

e-CAST

March 2020

EVENTS, ANNOUNCEMENTS, MEMBER NEWS & MORE

Message from Board Chair Jim Gilmore

Dear Members,

I hope you are all healthy and coping well with the current medical crisis we are experiencing. We would like you to know that Leadership Florida is responding to this situation by remaining flexible. Some events this year have been moved to new dates to keep our members safe during these turbulent times, and others have been cancelled altogether.



The 2020 Annual Meeting has been moved to Labor Day weekend beginning Friday, September 4 to Monday, September 7, 2020 at the Boca Raton Resort & Club. We have received very positive feedback about this rescheduled date. Look for registration to open in late Spring. All Region events have been cancelled or postponed in keeping with safety recommendations, and some class program sessions have been moved to later dates in June, but even those dates will be re-evaluated if it is still not safe to convene in groups.

Some very positive things are occurring despite the pandemic. The new class recruitment season is over, the deadline has past and we have a robust group of applicants for Cornerstone, Connect and the Education Classes. And many thanks to our Awards Committee members for promoting the applications for our four Annual Awards because we have a wonderful list of nominations to review and select from.

Congratulations to our newest class, which is the Executive Class 11! They had a wonderful session in Naples in late February. And this year we invited the spouses to participate in the sessions, field trips, and social engagements. See our new members listed in this e-Cast.

We anticipate a full and robust recovery soon, one in which all the top-notch, meaningful experiences we bring to you each and every year will resume and flourish. Stay tuned for updates and details on the website, in the monthly e-Casts, and from your Region Councils. As always, please feel free to contact us with any questions you may have - we are standing by. We pray that you, your family, friends, and work colleagues remain safe and healthy during these challenging times.

Regards,

Jim Gilmore
Cornerstone Class 29
Board Chair

2020 Annual Meeting - Save the NEW Date



Mark your calendars for the **NEW DATES** of the **2020 Annual Meeting** which now takes place Labor Day weekend, Friday, September 4 to Monday, September 7, at the beautiful **Boca Raton Resort & Club**. As always, outstanding programming is being developed for you to enjoy while you spend time

reuniting with classmates and friends. Bring the kids too - Publix will offer its popular *Kids' Nite Out* program while parents dance the night away! Registration will open later this Spring.

Leadership Opportunities 2020-2021

Would you like to serve in a leadership role for Leadership Florida?

Many volunteer leadership opportunities are available for the upcoming year beginning July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021. If you are interested in serving, please read and complete the Willingness to Serve form [**HERE**](#) by **April 4, 2020**. Your continued involvement and support of Leadership Florida are valued and deeply appreciated.

THANK YOU LEADERSHIP FLORIDA MEMBERS!

Welcome to our New Lifetime Members



We are so pleased to announce our newest Lifetime Members to you - and you may just see more from Connect Class 10 in the next e-Cast!

Executive Class 11

Christine Barney, rbb Communications

Scott Coble, Wells Fargo

Scott Franklin, BKS Partners

Kurt Gehring, Gehring Group | Bentek

Jarett Levan, BBX Capital

Executive Class 9

Mark Jones, Orlando Health, Orlando Regional Medical Center

Cornerstone Class 38

Mack Bernard, Palm Beach County Board of County Commissioners

Shantel Davis, The Greenbrier Companies

Robin DeLaVergne, Tampa General Hospital

Tara Duhy, Lewis, Longman & Walker

Darren Gray, City of Clermont

Jillian Hasner, Take Stock in Children

Marti Latour, BELLE Capital USA

Rodney Louis, Gehring Group

Mayela Rojas Sánchez, Media Vista Group

Karl Strauch, Port Tampa Bay

Jeanette Yaeger, One Eighty Consulting

Congratulations and Welcome!

Meet Leadership Florida Executive Class 11





Leadership Florida's 11th Executive Class met at the Ritz-Carlton, Naples, Florida February 29 through March 2, and the 17 new members and their spouses experienced a fantastic line up of activities and speakers including a fascinating presentation by the Senior VP of Arthrex, John Schmieding (Cornerstone Class 35 and Lifetime Member), and dinner at the wildlife refuge Ngala.

Welcome to the new Executive Class 11:

Christine Barney, rbb Communications
Charley Caulkins, Fisher Phillips
Scott Coble, Wells Fargo
Bret Danilowicz, Florida Atlantic University
Brian Duffy, Greenberg Traurig
Manny Farach, McGlinchey Stafford
Scott Franklin, BKS Partners
Kurt Gehring, Gehring Group | Bentek
Patrick Goddard, Brightline
Ray Hand, Truist Wealth
Paul Hiltz, NCH Healthcare System
Keith Hoskins, Captain, USN (Ret.), Navy Federal Credit Union
Jarett Levan, BBX Capital
Tim Nolan, TOTE
Craig Richard, Tampa Bay Economic Development Council
Catherine Stempien, Duke Energy Florida
Nancy Tower, Tampa Electric Company

Social Happenings Around the State

Check out what Leadership Florida's Regions and Classes have been up to this month!





East Central Region's Recruitment Event took place at Universal Studios on February 26 where members brought guests interested in 2020-2021 class programs.

The Gulfstream Region Annual Summit was held February 19 in West Palm Beach, where members and guests enjoyed presentations surrounding high-profile issues impacting both the Region and the state of Florida.



The Calusa Region visited Triangle Ranch March 1 in Myakka City where members and their families enjoyed a

The Gold Coast Region hosted a "Taco Tuesday"-themed recruiting event at Burlock Coast in Ft.

catered BBQ lunch, Western-style music, hayride tours, and nature hikes.

Lauderdale February 25.



The West Central Region Recruitment Event took place at The Florida Aquarium on February 26.



The Northwest Region hosted a recruitment reception on March 9 at the offices of Clark Partington in Pensacola.



The Calusa Region hosted a Reading Day event on March 10 that took place at schools in Manatee and Sarasota Counties.

2020 Giving Challenge



Competition
for Best
Class and
Best Region!

**April 28 - 29
Noon to Noon**

Start getting ready for this exciting 24-hour giving event - **this year, every donation up to \$100 will be matched - with no limit!**

Watch for a special email message with details on how to pledge, and visit our Facebook Event page [HERE](#).

The Giving Challenge is presented by the Community Foundation of Sarasota County with giving strengthened by The Patterson Foundation.

Lifetime Member Spotlight

Leadership Florida launched a new feature this year sponsored by **Bank of America**, designed to highlight and get to know some of our outstanding Lifetime Members.

Lifetime Members make a tax-deductible gift of \$5,400 to Leadership Florida and, in exchange for this significant investment in the future of our organization, receive many benefits like

- No longer responsible for paying dues for life
- Special Lifetime Member reception at the Annual Meeting for you and a guest
- Special recognition throughout the year and in the annual directory
- Advance VIP notice for special occasions like international trips and unique event offerings
- Unlike dues, this gift is tax deductible and payment plan options are available to members if needed*
- And the great satisfaction that YOU have made an investment that will sustain Leadership Florida for years to come!

**If financing is required, the gift amount is \$6,000.*

There are 296 Lifetime Members who have made this investment!

For the March 2020 e-Cast we are recognizing **Lila Jaber, Cornerstone Class 23.**



Lila Jaber
Cornerstone Class 23

As a Lifetime Member of Leadership Florida, what are some of the ways you enjoy your membership the most?

LJ - I take great comfort in the commitment to the

organization through the Lifetime Membership program. The immediate benefit comes from the knowledge that we are ensuring the sustainability of the organization. Other tangible benefits include waiver of annual dues.

What are some ways your career has been affected by becoming a Lifetime Member?

LJ - Every part of Leadership Florida becomes a new journey for us to meet others, connect and stay connected. Through Lifetime Membership receptions and “*but for*” opportunities, we are able to expand our network and be exposed to multiple opportunities throughout the state.

Have you experienced a “*but for*” moment, in which the experience could not have happened without Leadership Florida?

LJ - There are so many: the work and inside exposure to the political debates, especially the presidential debate; the direct access to our remarkable speakers over the years; and a full appreciation for the power of convening.

Do you have a favorite memory from your class year?

LJ - I had the privilege and pleasure of having two class experiences: my own Cornerstone Class 23 (Mad Hatters) and Cornerstone Class 28 (I so love my wonderful Pineapple Nation family) as Program Chair. In Cornerstone Class 23, the late, great Brian Dassler, the youngest person in our class, introduced me to his passion for education and showed me that leadership is demonstrated at any age in many different sectors. He made a forever contribution to Leadership Florida in the creation of the education program.

Thank you, Lila!

Sponsored by



Italy Trip Moves to November 30-December 7

**Trip
Moved
to
November
2020!**

Leadership Florida's 2020 Trip to Italy

ROME FLORENCE POMPEII

The "but for" Leadership Florida Trip to Italy has been moved to November 30-December 7, 2020 due to the global pandemic. Many of our travelers have chosen to reschedule to the new dates, but some would like to sell their places on the trip. See all the **exciting details on the agenda** [HERE](#), and let us know if you are interested by contacting Tracy [HERE](#).

Movers & Shakers



Samantha Sexton (Connect Class 5) was named to the 2020 class of "25 Women You Need to Know" by the Tallahassee Democrat. Read the article here: <https://buff.ly/2HHZOle>



Mac Martin (Cornerstone Class 22) was named Florida Land Realtor of 2019 by the Realtors Land Institute Florida Chapter of Accredited Land Consultants.



Gonzalo La Cava (Education Class 4) was featured in *Education Week* as a 2020 "Leader to Learn From."



Mildred Coyne (Cornerstone Class 37) was honored in the 7th Annual Women of Distinction Awards for 2020 by the



Kristin Jacobs (Cornerstone Class 35), State Representative for District 96, was instrumental in amending a bill which bans

Lauderhill Chamber of Commerce.

the importing of shark fins to Florida. The bill was renamed the Kristin Jacobs Ocean Conservation Act.

Upcoming Events

Statewide Events

- Friday, September 4-Monday, September 7: 2020 Annual Meeting in Boca Raton
- October 4-9: "but for" Leadership Florida Trip - "Fly Away to Santa Fe"
- November 30-December 7 - "but for" Leadership Florida Trip to Italy

Region Events have been cancelled or postponed at this time.

For more information, visit our website [HERE](#).

Thank You Sponsors!



Visit our website



