2005 class members and everyone else associated with Leadership Pinellas continue to have many programs going and many things you may want to participate in over the next few months. Among the fun and entertaining events was the Legislative Reception (see page 3) that was held a couple of nights ago on February 2<sup>nd</sup>. Over 100 of our group and Leadership St. Petersburg were in attendance and many members of the Pinellas County Delegation had a chance to hear from our combined memberships.



Mike Bollenback '83  
President

The Class of 2005 had a great day in January at the Environment & Infrastructure Day (see page 4) and Education Day is coming up on February 9<sup>th</sup>. There is space on the bus for alums to attend, so contact Harriet at 727-784-8641 or 727-585-8889 if you are interested in joining the class for the day.

Speaking of the 2005 Class, they have been updating and refining their class projects and you will see and hear more about those projects in the next couple of months. Needless to say, all alumni of Leadership Pinellas will be proud of what this year's class is doing.

Be sure to see the story from **Flip Coleman '00** on page 5. It is always interesting reading about LP alums and their travels.

**Scott Daniels '93, Sister Mary Dion Horrigan '02, John Kamkutis '03, Judy Evans '03, and John Williams, III '98** are this year's LP nominating committee. They will be reviewing the interest indicators and making their suggestions for the 2005 - 2006 officers and directors and will make their recommendations at the March 2<sup>nd</sup> Board meeting. Be sure to return your interest indicator by February 9<sup>th</sup>. Please call Harriet at 727-784-8641 or 727-585-8889 if you need a form.

**Bruce Livingston '00 and Cynthia Johnson '05** have put together one of the best alumni L.E.A.D. days on record. Be sure to see page 2 for all the information on the tours of three manufacturing companies, the recap of countywide "Pinellas by Design" and a special dialog with the Director of Pinellas County Economic Development: our own **Mike Meidel '98**. Three County Commissioners will be making presentations during the day and all in attendance will learn the latest about the impact the manufacturing sector has on our economy. Only 35 people can attend and the cost is \$30 per person. This event will fill up quickly so get your reservation in soon.

Be sure to attend the next LP social event at Hogfish Grill on Thursday, Feb 17<sup>th</sup>—see page 3 for details.

Have a great February and remember to visit [www.leadershoppinellas.com](http://www.leadershoppinellas.com) for all the latest on what your organization is doing.

**Mike Bollenback**

# L.E.A.D. Day

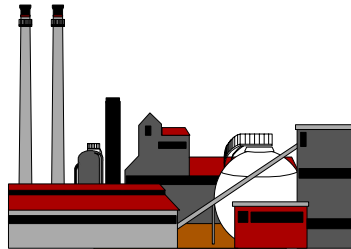
(Leadership Education Alumni Day)

Wednesday, March 16, 2005

*"Made in Pinellas"*

Remember how you enjoyed  
your Class Program Days?  
**DO IT AGAIN**

\$30 fee includes bus,  
continental breakfast,  
lunch and snacks



## Tour Boyd Industries, Inc.

Manufacturer of operatory equipment and dental medical specialties  
*Made in Pinellas* presentation by Commissioner Calvin Harris

## Tour BIC Graphic USA

Manufacturer of custom imprinted products and writing instruments  
*Made in Pinellas* presentation by Commissioner Karen Seal

## Tour Baxter International, Inc.

Manufacturer of healthcare medical devices, pharmaceuticals and biotechnology  
*Made in Pinellas* presentation by Commissioner Ronnie Duncan

## Michael Meidel '98

Director, Pinellas County Economic Development  
Recap of Countywide "Pinellas by Design"  
"Dialog with the Director"

ESCOT bus will leave promptly at 8:00 a.m.  
from Harborside Building, 18167 U.S. 19, Clearwater  
SE corner U.S. 19 and Belleair Road across from Sam Seltzer's Steak House

Space is limited to only 35 and it will "sell out" quickly  
so reserve your place NOW by sending your check to  
Leadership Pinellas  
P.O. Box 5986 Clearwater, FL 33758-5986  
BEFORE March 9, 2005  
When your check is received - your reservation is confirmed

## LEGISLATIVE RECEPTION February 2, 2005

by Lauralee Westine, Esq. '03 Chair



Cynthia Fox, John Kamkutis  
David Siracusa, Mark Douglass



Judge Jack St. Arnold  
Representative Everett Rice



Representative Frank Farkas  
and Scott Brainard

On February 2, 2005, Leadership Pinellas and the Leadership St. Pete Alumni Association hosted the 2005 Legislative Reception at Bascom's Chophouse on Ulmerton Road. Approximately one hundred (100) legislators, local Leadership members, sponsors, and guests filled the establishment to enjoy great spirits, tasty food, and lively conversation.

This event could not have taken place without the support and generosity of our sponsors.

Presidential Level Sponsors  
TECO Peoples Gas; Worknet Pinellas

Speaker Level Sponsors  
Crabby Bill's; Derby Lane; Lauralee G. Westine, Esq.

Member Level Sponsors  
Aude, Shand & Williams, Inc. AIA; Bacon Group; Bollenback & Forret, CPAs; Charlie Dean, Inc.; Deeb & Brainard, P.A.; DESI; Colleen Mackin; Mercantile Bank; OJ Mortgage; R'Club Child Care (O'Hara); Chris Schlenker; Linda S. Williams State Farm Insurance Agency.

Special thanks to **Colleen Mackin '03** and **Mark Douglass '03** from Leadership Pinellas and **Mindy Bacon '83** from Leadership St. Petersburg Alumni Association for their efforts in organizing such a successful event.



### Upcoming Events:

- Thurs., Feb. 17th **Happy Hour Party**  
Hogfish Grill 5:30 - 7:30 p.m.  
Gulf-to-Bay and Keene Rd.  
Clearwater
- Wed., March 16: **L.E.A.D. Day** (see page 2)  
Made in Pinellas
- April **Health & Fitness Evening**  
Date to be announced



*This is not my desk*

from the desk of  
**Harriet Coren,**  
Dir. of Adm. Services

Current changes to the directory:

- Katie Cole '01** email: ccole2@tampabay.rr.com  
**Alan Darnell '96:** email: aldarnell@verizon.net (w) website:  
www.adnlcompany.net  
**Georgetta Doyle '05** Homeworks, 1300 Betty Lane, Clearwater  
33755 phone: 781-0729 fax: 939-3719 (w)  
email: georgettadoyle@gmail.com  
**Cary Stiff '81** email: cstiff3@verizon.net  
**Lise Ann Stocks '04** email: lise.stocks@playlikethepros.com  
phone: 641-8842  
**Jennifer Young '05** email: orion91397@tampabay.rr.com

## Environment & Infrastructure Program Day, January 12, 2005

*by Rita Diehl, Class Reporter*

There were several late arrivals this month but our dear friend **Ruth** made the most original entrance we have experienced to date...however, we can't report on that because ... what happens at Leadership ...

Our first stop was Brooker Creek Preserve and we were quickly transformed back to the turn of the century Florida. **Doug Edwards '05** explained that the early pioneers were called Florida 'crackers' because they had to 'crack' a whip to get the cattle to come out from the dense woods.

There are new 'environmental' buildings and plenty of walkways but after viewing the 15-minute movie about old Florida we couldn't help but be grateful for people like Jack Sowers who spend their time making preserves available to those of us who are sometimes too busy to notice trees, animals and plants. There was so much thought and preparation for this great destination. The education center and hands-on displays will enlighten many children and adults who dare to explore this fantastic classroom. Jack described the quality of life issue as being able to "stop and smell the flowers." He added that if we hadn't noticed the grandeur of the preserve when we entered today they are determined to teach us to 'notice.' He explained that the Pennies For Pinellas tax is responsible for much of the work in this preserve. Boy, what a penny can buy!

Yes, the 1970s were great years for music, freedom, flower children and the Environmental Awareness Movement. In 1972 Pinellas County decided to begin the process of growth management. We are so fortunate that our leaders created money for roads and bridges with a one-cent tax that generated \$4M. Part of that money was used to identify and purchase endangered lands. Some interesting facts we learned about Brooker Creek include: the parcel is valued at \$40M; it is 63 miles around the perimeter; contains 82 acres of wilderness and 15 miles of equestrian trails. This paradise is home to 4 endangered, 9 threatened and 14 species with special concerns. The good news is that 1 of 2 abandoned eagle nests is active again!

Then it was on to the public works department. This department oversees 300 miles of paved streets, 559 miles of water mains, over 32,000 trees valued at \$22M. The Clearwater Bridge is scheduled to open later this year with over 8,000 ft. of guardrails, 4.2M pounds of steel after using more than 34,000 cubic yards of concrete! Wow!

Next stop was the infamous Emergency Operation Center. Below the surface and out of harms way Operations Director, Gary Vickers explained that this team is responsible for monitoring the hurricanes and their likelihood of affecting the 430,000 residents who would need to be evacuated to higher ground. During this last season when a mandatory evacuation was ordered for the entire county only 8,000 people took advantage of the public shelters with only 3 hours to landfall. He emphasized the importance of making every effort to cover your windows to prevent the storm's pressure from entering your home and he reminded us that the prediction 'cones' shown on television should not offer false security to any area since 10 to 20% of storms hit outside the cone area.

The very entertaining and enthusiastic Public Education Coordinator, Lori Buck tells us that in 2003 over 74,000 cell phone calls to the 9-1-1 were the result of hitting the #9 button by mistake. There were only 54,000 cell calls in 2004 because of the campaign to use #9 button guards. The operators also dealt with over 21,000 hang-ups. And, did you know that anyone can call 9-1-1 on a phone with no dial tone?! Gotta love Leadership Days!

Deb Bush is to our county's solid waste dump what Seinfeld is to the Improv...Priceless! With her great sense of humor and wealth of information, she explained that this site is self-supporting by turning waste into energy. And they do it the best. This plant is the largest integrated solid waste facility in the United States. The equipment runs 93% to 94% of the time burning 3150 tons of trash per day that generates 1000 tons of ash. The landfill buys the ash to cover the garbage and 1.2 million gallons of water (garbage juice?) produced is recycled for cooling the units to prolong their use. In 2004 they processed 1,110,000 TONS of garbage. In fact they must be ready at a moment's notice to move 3 to 4 tons of trash per day. Deb asked the bus driver to take us to the top of the landfill for a ride that made us think we were at Busch Gardens. The landfill garbage was 30' deep and 67' high ... and we went down the 'back road' like a well built roller coaster!!!

Wow, what a day for Leadership! Many thanks go to **Jewel Cole '02** and **Jan Tracy '96** for such an informative and fun day.

Next stop is Education Day February 9 at WHAT TIME!!!!? Be there at 7:30 AM or BEWARE...

# Sherwood "Flip" Coleman '00

## *Where in the world is Flip Coleman?*

### *It's Not Just a Marriage, It's an Adventure*



Flip Coleman  
'00

Well, for the time being **Flip Coleman ('00)** is enjoying life in "Bella Napoli" on Italy's southern coast, and continuing to serve his new community in the tradition of Leadership Pinellas.

"On our first date, Jen & I realized we both wanted to travel to Italy, but never in a million years would I have imagined that we would end up moving here," recalls Flip. "But right after we decided that we wanted to be married happily ever after in Clearwater – the Navy decided that it had other plans."



Flip & Jen in  
Positano

"Jen" in this story is Lieutenant Commander Jennifer Traum, a 1992 graduate of the United States Naval Academy and classmate of Flip's from Clearwater High.

The Navy, as it turns out, planned on Jen heading up the Protocol Department as part of Admiral Johnson's staff at NATO's southern headquarters in Naples. "So, the next thing we knew we were packing our bags, saying our good-byes and heading to Italy," Flip said. Things haven't slowed down yet, and they don't appear likely to anytime soon it seems.

"We may only be in Naples through the end of 2005, and we both know this is a once in a lifetime chance to experience Italy this way. So we've got a mile-long list of things to see this year," he says. But along with language classes and travels, he still makes room for volunteering his legal skills. While he still consults periodically for Kwall, Showers, Coleman & Barack, Flip also works *pro bono* under a Navy Judge Advocate General appointment. Spending 20 hours each week at the Navy Legal Services Office, he provides legal assistance to service members stationed in Naples, as well as those deploying to the Middle East.

According to Flip, "One of the things I missed most about my firm was the commitment to helping people through community service. When this chance presented itself I was eager to get started. Every day since has been a tremendous learning experience for me, because of the courage, dedication and professionalism of my clients."

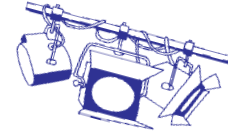
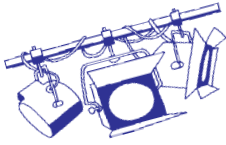
Along with enjoying his time at the JAG office, Flip has been making the most of his time away from it too, visiting Ireland, Great Britain, Germany, Austria, Switzerland, France and Crete so far. Croatia, Spain and Portugal are at the top of the list for 2005, as well as showing visitors to Naples around local highlights like Pompeii, Vesuvius, Capri, Positano and the rest of the Amalfi Coast. His own personal highlight so far? "A head-first sled ride, in the dark, down a ski slope in the Alps – I felt like I was 10 years old!"

You can still find Flip via email at [flipcoleman@yahoo.com](mailto:flipcoleman@yahoo.com), or via a 37 cent stamp at:

Flip Coleman  
PSC 817 Box 111  
FPO AE 09622

# Volunteer Organization Spotlight of the Month

## Someone Is Waiting Just For You



### PINELLAS HABITAT FOR HUMANITY CELEBRATES ITS 20TH ANNIVERSARY

Celebrating 20 years of building and renovating homes for struggling families, Pinellas Habitat for Humanity has constructed more than 118 homes. Proud to be considered "A Hand-up, not a Hand-out!" - Habitat believes that home ownership contributes to family stability, leading in turn to community stability. Volunteers and the future homeowners construct the homes, which are sold at no profit and financed with a no-interest loan. Families must contribute 500 hours of volunteer labor - called "sweat equity" - toward the down payment of their home.

Families like the Dunaways, who were living in a garage apartment in 1985. Jane Dunaway could see her car parked below her from the holes in the floor of her bathroom; she and her young family became Pinellas Habitat's first homeowner in 1986. Jane, whose mortgage was burned at a ceremony in February of 2004, continues to enjoy her St. Petersburg house to this day and she is an avid volunteer, helping others to realize dreams of home ownership. Today, Pinellas Habitat for Humanity has built homes in Safety Harbor, Dunedin, Largo, Pinellas Park, Clearwater, St. Petersburg, Highpoint and Tarpon Springs.

Each Habitat organization is independently run and incorporated, and raises its own funds locally. The mortgage monies are used to build even more homes - each gift to Habitat becomes a perpetual legacy to the community. Pinellas Habitat for Humanity's overhead percentage is a low 14% by virtue of its diligent incorporation of volunteers. Pinellas Habitat recently opened its Habitat Outlet, which sells donated appliances, furniture and building materials, further leveraging its cash donations. With 68,000+ households in our county living at the poverty level, there is still much to do. Habitat pledges to continue building - one house at a time - until everyone in Pinellas County has at least a simple, decent place to live.

For more information, contact  
**Barbara Inman '05**, Executive Director  
Pinellas Habitat for Humanity  
Phone: 727-536-4755  
Email: [barbara.inman@phfh.org](mailto:barbara.inman@phfh.org)  
Website: [www.phfh.org](http://www.phfh.org)

Have you remembered Pinellas Habitat for Humanity in your will?

## 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 February 23, 2005.

### Board of Directors 2004-2005

- President: Michael Bollenback '83
- President-Elect: Art Shand '00
- Past President: Scott Daniels '93
- Treasurer: J. Patrick "Pat" Callan '00
- Secretary: Cyndie Goudeau '96
- Board Member (2 yr.): Garrison Brumback '00
- Board Member (2 yr.): Nadine Nickeson '98
- Board Member (2 yr.): Anya Sebastien '02
- Board Member (1 yr.): Dianne Wheatley Giliotti '02
- Board Member (1 yr.): Peter Rivellini '02
- Board Member (1 yr.): John H. Williams, III '93
- Alumni Development Chair: John Kamkutis '03
- PR/Marketing/FundRaising Chair: Carla Mattern '02
- Planning Chair: Sister Mary Dion Horrigan '02
- Strategic Planning/By Laws Chair: Chester "Bud" Elias '01
- Youth Leadership Chairs: Kim Briggs '00  
 Catherine Ostrander '03

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## M - E - M - B - E - R - S   O - N   T - H - E   M - O - V - E

### CONGRATULATIONS ....

- ★ **Allison Carmen '04** and husband, John, welcomed their baby daughter, Grace Louise on January 2, 2005
- ★ **Patricia Colantonio '03** has been promoted to Director for Family Health Division at the Pinellas County Health Department.
- ★ **Katie Cole '01** has begun her next journey in life, becoming a student again at Stetson University College of Law.
- ★ **Pat Perzell-Geller '93** and **Odalys Lara '94** received the "Business Of The Year" award in the million dollar cap category by the Clearwater Chamber of Commerce. Is Upper Pinellas Small Business of the Year next? Watch for them on TVs "Good Business Pinellas" soon. Proud spouses **Jack Geller '05** and **Art Shand '00** lead their cheering section.
- ★ **Susan Rolston '98** was elected President of the United Way Partner Agency Association.
- ★ **LiseAnn Stocks '04** is now Southeast Regional Manager for *playlikethepros*, a national sports management firm working with fund-raising events and charitable works for pro teams.
- ★ If you know someone whose name should appear here, please call 727-585-8889

★ ★

**Did you mail in your Interest Indicator yet?**  
**Select your choices now**  
**It is due on February 9th**  
**mail to Leadership Pinellas**  
**P.O. Box 5986,**  
**Clearwater, FL 33758-5986**

**This issue of the Leader Reader was sponsored by John H. Williams, III. Thanks, John!**  
**To sponsor an issue of the Leader Reader, please call 727-585-8889**