



LEADERSHIP  
FLORIDA®

# e-Cast

July 2021

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Staff Spotlight

What an awesome feeling to follow in some huge footprints left by so many before me...and they're all still leaving footprints...one of the things (and there are so many) that I love about Leadership Florida is that everyone wants to keep it great and help keep it running smoothly. Since the announcement last year that I was nominated Chair-Elect, I have received so many phone calls, texts, emails, notes from Former Chairs, Classmates

(Go Pineapple Nation), Calusans

and members from all over the state offering words of encouragement for my term and offering unlimited help at every level. Our members are always a call away...a text away...anything anyone needs is available to help with our organization, our business, our state, or our own personal lives...it has been such a great feeling hearing from so many people that want to be on the team. I'm positive it's the spirit of Leadership Florida shining through all these offers...that or the word is out that I'm gonna need extra care and supervision for Leadership Florida to survive my year as Chair...either way, it's gonna be a blast.



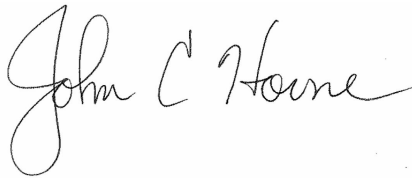
We're going to all be back together offering encouragement, help, camaraderie, and those famous Leadership Florida hugs and greetings IN-PERSON very soon. This will be the year we all are **Together Again**...and our 40th Anniversary Reunion Team is planning to have us all together all

year...I can't wait for the gatherings to begin. A shoutout to Dominic Calabro, Karen Arnold, and Tim Center for leading this committee.

I'm looking forward to SEEING so many of you this year...and not on a tiny screen from my office!

All the best,

John



John Horne, Chair  
Cornerstone Class 28  
President/Owner  
Anna Maria Oyster Bar

## NEW LEADERSHIP TEAM



[Click to meet the entire team!](#)

## 2021 AWARD RECIPIENTS



[Click to learn about all the recipients!](#)

## UPCOMING EVENTS



**REGISTRATION IS OPEN!**

NOVEMBER 12 - 14, 2021  
Friday thru Sunday  
THE DIPLOMAT - HOLLYWOOD, FL

**We will be TOGETHER AGAIN!**

**OPENING RECEPTION**

**Friday, November 12th | 6:30 - 7:30 p.m.**

It's a reunion! Reconnect with your classmates!

**Incredible Speakers, Beautiful Location, Time with  
your Leadership Florida Family**

**REGISTER NOW**

**CLICK FOR MORE DETAILS!**



**HURRY - ONLY FIVE ROOMS LEFT!**

Come Fly Away with Us to Santa Fe for the Albuquerque  
International Balloon Fiesta in New Mexico!

October 3 - 8, 2021

Sunday - Friday

**REGISTER NOW**

**CLICK FOR MORE DETAILS!**

NEW LIFETIME MEMBERS

|  |  |
|--|--|
|  |  |
|--|--|





**Manny Farach**

Executive Class 11  
Partner  
Mrachek Law  
Gulfstream Region



**Veronica Brady**

Cornerstone Class 30  
Director of Advancement  
The Bay Park Conservancy  
Calusa Region

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**BANK OF AMERICA**

**LEADERSHIP FLORIDA FOR LIFE**



**TEALA JOHNSON**

Retired  
Cornerstone Class 14  
Northeast Region

**AS A LIFETIME MEMBER OF LEADERSHIP FLORIDA, WHAT ARE SOME OF THE WAYS YOU ENJOY YOUR MEMBERSHIP THE MOST?**

Being part of the most exciting organization with a legacy of creating leaders from all walks of life across Florida and beyond is a gift that keeps on giving! The Annual Meeting is a priority on my Calendar! No matter what! Seeing old friends and making new ones...

**WHAT ARE SOME WAYS YOUR CAREER HAS BEEN AFFECTED BY BECOMING A LIFETIME MEMBER?**

I retired over 10 years, working statewide and nationally representing several companies in Government Relations. There were many places traveled that I knew I could reach out to a friend for whatever the situation!

**HAVE YOU EXPERIENCED A "BUT FOR" MOMENT IN WHICH THE EXPERIENCE COULD NOT HAVE HAPPENED WITHOUT LEADERSHIP FLORIDA?**

Meeting Colin Powell, Ken Burns, Brian Williams, Chuck Todd, the late Tim Russert, hosting Presidential and Gubernatorial debates, and representing Leadership Florida was a privilege and an honor!

**DO YOU HAVE A FAVORITE MEMORY FROM YOUR CLASS YEAR?**

In wonderful Disney World, things were always special...but seeing one of my classmate's climb on top of a dueling piano performance, he stole the show!!!! You go, guy!

**Thank you, Teala, for sharing with your fellow  
Leadership Florida members!  
We are thankful for your commitment to Florida.**



## BECOMING A LIFETIME MEMBER IS EASY!

**Members that make a \$5400 tax-deductible gift to Leadership Florida become MEMBERS FOR LIFE.**

*This amount includes a 10% discount for making a one-time payment upon pledging.  
Payment plans are available for up to 5 years.*

**IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN THIS OPPORTUNITY, PLEASE CONTACT  
MARY REGISTER.**

*mregister@leadershipflorida.org*

**PLEDGE FORMS ARE AVAILABLE IN BOTH PRINT AND ONLINE FORMAT ON  
THE LEADERSHIP FLORIDA WEBSITE.**

*www.leadershipflorida.org/lifetime-member*

## LIFETIME

### MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS

- ▲ You will pay no more dues, for life!
  - ▲ Unlike annual dues, the Lifetime Membership gift to Leadership Florida is entirely tax-deductible
  - ▲ Invitation to a special Lifetime Members-only Reception for you and a guest for all future Annual Meetings
  - ▲ Special recognition at each Annual Meeting
  - ▲ Whenever possible, Lifetime Members receive advance notice to register for the Annual Meeting and stay in the host hotel
  - ▲ Occasional advance notice to "but for" Leadership Florida offerings including trips and exclusive events that are limited in space
  - ▲ A special Leadership Florida Lifetime Member lapel pin (redesigned for 2021). Please wear proudly to all events.
- ▲ Special recognition in a new section of the e-Cast announcing new Lifetime Members
  - ▲ Social Media announcement about your new Lifetime Membership
  - ▲ Future Social Media shout-outs (Movers & Shakers) will indicate your Lifetime Member status
  - ▲ An invitation to be introduced at the next Leadership Florida Board of Directors Meeting (virtual meeting)
- ▲ Your name will be prominently listed in all future Annual Membership Directories on the Lifetime Members page
  - ▲ Your photo, name, and basic information will be shown alphabetically in the Annual Membership Directory with a special icon indicating your Lifetime Membership
  - ▲ Your name will be listed in your Region listing in the Annual Membership Directory with a special icon indicating your Lifetime Membership



▲ Your name will be listed with your Class in the Annual Membership Directory with a special icon indicating your Lifetime Membership

▲ Listing in special "Lifetime Members only" Online Membership Directory

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Click to join now!

## VETERAN MILITARY MEMBER FEATURE



### Veteran Military Member Feature

#### **MICHAEL McCOMAS**

Regional Sales Manager  
Eastern United States  
Seaholm Automatic Watch  
Cornerstone Class 9  
Marines  
Southwest Region

#### **When were you enlisted?**

I enlisted in The Marine Corps in October 1967.

#### **Why did you pick the service branch you joined?**

During the Vietnam War, there were limited options to join the Reserves. The Marine Corps was still taking recruits, and I looked forward to the challenge of completing recruit training at Parris Island, South Carolina.

#### **How did your service and experiences affect your personal and/or professional life?**



Professionally, the Reserves allowed me to begin my career in Sales. Personally, the successful completion of boot camp and infantry training instilled a great deal of confidence in my abilities to handle unexpected situations.

**What was the most valuable thing you learned during your service?**

To trust my fellow Marines regardless of race, creed, or color!

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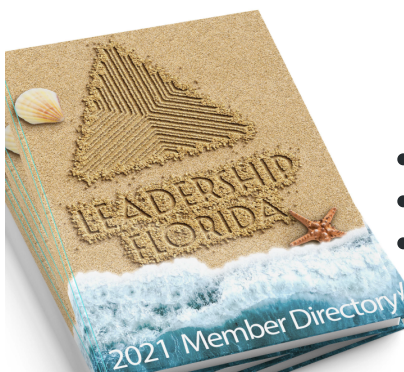


If you are a veteran or currently serving in the military but not listed, please notify us ([click here](#)) to add you to our list to honor. Recognition is promoted for current dues-paying members.

If you are a veteran, but not listed, let us know [here](#).

## CHECK YOUR MAILBOX!

Did you receive the new 2021 Leadership Florida  
Member Directory?



**You don't want to miss this!**

We have added new sections this year!

- Company Index
- Expertise and Interests Directory
- Honoring our Veteran and Active Military Members

If you have NOT received yours, please let us know by submitting your name and contact information [here](#).

# MOVERS & SHAKERS



Watch for shout-outs on our Social Media venues for these  
**Movers & Shakers.** Be sure to give them a "congrats"  
comment or send them a message.



**Mary Riedel**  
**Cornerstone Class 30**  
Retired  
*Gold Coast Region*

Congratulations to Mary Riedel a longtime community leader in South Florida retired as President and CEO of Women In Distress of Broward County, Inc., one of the largest and oldest domestic violence centers in Florida on June 30th. Mary has been involved with Women In Distress for more than 25 years, first as a volunteer leader, member of its board of directors and a past board chair, and the joining the



**Michael V. Mitrione**  
**Cornerstone Class 28**  
Gunster  
*Gulfstream Region*

Congratulations to Michael V. Mitrione for his Chambers-USA "Leaders in their Fields" (Banking & Finance: Transactional & Corporate/M&A & Private Equity) recognition for Gunster!



**Juliet Murphy Roulhac**  
**Cornerstone Class 38**  
Florida Power & Light Company  
*Gold Coast Region*

Congratulations to Juliet Murphy Roulhac honored by the YWCA of South Florida with the "First, but not last..." award for her pioneering and trailblazing as the first Black president of the Florida Bar's Young Lawyers Division, the first Black woman to chair the Greater Ft. Lauderdale Chamber of Commerce, and the first Black woman

agency as its CEO in 2008.

Prior to moving to the nonprofit sector, Mary had a 36-year career in media marketing, community relations and philanthropy at the South Florida Sun Sentinel, Nova Southeastern University (NSU) and earlier in her career at The Milwaukee Journal/Sentinel.

to be a gubernatorial appointee to the University of Florida Board of Trustees! She was one of 9 distinguished South Florida leaders honored.



**Brian Seymour**  
**Cornerstone Class 30**  
Gunster  
*Gulfstream Region*

Congratulations to Lifetime Member and Military Veteran, Brian Seymour for his Chambers-USA “Leaders in their Fields” (Real Estate) recognition for Gunster!



**Terrance Freeman**  
**Cornerstone Class 39**  
Read USA  
*Northeast Region*

Congratulations to Terrance Freeman installed as City Council Vice President for the City of Jacksonville City Council 2021-2022!

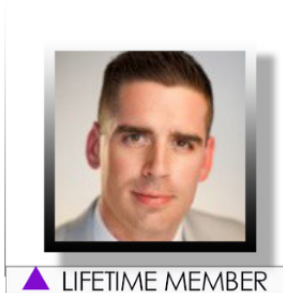


**Deno Hicks**  
**Cornerstone Class 36**  
Converge Government Affairs  
*Northeast Region*

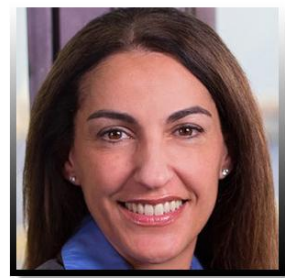
Congratulations to Deno Hicks the new managing partner for Converge Government Affairs’ Jacksonville office!



**Marti LaTour**  
**Cornerstone Class 38**  
BELLE Capital USA  
*Gulfstream Region*



**Jeremy Schwarz**  
**Connect Class 9**  
City of Miami  
*Southeast Region*



**Luna Phillips**  
**Cornerstone Class 38**  
Gunster  
*Gold Coast Region*

Congratulations to  
Lifetime Member,  
Marti LaTour who has been  
listed as one of the  
Palm Beach Top 100  
Most Influential Business  
Leaders of 2021 by Palm  
Beach Media Group!



Congratulations to  
Lifetime Member,  
Jeremy Schwarz selected  
as a member of the  
Florida Blue Key Honor  
Society at the University of  
Florida for his service to the  
State of Florida during  
the past two years!



Congratulations to  
Luna Phillips for her  
Chambers-USA  
“Leaders  
in their Fields”  
(Environment) recognition  
for Gunster!



**Seth Daub**  
**Education Class 5**  
Orange County  
Public Schools  
*East Central Region*

Congratulations to  
Seth Daub the new  
Principal of OCPS  
Academic Center for  
Excellence!



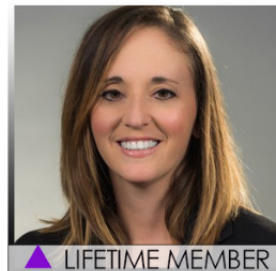
**David Chambers**  
**Education Class 6**  
Governors Charter Academy  
*Northwest Region*

Congratulations to  
David Chambers on  
being named the new  
Principal of Governors  
Charter Academy!



**Gary Resnick**  
**Cornerstone Class 35**  
GrayRobinson  
*Gold Coast Region*

Congratulations to  
Gary Resnick receiving  
the Florida League of  
Cities’ “2021 Home Rule  
Hero Award!”



**Christine Cauffield**  
**Cornerstone Class 22**  
LSF Health Systems  
*Northeast Region*

Congratulations to

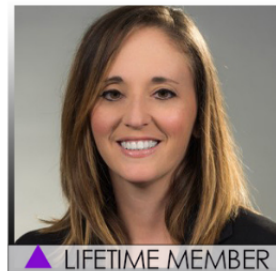


**Kevin Rambosk**  
**Cornerstone Class 39**  
Collier County Sheriff’s  
Office  
*Southwest Region*



**Ellice Martinez**  
**Connect Class 10**  
HCA East Florida  
*Gold Coast Region*

Congratulations to





Christine Cauffield named  
among Florida's Top 5  
Nonprofit Women Leaders  
by The Commonwealth  
Institute (TCI)!

Congratulations to  
Kevin Rambosk recently  
presented with the  
Leadership Collier  
Foundation's prestigious  
Distinguished Alumni award!

Lifetime Member,  
Ellice Martinez for her new  
role with HCA East Florida  
as the Associate Vice  
President for Community  
Engagement!



**Dick Batchelor**

**Executive Class 8**

Dick Batchelor  
Management Group  
*East Central Region*

Congratulations to  
Military Veteran,  
Dick Batchelor who received  
the "Visionary Community  
Leader" award in celebration  
of the City of Orlando's  
Fourth Annual Civil Rights  
Awards Ceremony, hosted  
by its Office of Human  
Relations!

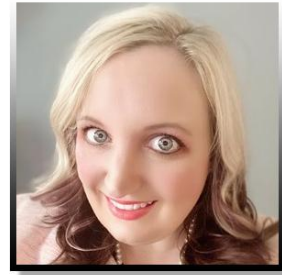


**Bonnie Dorr**

**Cornerstone Class 33**

Florida Institute for Human  
and Machine Cognition  
*East Central Region*

Congratulations to  
Bonnie Dorr for receiving  
the prestigious Defense  
Advanced Research  
Projects Agency (DARPA)  
appointment and also  
named an Association of  
Computing Machinery  
(ACM) fellow!



**Heather Hanks**

**Education Class 4**

Dover Elementary School  
*West Central Region*

Congratulations to  
Heather Hanks on the  
recent appointment by  
Hillsborough County  
Public Schools as the  
Assistant Principal at  
Dover Elementary School  
in Dover, FL!



**Ivan A. Rodriguez-  
Seda**

**Connect Class 11**

The Routing Company  
*Northeast Region*



**Aakash Patel**

**College Class 7**

Elevate, Inc.  
*West Central Region*



**Cindy Kane**

**Cornerstone Class 25**

Eastern Florida State  
College Foundation  
*East Central Region*

Congratulations to  
Ivan A. Rodriguez-Seda  
named Head of Transit and  
Mobility Partnerships at  
The Routing Company!

Congratulations to  
Aakash Patel named by  
Governor Ron DeSantis  
to the Hillsborough  
Community College (HCC)  
Board of Trustees!

Congratulations to  
Lifetime Member,  
Cindy Kane on her  
promotion to Executive  
Director of Development  
and Strategic Engagement  
for The Eastern Florida  
State College Foundation!

*Company Move  
Selected for a Board Position  
Career Advancement  
Receive an Award  
Professional Recognition*

**YOU?**

**Let us know!**



**We want to  
celebrate with you!**

[https://leadershipflorida.formstack.com/forms/2020\\_member\\_news](https://leadershipflorida.formstack.com/forms/2020_member_news)

To directly access the form, click **HERE**.

## STAFF SPOTLIGHT



### MARY REGISTER

Director of Resource Development & Member Services |  
[mregister@leadershipflorida.org](mailto:mregister@leadershipflorida.org)

#### **How long have you been with the Leadership Florida Team, and what is your primary role?**

I have been with Leadership Florida for three years and serve as the Director of Resource Development and

Member Services.

#### **For which projects or programs would you be a member's contact person?**

As the Director for Resource Development, I oversee sponsorship and fundraising activities, including the annual Giving Challenge. I also work with the Statewide Development Chair and the Region Fundraising Chairs. As the Member Services Director, I work with all nine Region Councils for "life after class" activities. I am the staff liaison for the Leadership Team, Region Chairs, the Events and Experiences Committee, and the Awards Committee.

**Regarding working with Leadership Florida, do you have any favorite moments you would like to share?**

I love my job at Leadership Florida! It's hard to name a favorite moment! I've had many "but for" experiences – from being inside Lloyd's of London and touring the British Museum to a briefing at MacDill Air Force Base and boat rides on Biscayne Bay, and I've enjoyed every minute. Many of my favorite moments have been spent in conversations with members, by phone, on buses, at dinners, and during the Annual Meeting.

**Would you share a little about life outside of Leadership Florida?**

Dennis and I have been happily married for 48 years, and we're still having fun! I enjoy reading, time with family, and visiting with friends near and far. I love to cook and experiment with fresh fruits, vegetables, and herbs in making artisan liqueurs and food items. We are delighted that our daughter, son-in-law, and two grandchildren now live in Oviedo after many years of living out of state.

**And just for fun, if you were to write a book about yourself, what would you name it?**

I was born in Denver and grew up in an Air Force family. I started school and graduated from high school in England, and I got married in a small English village near Oxford. Like many of you, I've had a rich and colorful career life filled with beautiful and unique experiences, and some challenging health issues and losses along the way. But, I'm very optimistic, and I credit my military upbringing, multiple moves, and constant change for always looking for the bright side and finding the good in every situation. My book would be titled, "Bloom Where You're Planted!"

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[www.leadershipflorida.org](http://www.leadershipflorida.org)

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