



THE LEAD STORY

NEWSLETTER FOR LEADERSHIP JACKSONVILLE

July 2016

BOARD OF DIRECTORS * CLE PROGRAM * CLASS NOTES

A NEW YEAR BEGINS

2016-2017 Board of Directors



The gavel is passed from Chuck Hedrick to incoming president Karen Mayfield

The Annual Meeting of Leadership Jacksonville's Board of Directors was held June 13 at The River Club. 2016-2017 officers were installed and new board members introduced.



Karen Mayfield (LJ 2006) took the helm as president on July 1. Mobeen Rathore (LJ 2003) is president-elect.

We say goodbye to departing board members and thank them for their dedicated and thoughtful service to our organization: Scott Chamberlayne (NLS VI), Vilma Consuegra (LJ 2008), Ia Howard (LJ 2005), Deborah Moore (LJ 2003) and Becky Steele (LJ 2015).

Welcome to new board members Michelle Cook (LJ 2016), Robert Harris (LJ 1993), Chantelle Quick (LJ 2011), Kyle Reese (LJ 2008) and Jason Spencer (LJ 2015).

Watch for 2016-2017 volunteer and dues information in the coming weeks. We need your support to make 2016-2017 the best year yet!





CLE 2016 explored crime, poverty, education and social influences at their first program day on June 14 and participated in special events and activities at the Museum of Science and History, Cummer Museum of Art and Gardens and the Jacksonville Zoo and Gardens on June 25.



In previous *The Lead Story* editions, we thanked our Celebration Gold and Silver Sponsors. This month we recognize and thank our **Bronze Sponsors**:



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UPCOMING EVENTS

CLE 2016 Program Day

Wednesday, July 6, 2016 "Exposing
Our Community's Culture"

CLE 2016 Program Day

Monday, July 18, 2016
"Building Bridges to the Future"

LJ 2017 Opening Dinner

Tuesday, July 26, 2016
6 p.m., Adam Herbert University Center, UNF

LJ Board Orientation for New Members

Wednesday, July 27, 2016
11:30 a.m., LJ Office

CLE 2016 Closing Retreat

Saturday, July 30, 2016

Alumni can now purchase a LJ **name tag** with the new logo. To order, make a \$10 payment **online**. In the description block tell us that payment is for a name tag, show your first and last name as you would like it to appear on your name tag (no titles please) and class year. We will forward your tag to you.



Leadership Connect is taking a break for the months of July and August, but alumni may continue to sign up to Connect with future groups. Click **here** to send your name, class year, preferred phone number and email. **Sign up by August 15** to be included in a group for September. More than 175 alumni are already Connecting.

Class Notes

1986

Linda Foley is serving as the president of the Jacksonville branch of the National League of American Pen Women.

1989

Kenneth Reddick has been re-elected to a third term as president of the Riverside Fine Arts Association. Under Kenneth's leadership Riverside Fine Arts has grown in attendance and income.

1992

Gardner Davis (together with co-author John Wolfe) was recognized by The Burton Awards with a 2016 Distinguished Legal Writing Award for their article "Lessons Learned from Dole Foods: What Not to Do When a Controlling Stockholder Wants to Go Private." The article appeared in Bloomberg BNA's Mergers and Acquisitions Law Report.

1994

Cheryl Grymes did not have an opponent qualify to run so she will serve another term representing District 1 on the Duval County Public School Board.

1996

Connie Hall has announced that she will not be running for reelection to the Duval County Public School Board.

1998

The 100 Black Men of America honored **Charles Griggs** with the James T. Black Health and Wellness Award during their national conference in Atlanta. The award recognizes leadership in the organization's health and wellness mission. Charles is the Jacksonville Chapter president and serves on the International Health and Wellness Committee.

2000

Pat Coleman has been named to the 2016 Chambers USA Guide in the Labor and Employment Category.

2003

John Trainer is serving as Commodore of the Epping Forest Yacht Club. John has also joined the St. Johns Riverkeeper board of directors.

2008

Hendricks Avenue Baptist Church recently celebrated **Kyle Reese's** 10th anniversary at the church.

David Stevens was recognized as the Florida Fraternal Order of Police Member of the Year at the group's recent state conference in Palm Beach. David, past Fraternal Order of Police Lodge 5-30 president and current Jacksonville FOP Foundation chairman, was honored for his 37 years of service with the organization and the community.



The Sacks twins

2012

Kathee Murphy, on behalf of Comfort Keepers Jacksonville, accepted the 2016 Torch Award for Business Ethics from the Better Business Bureau Northeast Florida.

Meg Sacks welcomed twins Robert Beck and Flora Grace on June 3. Congratulations to the Sacks family.

Ashley Smith Juarez will be serving another term as the District 3 representative for the Duval County Public School Board since no other candidate qualified for the election.

2013

Baptist Health has announced **Nicole Thomas** will become president this fall of Baptist Medical Center South, Baptist Health's second largest hospital with 269 beds. She will be the first woman and the first African American to serve as a hospital president for Baptist Health. Nicole will be replacing **Ron Robinson** (LJ 2004) who has announced his retirement.

2014

Ben Davis participated in the ribbon cutting for The Arc Jacksonville Village, unveiling the name of the clubhouse: the Mary Lou Davis Community Center, named for Ben's deceased mother. The Village is a campus of apartments, pool, cafeteria and multipurpose rooms that will house 120 intellectually and developmentally disabled adults. The Village is the long dream of The Arc Jacksonville.

Rory Diamond has won election to the Neptune Beach City Council since no candidate qualified to run against him in the upcoming elections. Rory's term will begin in December.

Mai Keisling received the UNF Educational Leadership Doctoral Program's 2015 Thomas Mulkeen Award at the 2016 Doctoral Research Symposium on June 4. The award recognizes outstanding dissertation research that best exemplifies practice-centered inquiry by meeting seven requirements. Mai was incorrectly shown as a 2013 LJ alum in *The Lead Story's* June edition.



Jude Claridge Spencer

2015

Congratulations to **Jason Spencer** and his wife Anne on the birth of their first child Jude Claridge Spencer on June 13.

2016

Congratulations to **Clare Berry** who was honored by The Ponte Vedra Council of the St. Johns County Chamber of Commerce with the Jeff Jenkins Community Service Award.

Jesse Forst has joined the board of Communities in Schools of Jacksonville.

Chris Hoffman was named Rising Rotarian of the Year by the Oceanside Rotary of Jacksonville.

2017

Business speaker and business leader, **Pegine Echevarria** is featured in the June edition of *Minority Business Entrepreneur* magazine and appears on the cover as a "Woman Who Rocks in Business."

New Leadership Summit

Melissa Dykes (NLS VIII) has been named a recipient of the Jacksonville Business Journal's Ultimate Finance 2016 Awards, honoring financial professionals in Northeast Florida for outstanding performance.

Honorary

Warren Jones has qualified to run for the Duval County Public School Board seat formerly held by Connie Hall.

Various

Braxton Gillam (LJ 2002), **Courtney Grimm** (LJ 2012) and **Robert Harris** (LJ 1993) have been nominated for seats on the First DCA (Braxton) and Fourth Circuit (Courtney and Robert) judicial nominating commissions.

Several LJ alumni from Marks Gray were named to the 2016 Florida Super Lawyers list. Congratulations to: **Jep Barbour** (LJ 1991), **Jill Bechtold** (LJ 2015), **Giselle Carson** (LJ 2005), **Bill Corley** (LJ 1992) and **Jerry Weedon** (LJ 1985).

Another group of our alumni, all attorneys at Rogers Towers, has also been named to the 2016 Super Lawyers lists: **Sherri Worman** (LJ 2004) was named to the Super Lawyers Top 50 Women, **Troy Smith** (LJ 2008) was named to the Super Lawyers Top 100 and **Graham Allen** (LJ 1981), **Kevin Cook** (LJ 2009), **Fred Franklin** (LJ 1998), **Chris Hazelip** (LJ 2000), **Ed McCarthy** (LJ 1995), **Clay Meux** (LJ 2011), **Sherri Worman** and **Troy Smith** were named to the 2016 Super Lawyers list.

Jasmyn has elected new officers and board members for 2016-17 and they include: **Tina Wirth** (LJ 2016) chair, **Barbara Drake** (LJ 1992) treasurer and **PeDro Cohen** (LJ 2014) new board member. Congratulations and job well done to outgoing chair, **Bruce Musser** (LJ 2002).

Stanton, New Stanton and Stanton Vocational High School celebrated their 10th all class reunion in late June. **Kenneth Reddick** (LJ 1989) chaired the successful event and **Brian Davis** (LJ 1987) moderated a panel of alumni from various classes.



CLE 2015 alums Alex Stoetzer, Jade Yuen and Christine Ira volunteered at the CLE 2016 Opening Retreat

Anna Brosche (LJ 2009) has been selected by City Council President Lori Boyer to chair the Jacksonville City Council Finance Committee. **Matt Schellenberg** (LJ 1984) is vice chair. The Finance Committee is considered one of the most important council committees as it considers all financial matters.



Chelsi and Jonathan
Bennett

Collegiate Leadership Experience

Neptune Beach City Council Member **Kara Wade Tucker** (CLE 2007) was appointed to the State Advisory Committee for the Education of Exceptional Students.

Keith Walters (CLE 2013) is running for the Florida House of Representatives District 13.

Congratulations to **Chelsi Henry** (CLE 2008) on her marriage April 30 to Jonathan Bennett. Chelsi has been very active since her participation in CLE. She served on the Soil and Water Conservation Board, was named on BET's top 10 Republicans to watch, has written for Ebony magazine and made political appearances on CNN, Fox, MSNBC, CBS and more.

Notes of Sympathy

Our condolences to **Bill Sorenson** (LJ 2015) and his family upon the passing of his father Lloyd Raymond "Sonny" Sorenson, Jr. on June 5.

Our condolences to the family and many friends of **David Robertson** (LJ 1994) who passed away on June 13. David was an outstanding leader and ardent supporter of Leadership Jacksonville's programs. He served as president of Leadership Jacksonville 2001-2002. He will be greatly missed by his family, friends, co-workers at RS&H, Leadership Jacksonville and the community at large.

Our condolences to **Pat Kilbane** (LJ 2013) and his family upon the passing on June 27 of his grandmother, Ann Kilbane.

Condolences to **Mike Ammiano** (LJ 2004) and his family upon the death of his father Richard Joseph "Jud" Ammiano of St. Augustine on June 28.


Our condolences to **Rory Diamond** (LJ 2014) and his family upon the passing of his grandfather, the original Rory Diamond, on June 28.

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