



THE LEAD STORY

NEWSLETTER FOR LEADERSHIP JACKSONVILLE

March 2017

CELEBRATION 2017 * PAST PRESIDENTS * CLASS NOTES

Applications for Collegiate Leadership Experience 2017 are available online.



Pass the word to your children, employees or friends. CLE offers the perfect opportunity to provide a valuable experience for your college students, summer interns or recent graduates who are new to your business.

Collegiate Leadership Experience (CLE) is for applicants aged 18 to 30 who are rising college sophomores, juniors or seniors, graduate school students or within two years after obtaining an undergraduate or graduate degree. Since its inception in 2005 over 430 young adults have graduated from the program.

[Click here](#) for program details and application.

Mark your calendars now to join us at Celebration 2017



Cost

**Tuesday, April 18
Jessie Ball duPont Center**

as we honor

**Tim Cost (NLS XI)
and
David Stein (Honorary)**

for their many contributions to
northeast Florida



Stein

CELEBRATION benefits the youth programs of Leadership Jacksonville: Youth Leadership Jacksonville and Collegiate Leadership Experience.

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

Cocktail reception begins at 6 p.m. Tickets are \$150. Visa and Mastercard are accepted [online](#) or mail checks to Leadership Jacksonville, 40 E. Adams Street, Suite 230, Jacksonville, FL 32202.

Leadership Jacksonville Past Presidents

gathered at The River Club on February 15 to share breakfast, learn more about LJ's endowment fund and receive an introduction to the Leadership Jacksonville Legacy Society. The Legacy Society was created to encourage planned estate gifts and other endowment contributions that will combine to grow the endowment to meet future program needs. More information about legacy gifts will be provided in future *Lead Story* editions. Special thanks to all of our past leaders who continue to contribute so much to our success.



Espie Patrinely (LJ 1977)
president 1992 and Jim
Rinaman (Honorary)
president 1988



Jerry Mallot (LJ 1995)
president 2012 and Carlton
Jones (LJ 1990) president
1996



Peggy Bryan (LJ 1987)
president 2000 and Steve
Canty (LJ 2005) president
2010



Doug Milne (LJ 1978)
president 1983 and J.F. Bryan
(Honorary) president 1989



Madeline Scales-Taylor (LJ
1992) president 2004 and Bill
Brinton (LJ 1983) president
1991



Barbara Drake (LJ 1992) president
2003, Wade Barnes (LJ 1995)
president 1999 and Barbara Darby
(LJ 1993) president 2001



Current president Karen
Mayfield (LJ 2006) and Justin
Terry (LJ 2005) president
2013



**LEADERSHIP
JACKSONVILLE**
YOUTH LEADERSHIP

YLJ Class XXVII explored our Northeast Florida economy, the role of business in our community and addressed the importance of ethics, etiquette and initiative during "Dollars & Sense" Day on February 16.



A special thank you to Citi for sponsoring the day, Jacksonville Jumbo Shrimp for hosting the class and Jacksonville Transportation Authority for providing transportation.

Leadership Jacksonville Class of 2017



Mark Sirota and David Conte



Shariffa Spicer, Briehn Wildman and Ellen Sullivan



Kyle Dorsey, Paul Stallings and Georgette Dumont

Thank you to the Schultz Center for hosting Class 2017 at Understanding Others Day on February 9.



Mark Bennett, Faith Hall and Mike Biagini

UPCOMING EVENTS

LJ 2017 Program Day
Thursday, March 9, 2017
Economy, Growth and Preservation Day 1

YLJ XXVII Closing Retreat/Graduation
Saturday, March 11, 2017

Celebration 2017
Tuesday, April 18, 2017
6 p.m., Jessie Ball duPont Center

Class Notes

1982

Shepherd "Shep" Colledge has been appointed chairman of the Daniel Foundation Board.

1986

John Delaney has announced his retirement as president of the University of North Florida as of May 30, 2018. John is the longest serving UNF president and the university has seen incredible growth under his leadership.

1988

Jeff Atwater has announced that he is stepping down as Florida's chief financial officer at the end of the upcoming legislative session. Jeff is taking a job as vice president at Florida Atlantic University.

1992

Susan Main has announced that after 16-1/2 years as CEO of the Early Learning Coalition of Duval she will retire as of June 30, 2017. Congratulations on a retirement well deserved!

1993

Andy Cheney has been named chief banking executive for Ameris Bancorp. Andy had previously served as banking group president for the holding company and president of Ameris Bank.



Leadership Connect group enjoyed lunch at J. Alexanders: David Clark LJ 2002, Vickie Robinson LJ 2016, Jennifer Garizio LJ 2015 and Debbie Johnson LJ 2011.

Congratulations to **Jack Gillrup** and Fran Riotte who were married on April 30, 2016. Jack and Fran's courtship and happy ending was profiled in the Times-Union on February 19. In the article Jack is quoted as saying "We are just too happy." We are happy for them too.

1994

Kathy Stark's book, *The Wilderness of North Florida's Parks* is now available and details on where to purchase the book will be in a future *Lead Story*. Kathy describes the book as a unique blend of art and education resulting in a family oriented book that will inform and inspire people to GO to our wilderness parks. It is full of Kathy's beautiful paintings and drawings with a lot of detail on where the parks are and what is meaningful about our many wilderness parks. The paintings are on display until May 29 at MOSH and the book is on sale in the museum gift shop.

1997

In January the family room at the Delores Barr Weaver Policy Center was dedicated in the name of **Lawanda Ravoira**, recognizing her vision to create the See the Girl program and the incredible job that she continues to do for girls. The dedication was the result of a gift from **Pat** (NLS XI) and Inger **Geraghty**.

2000

Beth Langley is the new president of The Women's Board of Wolfson Children's Hospital. Beth has previously served as chair of the Art and Antiques Show and The Florida Forum for The Women's Board.

Ellen Siler has announced that she is retiring from Hubbard House later this year after almost twenty years running the domestic violence shelter. Thank you Ellen for many years of incredible leadership.



Paul and Cindy McCormick

2004

Congratulations to **Cindy Sadler** on her December 30 marriage to Paul McCormick.

2005

Patrick Yack is back in Florida and is executive director for Florida Public Broadcasting Service.

2007

Jim Robinson has joined Bowman Consulting Group in its Jacksonville office.

2014

Ben Davis has been named by Downtown Vision as the #DTJax Awards Downtowner of the Year.

Rory Diamond has been chosen to be in the third cohort of sixty 2017 Presidential Leadership Scholars. The Presidential Leadership Scholars program draws upon the resources of the presidential centers of George W. Bush, William J. Clinton, George H.W. Bush, and Lyndon B. Johnson. Scholars were selected based on their leadership growth potential and the strength of their personal leadership projects aimed at improving the civic or social good by addressing a problem of need in a community, profession, or organization. Over several months, Rory will travel to each participating presidential center to learn from former presidents, key administration officials, and leading academics. The group will study and put into practice varying approaches to leadership, develop a network of peers, and exchange ideas with mentors and others who can help them make an impact in their communities.

2015

Joanne Robertson has resigned as chief executive officer at Hope Haven in order to work closer to her home and family in Clay County. Joanne's last day at Hope Haven is March 10. She will be joining Kids First Florida, a nonprofit organization located in Clay County.

2017

Karen Feagins has been promoted to chief operating officer at WJCT.

New Leadership Summit

Aundra Wallace (NLS XII) has been appointed to the advisory board for ULI North Florida.

Honorary

Peter Rummell has been inducted into the University of Florida's Kelley A. Bergstrom Real Estate Center's Hall of Fame. The Hall honors leaders whose lifetime of service has positively shaped the real estate industry.

Various

A number of alumni will be honored at the 2017 OneJax Humanitarian Awards: **David Stein** (Honorary) the Gold Medallion for Lifetime Achievement; **Jean Ludlow** (LJ 1993) and **Jim Crooks** (LJ 1992) Silver Medallions and **Sabeen Perwaiz** (LJ 2016) the Acosta-Rua Young Professionals Award.

In its February 3 issue, as part of its celebration of Black History Month, the Jacksonville Business Journal recognized "a group of innovators, executives and educators who enrich and serve while dedicating themselves to facilitating and maximizing Northeast Florida's multifarious and robust potential." This group included **Rosa Beckett** (LJ 2007), **Charles Griggs** (LJ 1998), **Derrick Smith** (LJ 2003) and **Aundra Wallace** (NLS XII).

Dan Foley (LJ 2016), **Marshall Hill** (CLE 2011) and **Jason Spencer** (LJ 2015) have been selected to participate in the Weaver Philanthropic Initiative Class of 2017 at The Community Foundation for Northeast Florida.

Many alumni continue to serve on the 2017 board of directors for Goodwill of North Florida: **Cindy Stover** (LJ 1999) chairman, **Jeanne Miller** (LJ 1999) 1st vice chair, **Nat Ford** (LJ 2014) 2nd vice chair, **Michael Anapolsky** (LJ 1990) secretary, **Jim Bailey** (Honorary), **Pat Coleman** (LJ 2000), **Kirk Hansen** (LJ 1999), **Debbie Verges** (LJ 2005) and **Aundra Wallace** (NLS XII).

Following two one-year terms as president, **Agnes Danciger** (Honorary) is now serving on the board of directors for the Memorial Park Association. **Tim Burleigh** (LJ 1997) is also serving on the board as executive vice president. **Holly Keris** (LJ 2014) and **Robin Patton** (LJ 2003) have rotated off the board.

New members of the Times-Union Editorial Board include **Sylvia Johnson** (LJ 2001) and **Sabeen Perwaiz** (LJ 2016).

The Jacksonville Business Journal has recently named its 2017 Ultimate Attorneys. The list includes: **Monique Brown** (LJ 2016), **Scott Cairns** (LJ 2002), **Ken Jacobs** (LJ 2005), **Matt McAfee** (LJ 2006) and **Steve Moore** (LJ 2013).

Elise (LJ 1987) and **Murray** (LJ 1985) **Beard** were highlighted in the Financial News & Daily Record for their success as a husband and wife real estate team. The Beards are at Watson Realty at Ponte Vedra Beach.

Many LJ alumni were involved with TEDxFSCJ's Life as We Climb: Women, Race and Politics Presentation. **Lynn Sherman** (LJ 2011) was the moderator and speakers included **Jennifer Carroll** (LJ 1997), **Mia Jones** (LJ 2000) and **Ju'Coby Pittman** (LJ 1993).

Collegiate Leadership Experience

Sichao Ni (CLE 2009) recently passed the rigorous Foreign Service Officer Test (FSOT) and will continue to progress through the assessment process to embark on a journey as a future Foreign Service Officer. Sichao also celebrated his five-year anniversary with Medtronic and a recent promotion to market development specialist. He is responsible for driving growth for \$30M of Medtronic's service business.

Kaitlyn Schwantes Saavedra (CLE 2013) was recently hired as a business consultant at Florida SBDC at UNF.

Youth Leadership Jacksonville

Max Ervanian (YLJ XXII) is very busy keeping us safe as Florida senior rescue swimmer, prevention & training officer and junior lifeguard head instructor for Jacksonville Beach Ocean Rescue; Florida 1st registrar (dispatcher), EMT officer, 2nd mate, lieutenant and PIO 04/2011 for the American Red Cross Volunteer Lifesaving Corps and as a volunteer EMT and vice president 01 for Jacksonville Fire Rescue. He is also a staff development trainer for River Point Behavior Hospital and a senior public relations major at the University of North Florida. Max is the recipient of many awards, most recently the Florida Champion of Service Award. Read more about Max at maxervanian.wordpress.com.

Notes of Sympathy

Our condolences to **Holt Graves** (LJ 2008) and his family upon the passing of his mother, Tayloe Graves on February 11.

Our prayers are with **Judson McNeil** (LJ 1993) and her family upon the death of her father, James Porter McNeil Jr., M.D. (Jim) on February 11.

Our condolences to **Tonyaa Weathersbee** (LJ 1995) upon the passing of her father, William James Weathersbee on February 15.

Our condolences to **Rose Conry** (LJ 2010) and her family upon the death of Rose's mother, Corina Conry on February 17.

Our condolences to **Kathy Stark** (LJ 1994) upon the passing of her mother, Vivian Talley Stark on February 22.



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.

[DONATE NOW](#)



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