

LEADER READER

A Message from our President:

Dear Friends:

I can't believe this unique experience is almost over. My disbelief notwithstanding, I can say it has been a great ride, and I am sure that this year's class would agree – we just got started.

I have been truly honored to serve as President of an organization for which I hold in such high esteem.

My gratitude, thanks, and appreciation go to no other than **Harriet Coren '99**, our Executive Director. Without her support, patience, (and direction) my responsibilities would have been more difficult to exercise. She kept me on track and was always one step ahead. Her constant reminders to "send in your RSVP", to "be sure you have your name tag", and "don't be late for the bus" will serve as endearing memories of her commitment and dedication to the success of Leadership Pinellas.

My congratulations to this year's class. You have been faithful to your obligations, and your growing enthusiasm has not gone unnoticed. You, like previous classes, are demonstrating a desire and willingness to be part of the leadership fabric of our esteemed organization. I wish you well.

One of the beautiful aspects of Leadership Pinellas is the opportunity to build friendships and relationships with people who, in the normal course of your workday, you would never have met. I am referring to such people as past Presidents **Mike Bollenback '83**, **Art Shand '00**, and **Scott Daniels '93** who provided needed feedback and support.

My thanks to this year's Board. I have been blessed to work with individuals for whom I have great respect. These are very busy and successful individuals who never say "no" when asked to accept a responsibility. They serve as great examples of commitment and dedication to Leadership Pinellas.

My sincere thanks to **Ed Halleran '03**, and **Karen Seel '91** who agreed, for another year, to continue in their roles as Planning Chair and Alumni Chair, and to **Cyndie Goudeau '96** and **Suzanne Patrick '04** who agreed to, once again, serve as Secretary and Treasurer. My thanks to **Amy Hudock '02**, **Jeff Joyner '05**, **Judge Jack St. Arnold '91**, **Georgetta Doyle '05**, **Pat Perzel-Geller '93**, **Carla Mattern '02** and **Kim Briggs '00** who served with distinction.

My best wishes to **Odalys Lara '94** and **Chris Ruppel '03** as they accept their new roles as President and President Elect. These talented individuals are outstanding examples of the kind of leadership we have learned to expect from L.P. graduates.

While there are many who have given of their time and talents, I would be remiss if I did not thank **Judy '95** and **Pat Siracusa '97**, and **Debbie White '95** for their continued willingness to make a difference in the organization and success of our opening Retreat.

I am relieved to know that our members do read the President's letter. Whenever I strayed from the accepted format I heard from you. I even heard from some of you when I did not stray. I thank you for the opportunity to serve. It has been my distinct pleasure.



Bud Elias '01
President

Bud Elias

Annual Meeting Graduation of 2007 Class

Saturday, May 12, 2007
Island Way Grille
20 Island Way
Clearwater Beach

6:00 to 7:00 p.m. Cocktails and Hors' doeuvres

7:00 to 8:00 p.m. Dinner

8:00 to 9:30 p.m. Annual Meeting/Graduation

Cost: \$30.00 per person

Guests and alumni

2007 Members: No charge

RSVP: harrietcoren@ij.net before May 8, 2007

Checks: mail to Leadership Pinellas

P.O. Box 5986, Clearwater FL 33785-5986

MasterCard or VISA: call 727-784-8641

as soon as the transaction is completed
your numbers will be shred for security

Military Day
MacDill Air Force Base
May 14, 2007

Itinerary:

- 11:45 Arrive at MacDill in bus
- 11:45-12:00 Travel to Officers' Club (Photo Op)
- 12:00-12:45 Lunch
- 12:45-1:00 Travel to Operations Group
- 1:00-1:45 Wing Mission Brief
- 1:45-2:00 Comfort Stop
- 2:00-2:15 Travel to Flight Line
- 2:15-3:00 KC-135 Static Display
- 3:00-3:15 Travel to CENTCOM
- 3:15-4:15 Coalition Brief
- 4:15-4:30 Travel to Officers' Club
- 4:30 Depart MacDill

Cost: \$40.00 per person - First-come basis
Still a few seats left on the bus

Cars: to be parked in the rear parking lot of
18167 U.S. 19 N. (SE corner of US 19 &
Belleair Rd - across from Sam Seltzer's
Steak House - Bus Departs at 10:30 a.m.)

RSVP: harrietcoren@ij.net

Checks: Leadership Pinellas, P.O. Box 5986-
Clearwater, FL 33758-5986 or

MasterCard or VISA: call 727-784-8641
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For more information, contact
Mike Monahan, Chair
813-855-4233



2007 Class Project Big Brothers Big Sisters



**A BIG “Thank You” from the Leadership Pinellas Class of 2007
and all of the LITTLES who enjoyed our Baseball Bash on April 15th!**

Our Big for a Day event was a huge success. Over 60 Littles and even more Bigs signed up to attend. We had a great response from LP alumni, several local businesses, and Stephanie Zaragoza & the Youth Leadership Pinellas class. Big Brothers Big Sisters of Pinellas received over \$14,000 from donations, ticket sales, a generous corporate sponsorship from Ruden McClosky, and a grant from the Community Foundation of Tampa Bay. After event expenses, there is enough left over to ensure that Big Brothers Big Sisters will be able to hold the Second Annual Big for a Day event next year!

Although our set-up – and some of our participants – were delayed by the morning rainstorm, the weather cleared and left us with a beautiful spring day at Bright House Networks Field in Clearwater. Along with the Threshers baseball game, our Bigs and Littles enjoyed the arts activities provided by the Dunedin Fine Arts Center, a Largo Police K-9 unit, a Clearwater fire truck, balloon animals and a face painter, the playground, food, drinks, other fun activities provided by the ballpark, and the company of the dogs in attendance for the Humane Society’s “Bark in the Park”.

Best of all, several of the attendees have signed up as long-term Bigs, and we hope more will follow!

Another special thank you to Tracey Birch for keeping up with our website. She now has photos uploaded at www.lp2007.com for Criminal Justice Day, Tallahassee and the “Big For A Day” event. Check it out!



Class of 2007
Criminal Justice Program Day April 11, 2007
by Allyn Childress, Class Reporter

The day began at the Clearwater Police Department's Countryside Substation on McMullen Booth Road. The class was graciously provided time to discuss the Big for a Day class project while enjoying breakfast provided by McFarland, Gould, Lyons, Sullivan & Hogan, P.A.

Chief of Police Sid Klein welcomed us and gave a brief overview of the organization. They practice community policing which provides greater familiarity between officers and the city's residents and business owners. A recent survey on issues of concern identified traffic, burglary, and drugs as the top three. Overall, crime within their jurisdiction is down, however, there has been an increase in violent crime. The Special Weapons and Tactics (SWAT) team addresses many of these, including drug search warrants and gang activities. We then ventured outside for an impressive demonstration by the SWAT team and an opportunity to try several of their weapons on the shooting range. Although our accuracy paled in comparison to that of the SWAT officers, the enthusiasm of several class members was definitely top notch!

The next stop was the Forensic Science Division of the Pinellas County Sheriff's Office. The facility consists of four stations: the mobile crime lab, imaging (crime scene photography processing), the automated fingerprint identification system (AFIS), and the chemical lab. These stations work in concert to preserve and analyze crime scene evidence.

Sheriff Jim Coats '02 gave us an overview of the responsibilities and capabilities of the Pinellas County Sheriff's Office. At the Pinellas County Jail we were provided tours of the old and new medical facilities, booking and intake, and maximum security. A mock extraction of a rebellious inmate guaranteed that we were all on our best behavior for the rest of the day. We were also given a tour of an impressively calm and quiet area that houses inmates involved in an educational/rehabilitative twelve week program.

The final stop was at the Pinellas County Criminal Justice Center. There we were treated to a courtroom interaction hosted by Kim Campbell '05 and the Honorable Jack St. Arnold '91. This demonstration was educational and entertaining as a jury of his peers returned a GUILTY verdict for classmate Patrick Donoghue '07. State attorney Doug Ellis and public defender Robin Kester called on Fred Zinober '07 and Gregory Brady '07 during the trial. The testimony of these so-called friends and business associates sealed Patrick's fate. Fortunately for him, the bus did not make a return trip to the jail.

Thank you to the organizers of the day's events: John Kamkutis '03, Jeff Joyner '06, Lisa Hurley '06, George Koder '06, and Les Aradi '06.

Next up: Environment & Infrastructure, our last Program Day!

2006-2007 Program Days

5/9/07 Environment & Infrastructure
5/12/07 Graduation & Annual Meeting

New Dates for your Calendar:

2008 Class Social

Friday, Aug. 24, 2007
5:30 to 7:00 pm
Radisson Hotel
12600 Roosevelt Blvd.
St. Petersburg

[more information to follow](#)

**Leadership Pinellas Trip
to Washington DC
Sept. 26 - 28, 2007**

Plans are again
underway with
Karen Seel

She will advise airline and
hotel reservations as
soon as they are complete

Tentative schedule:

First Day:

The White House
The Pentagon
Arlington
Embassy Visit

Second Day:

Capitol
Congressman Young's office
Lunch at
Capitol Hill Club
Visit to NIH
Supreme Court

more info to follow



This is not my desk

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

Directory changes for this month:

Patrick Donoghue '07 235 Scotland St., Dunedin, 34698 (h)

Karen Fitzpatrick '07 2717 Seville Blvd. #11106,
Clearwater, FL 33764, Phone: 796-2645 (h)
Email: eyesonzion@tampabay.rr.com

Rich Walling '07 1125 Hunters Place, Oldsmar 34677 (h)

I have submitted my letter of resignation as Executive Director of Leadership Pinellas effective May 31, 2007, so this will be my final column.

I hope you have noted the updates and changes I have included over the last 9 years to keep your membership directory up to date.

We will mail dues notices before the end of the month along with the usual questionnaire. Your current listing will be at the bottom, so please make any changes necessary and return this questionnaire in the enclosed pre-addressed envelope as soon as possible.

Time is of the essence this year since we have a very small window of time required in getting the changes proofread and to Dial Directories. If we don't have it in time to distribute at the Retreat Social to welcome the Class of 2008 on August 24, 2007, we will incur a large first class mailing postage charge.

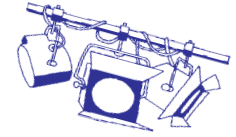
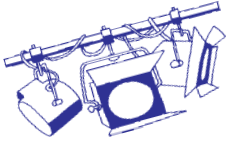
Also, your dues check will be required with that mailing by July 16 for your information to be included in the new directory. Unfortunately there were a few last year who sent in their dues checks after the date dues were due, and the printer had already started on the new directories so their information was not listed.

I will be paying my dues on June 1 and plan to remain an active member of Leadership Pinellas. Hope to see you throughout the year.

Please keep checking the events on
our website: www.leadershippinellas.com
for any updated info on our planned events.

Volunteer Organization Spotlight of the Month

Someone Is Waiting Just For You



The Pinellas County Falls Prevention Coalition

Falls are one of the most common problems faced by elderly living in the community. Over 14,000 911 emergency medical calls for falls happen each year in Pinellas County. Approximately one quarter of people aged 65-74, and one third of persons 75 and older fall annually; about half experience multiple falls. The incidence of falls rises steadily after middle age and tends to be highest among elders 80 years of age and older.

Acknowledging this issue, Chuck Kearns '04 and several members of the Class of '04 created a class project around falls prevention and awareness. From their efforts, and a conversation with fellow LP member, Shannon Martin '06), began a grass roots effort to work together to reduce falls in our county seniors.

Today, over 50 individuals and businesses meet regularly and are working on several fronts to address this issue. This volunteer, grass roots coalition is open to individuals and organizations interested in helping keep seniors from falling. They are involved with education, home inspections, media, legislative advocacy, research, and much more. The coalition partnered with the Area Agency on Aging and is seeking grants and donations for targeted interventions aimed at high risk individuals.

Please visit www.pinellasfallprevention.com for more information about the coalition
or contact Shannon Martin at 727-447-5845
or shannonmartin@agingwisely.com
or Mike Taigman at mtaigman@aol.com.

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 May 23, 2007.

