



The Lead Story

NEWSLETTER FOR LEADERSHIP JACKSONVILLE

February 2016

CELEBRATION * LJ PROGRAM * CALENDAR * CLASS NOTES * DONATE

MARK YOUR CALENDAR TUESDAY, APRIL 26

CELEBRATION 2016

A new look, a new location and two incredible honorees.



Waters

Plan to join us as we honor

Nina Waters (LJ 1991)
and
Jerry Mallot (LJ 1995)

for their many contributions
to northeast Florida.



Mallot



Celebration 2016 will be in the lovely new Jessie Ball duPont Center. More details will be included in a future invitation and *The Lead Story*.

Sponsorship opportunities are still available, for information contact [Jill Dame](#).

Leadership Connect

You've asked and Leadership Jacksonville is responding.

In last year's alumni survey LJ and NLS alumni indicated that the connections that are made through our programs are high on the list of LJ benefits. You also said you would like more opportunities to connect and socialize, especially with those in other classes.

In response we are starting **Leadership Connect**. When you sign on, you will begin to receive a monthly assignment of an alumni group for that month. You and three others will be a group to convene at a mutually agreeable time and place. You can decide to meet for breakfast, lunch, coffee, drinks - it's up to your group. Then the next month - new groups will be assigned and you can meet three new alums (or reconnect with old friends you haven't seen in a while).

Don't worry, we won't **Connect** every month - we all need an occasional break. And if your life changes? Just let us know and we will take you off the list.

Sign up today, sending your name, class year, preferred phone number and email. Then sit back and wait for the fun to begin.



Leadership Jacksonville Class of 2016



Dan Croft and Tina Wirth

Thank you to Florida Blue and GuideWell Connect for providing the Conference Center, beverages and snacks for "Leading From Within" program day on January 14.



Brian Coughlin and Kate Mesic



Michelle Querry
and Ali Kasraeian



Vicki Robinson, Ann-Marie Knight
and Richard Plotkin



Renee McQueen
and Jeremy Ches

Upcoming events:

LJ 2016 Program Day

Thursday, February 11, 2016
"Understanding Each Other"

YLJ XXVI Program Day

Thursday, February 18, 2016
"Everyday Creativity"

CELEBRATION 2016

Tuesday, April 26, 2016
6 p.m., Jessie Ball duPont Center

Class Notes

1989

Nat Glover will receive Junior Achievement of North Florida's 2016 Thompson S. Baker Solid as a Rock award on March 8.

1993

Pat Vail has been selected to receive The Florida Bar President's Pro Bono Service Award for the 4th Judicial Circuit. Pat was recognized for her extensive impact on the community, advancing the cause of underserved, vulnerable and low-income people. Thank you and congratulations Pat!

2002

Philip Green has been awarded his Global Certification in Change Management and received his Global SHRM-SCP (Senior Certified Practitioner of Human Resource Management) designation.

2007

Adrian Rust has joined with a group of other local attorneys to open a Jacksonville office of Burr & Forman. Burr & Forman also has offices in Birmingham, Orlando, Tampa and Fort Lauderdale. Adrian is the Jacksonville office's managing partner.



Jack Logue (LJ 1996) and
Suzanne Montgomery (LJ 1981)

2010

Congratulations to **Jeff Blount** and his wife Stacy upon the birth of their daughter Juliette Sierra on September 28.

January 29 was **Sean Hall's** last day with Panasonic Computer Solutions Company. Watch for future announcements!

Nancy Jensen has joined UCLA Health and the David Geffen School of Medicine as chief communications and marketing officer.

2011

Debbie Johnson has been busy. In January she was elected chair of the City of Jacksonville's SE CPAC (Citizens Planning Advisory Committee). The purpose of each of the six area CPACs is to help maintain open and effective communication between city government and the area's residents, businesses, neighborhoods and educational institutions. Debbie was also appointed to the City's Public Service Grant Council.

2012

Congratulations to **Clark Robertson** on his recent promotion to vice president-chemicals at CSX Transportation.

2013

Mayor Lenny Curry has reappointed **Tracy Tousey** to serve on the Jacksonville Journey board.

2015

Tom Hackney will move on March 25 from chief of investigations to director of investigations and homeland security in the Jacksonville Sheriff's Office.

Bill Sorenson has been appointed to the National Advisory Council of the National Association of Women Business Owners.

2016

Clare Berry was honored with the 2015 Circle of Honor by the Northeast Florida Association of Realtors "for many years of exceptional service and contributions to the community, state and the real estate profession."

Jeremy Ches has joined Florida Blue as assistant general counsel.

Annie Grogan was recognized by the National Association for Veterans as one of ten community veteran advocates that continue to give their time, talent and resources to positively impact organizations and lives.

Kristin Keen has been named as one of the jurors in the Social Good category at this year's One Spark.

Joni Poitier has been appointed to the Florida Elections Commission by Governor Rick Scott.

New Leadership Summit

Suzanne Hudson-Smith (NLS VII) has joined the Florida Theatre as director of development.

Various

Congratulations to the Leadership Jacksonville alumni who were selected for the inaugural class of the Jacksonville Business Journal's Ultimate Attorney honorees: **Charles Jimerson** (LJ 2013) Small Firm; **Ray Driver** (LJ 2007) Medium Firm; and **Eric Holshouser** (LJ 2009), **Kevin Hyde** (LJ 2005) and **Daniel Bean** (LJ 2010) Large Firm.

Mark Alexander (LJ 2001), **Kelly DeGance** (LJ 2011) and **Michelle Barnett** (LJ 2012) recently celebrated the opening of the new offices of the law firm of Alexander DeGance Barnett in their own newly designed building on Riverside Avenue.

Agnes Danciger (Honorary) has been elected president of The Memorial Park Association for 2016 and **Robin Patton** (LJ 2003) is the 2016 secretary.

Evie Adams Welch (LJ 1981), **Mary Bland Love** (LJ 1989) and **Judy Poppell** (LJ 1996) have been selected to be part of the ninth group of citizen members of the Times-Union's editorial board. Their term will run from January through May.

Carol Alexander (LJ 1998) and **Warren Jones** (Honorary) were profiled in the 2016 Jacksonville Black History Calendar. Free copies of the calendar are available at FSCJ, local Burger King restaurants and all branches of the Jacksonville Public Library.

Note of Sympathy

Our condolences to **Suzanne Crittenden** (LJ 2004) upon the passing of her mother, Elna Crittenden, on January 1.

Condolences to **Bishop Rudolph McKissick, Sr.** (Honorary) upon the passing of his brother Richard McKissick on January 1.

Our condolences to **Annie Grogan** (LJ 2016) upon the passing of her father on January 9.

Our condolences to **Kathy Clower** (LJ 1991), her husband Jim and their family upon the passing of Jim's mother on January 11.

Our condolences to the family and friends of **Mary Grimm** (LJ 1995) who passed away on January 20. A celebration of her life has been scheduled for Sunday, February 14 from 1-4 p.m. at the Anastasia Club/Del Webb Community in Nocatee. Mary was active throughout the community and she will be missed.

Our condolences to **Sean Hall** (LJ 2010) upon the passing of his grandmother, Garnet Lucille Kikta.

Make a LJ Donation

Many companies sponsor matching gift programs that will match the charitable contributions made by their employees. This is a great way to enhance the impact of your giving. Check with your employer for details.

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