

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Ricky Butler

"It's hard to get the world started after a pandemic" is a phrase I heard more than once during the Class Retreat Alumni Social earlier this month. Having an opportunity to connect with alumni and usher in the Class of 2023 served as a great reminder that our membership is resilient and we all have our own, unique experiences to learn from over the last couple years. After all, leadership is a journey of many things, not the least of which is learning!



Thanks to our creative and dynamic Retreat Committee, chaired by board member Rebecca Watson '19, the 30-member Class of 2023 started their leadership journey on the right foot. After I had an opportunity to welcome the class, they were immediately up and moving alongside the engaging staff of Empower Adventures Tampa Bay. Diving right into a couple hours of team building exercises with total strangers really forces you to tap into your leadership strengths and find your weaknesses!

After small group lunches with past presidents and key alumni, the class returned to learn how to leverage their leadership strengths with Dev Pathik '11 and Andrea Henning '15. As we all know, the Leadership Pinellas (LP) experience allows you the opportunity to gain new perspective on your community, fellow leaders, classmates, and most importantly, yourself – and that all begins with Dev and Andrea.

Day one culminated with mostly hilarious skits performed by the Class of 2022 and the Class Retreat Alumni Social. The event was well-attended and served as a welcome glimmer of hope in a post-pandemic social world. After the formalities, LP enthusiasts of the past and present came together and took to charming Downtown Safety Harbor for some extended networking!

Day two started with class members reporting out on their "phantom feedback." The exercise is a unique tool that forces class members out of their comfort zones and into the shadows "stalking" their assigned class member to learn as much as possible about them while being undetected. While reporting out, they stand up, identify their person, and share what they learned and observed. This exercise is eye-opening because it often confirms what class members learned about themselves the day prior – tying everything together nicely.

The capstone of day two was an alumni panel that led the class in a discussion about leadership experiences. Thanks to Past President Duggan Cooley '07, Past President Cyndee Haydon '08, Brian Siracusa '14, and Bridgette Domingos '20 for your support and fresh perspective!

Rebecca Watson '19 closed the retreat with a "leader lift" – a fitting way to wrap up two days of self-reflection and development. Thanks again to Rebecca and her incredible committee: Wendy Barmore '16, Kimberly-Brown Williams '21, and Dr. Katrina Esau '21.

Congratulations to the Class of 2023 and welcome to Leadership Pinellas!

I want to close by sharing a few more things I'd like you to put on your calendars and keep an eye out for! Strengthening our alumni base and creating more opportunities for engagement are a top priority of your board of directors. We have re-established the Events & Recruitment Committee to begin planning some exciting opportunities for the upcoming program year. These include program day socials, the return of "Lead & Learn" program days for alumni, "Snapshot" recruiting events, and more!

For now, I can tell you that we are planning program day socials on October 12, December 14 (Holiday Party), February 8, and April 12! Locations are to be determined, but please mark your calendars!

Finally, we still have opportunities to serve on committees supporting program days! If you're interested, please contact Jennifer McGrail at contact@leadershippinellas.com!

CLASS OF 2023

Nate Burnside

Clearwater Police Department

David Burton

HCA Florida Largo Hospital

Aileen Carey

City of Largo

Kristy Dunphy

Yo Mama's Foods

Troy Friedlander

IT Entertainment

Lael Giebel

KnowBe4

Kellie Gilmore

Johns Hopkins All Children's Hospital

Asha Gupta

Kokolakis Contracting

Evon Hampton

BayCare

Jessica Hernandez

Achieva Credit Union

Sandra Holmes

Habitat for Humanity

Matt Jackson

City of Clearwater

Chris Kito

Kito Health Insurance

Mike Leiner

Pinellas County Sheriff's Office

Marli Lutz

The Dysautonomia Project

Seth Milbrand

YMCA of the Suncoast

Rashid Mizell

Johns Hopkins All Children's Hospital

Samantha Moullet

City of Clearwater

Bradlie Nabours

Johns Hopkins All Children's Hospital

Vanessa Quintas

Dunedin Fine Arts Center

Trisha Rodriguez

Tropics Boat Tours

Nick Sagan

PSTA

Susan Sinz

City of Largo

Dwayne Somers

Pinellas County Sheriff's Office

Barbara St. Clair

Creative Pinellas

Satina Thomas

Homeless Empowerment Project

David Vann

Re/Max Metro

Samantha VanScoik

Office of Public Defender

Stacey Ward

Keller Williams

Matt Williams

Largo Police Department

OPENING RETREAT

Rebecca Watson '19

The Class of 2023 was welcomed with their Opening Retreat earlier this month. Thank you to my committee who worked diligently to welcome the class into the Leadership Pinellas

community. Wendy Barmore '16 was the logistics manager, keeping us on track with the facility and all things related. The weekend ran smoothly thanks to Wendy's dedication to detail with the Safety Harbor Spa. Beth Tasis '20, Dr. Katrina Esau '21, and Kimberly Brown Williams '21 led the class through discussions, LP Trivia, Phantom Feedback, and more. This team worked diligently leading up to the retreat to ensure a successful weekend. I couldn't have done it without this team.

Thank you to Dev Pathik '11 and Andrea Henning '15 for bringing the Strengths Based Leadership program to the class. This dynamic duo led the class through 5 Levels of Leadership Effectiveness, understanding the tool and the collective class strengths, and how to leverage individual strengths.

And our alumni lunch leaders spent part of their Friday sharing their experiences of Leadership Pinellas with class members. Thank you to Ted Frantzis '78, Greg Brady '07, Sallie Parks '82, Nancy Ridenour '98, Bud Elias '01, Jan Tracy '96, Debbie White '95, Suzy Sofer '15, Bob Childress '11, and Cyndee Haydon '08 for participating in this event.

2022-2023 PROGRAM DAY SCHEDULE

Aug. 12-13Opening Retreat

Sept. 14, 2022Pinellas History Day

Oct. 12, 2022 Clearwater Day

Nov. 9, 2022 Health Day

Dec. 14, 2022 Emergency Services Day

Jan. 11, 2023 Mid Pinellas Day

Feb. 8, 2023 Criminal Justice Day

March 8, 2023 St. Petersburg Day

April 12, 2023North Pinellas Day

May 10, 2023 Human Services Day

Thank you to our Sponsors, Leadership Circle, and Alumni Boosters. We value your continued support!

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Silver Sponsors





Leadership Circle

Gary Banlowe '11 Liza Carter '07 Doreen Caudell '07 Eric Seidel '18

Alumni Booster

Tracey Birch '07
Jim Coats '02
Ted Frantzis '78
Jaime McKnight '21
Kerry Ann Rainey '21
Carol Lynn Roman '06
Andrew Salzman '19
Randy Swallows '18
Debbie White '95
Linda Williams '93