



SINCE 1991, THE MISSION OF LEADERSHIP PASCO is to identify and recruit current or potential leaders of Pasco County, facilitate the development and interaction of those leaders, and to foster an issues-oriented learning environment for these leaders and the citizens of Pasco County in order to encourage an exchange of ideas and generate enthusiasm for community growth and development.

Board of Directors

- Tom Celotto, President
Stefanie Ambrosio Pontlitz, President Elect
Krista Covey, Secretary
Connie Lucco, Treasurer
Rob Aguis
Nichole "Nikki" Alvarez-Sowles
Carla Armstrong
Kim Bogart
Scott Byrnes
Angie Gardner
Heather Grimes
Steven Jonas
Lorraine Lane
Craig Laporte
James Mallo
Jamie Mick
Skip Miller
Tina Shelton
George Tharin
Anthony Vannata

President's Message



Happy New Year to everyone. I hope you had an enjoyable Holiday Season. Since our last newsletter our President Maureen Moore resigned from Leadership Pasco, to move out of state and take on a new job. Maureen was actively involved in Leadership Pasco, and she will be greatly missed.

I am honored to be your new President and look forward to doing the best job I can for Leadership Pasco.

The class of 2015 have been enjoying some great program days this past fall and the participation and feedback have been great. They elected class officers who are: Class President, Michael Cox; Vice President, Todd Pillars; Treasurer, John Willis; and Secretary, Pam Elliott.

In December we had our Alumni Mixer at Grill 54 and we packed the place. It looks like we may be needing to find a bigger location to accommodate all the people in attendance. Thank you to Kim Bogart and George Tharin for coordinating the event.

Alumni Dues notice went out in December, so please login and submit your payment online. You can also submit your payment the old fashioned way by sending in a check to our Post Office Box mailing address.

This year's class will be hosting our annual Taste of Pasco fundraiser on April 11, 2015 at the Concourse Pavilion on State Road 52. We look forward to seeing everyone there.

Tom Celotto

Youth Leadership Pasco - Government/Social Services and Healthcare Session

Rob Aguis (Class of 2001)
Barbara DeSimone (Class of 1996)

On Thursday, December 4th, the Youth Leadership Pasco class of 2015 met at Regional Medical Center Bayonet Point to learn about Pasco County Government, Social Services, Health Care and Hospital Operations and Careers.

The students were greeted by Mr. Geoff Washburn, Vice President of Human Resources for Regional Medical Center. Mr. Washburn discussed the importance of mentorships, peer interviewing, high performers, high potential, positive behavior and being patient focused.

Students were then introduced to Mr. Duggan Cooley and Stefanie Pontlitz from the United Way. They discussed non-profits in Pasco County and lead the students through some very authentic budgeting exercises. The students were asked to make difficult choices and learned how to invest in their resources.

The students then were introduced to Mr. Ed Caum, Tourism Manager from Pasco County to speak about Hot Jobs for the Future and Tourism. Mr. Caum lead the students through a brainstorming, planning and budgeting session that facilitated great ideas from the class about future attractions here in Pasco County.

After lunch students took a behind the scenes tour of the Hospital and were exposed to many of the operations of the hospital. A special thank you to the staff for setting up stations in the Operating Room.

A special thank you to all of the presenters and to Mr. Kurt Conover and Karen Echavez for sponsoring, coordinating and overseeing the agenda for the day and to Mr. Tom Celotto for his attendance and support.

Also a very special thanks to the following Rotary Clubs for support and sponsorship; Holiday, New Port Richey, Port Richey, Seven Springs, Trinity, and Wesley Chapel.

Visit the Leadership Pasco blog for full story.

Criminal Justice Day

Craig Laporte (Class of 2006)

The Class of 2015 had a “bang-up” day in October at the jail. Because of prior class comments, this year’s class began the day outside with a SWAT demonstration of a felony take-down. As the Bearcat and SWAT team moved in and flash bang grenades went off, the sheriff’s helicopter swooped overhead to monitor the situation. This was followed by a K-9 demonstration.

In a new addition, the class broke into groups and working with a SWAT member did an actual exercise clearing a building with a holed-up suspect inside. They learned the intricacies of entering a building with a firearm (blue gun), and confronting a hiding armed suspect. Although it was only make believe, the class members who entered the building felt the real anxiety of facing the unknown. While one group was doing that the others had an opportunity to examine the helicopters, the Missing & Abducted Children’s Command Center, meet the SWAT members and play with their “toys”, and get to know the K-9 officers and animals.

A great panel discussion followed with Judge Shawn Crane, Sheriff Chris Nocco, State Attorney Bernie McCabe, Public Defender Robert Dillinger, NPRPD Chief Kim Bogart and DCPD Chief Ray Velboom. The class then got the “ins and outs” of the jail as they toured the facility. The rest of the day included an interactive exercise during which they had to decide allocation of assets during a crisis, an interactive experience with forensics, and presentations by Child Protective Services and Intelligence Led Policing.

All in all, the class was really into the day, and exhausted by the time it was over. But, they had a real experience in the day to day operations of Pasco’s criminal justice system.



Healthcare Day

Patty Sutton (Class of 2010) & Kurt Conover (Class of 2002)

Leadership Pasco Healthcare Day kicked off to an early start on Thursday, November 20th at Bayfront Health Dade City. The class was welcomed by a panel of hospital CEOs that shared experiences and their thoughts on healthcare reform, Ebola readiness and the future of healthcare in Pasco County.

The day flowed seamlessly as the class got a first-hand look at the Bayflight helicopter, as well as gaining knowledge from the crew. Mike Napier, LP Alumnus, wowed the group with a presentation filled with incredible statistics from the Pasco County Health Department. Mike explained the county’s plan as well as providing an overview of the population it serves.

BayCare and The Behavioral Health Center at Medical Center of Trinity West Pasco Campus teamed up before lunch time to present information about Pasco County’s Behavioral Health services and concerns. Behavioral Health covers an array of services to include substance abuse and addiction in addition to mental illness. Pasco County has a large network of resource providers that work with multiple agencies for our community.

After lunch, and a brief SIMSOC discussion (read the book), Premier Community Healthcare, Good Samaritan Clinic and Mobile Medical Unit (LP Class 2012 Project) representatives lead the class through a discussion on the services available to those residents who are uninsured, underinsured and homeless. They explained the different services provided and some of the “road blocks” residents encounter seeking healthcare.

After a quick tour of the hospital’s Cath Lab and Emergency Departments, the class participated in a class exercise with CARES Elder services. The class was asked to perform a simple task, but perform it with limitations – those that a Dementia patient would have. After an eye-opening experience, the class reflected on what they had done and how patients interact with others.

VOICES OF LEADERSHIP

Infrastructure and Growth Day

Monica Forbes (Class of 2010) & Scott Byrnes (Class of 2012)

Infrastructure & Growth Day began at the Duke Energy Anclote Plant. This class was the first to tour the plant since it has been refitted to natural gas. The class also had the opportunity to see a demonstration on how Duke teaches its field workers on safety and rescue.

The class then participated in a very informative info panel with Kris Edmondson, Patty West, Mikle Gordon (Class of 2012), Thomas Lawery & Danielle Ruiz. Environment, generation, energy efficiency, renewables and economic development were the topics covered.



The afternoon session was a tour of Pasco County's Recycling Center and Covanta Energy. Jennifer Seney led the afternoon and helped co-ordinate the events and tours of the facilities involved in the Recycling Center. The class was impressed by the environmental surroundings and how much effort Pasco has put into the Recycling area.

Before the tours, the class took place in another very informative info panel with Jennifer Seney, Charley Ryburn, Mike Carballa & Kevin Pliska. Trash collection system, recycling household hazardous waste and waste water treatment system were the topics discussed there.

We want to thank Covanta Energy, Pasco Recycling Center & Olympus Limo for making the day so successful.

And a big thank you to Duke Energy for sponsoring Infrastructure & Growth Day.

Tina Shelton

Class of 2009 – "Pasco Shines in 2009"

Development Director, Good Samaritan Health Clinic



I was very excited when I was offered the opportunity to be a part of the Leadership Pasco Class of 2009! At the time, I was the Membership Director at the West Pasco Chamber of Commerce and was hoping to gain knowledge about the other areas of Pasco County. I had no idea how being a part of this program would impact my life both professionally and personally. By the time graduation arrived, I had made so many new friends and contacts along with expanding my education about our county. I was also fortunate to be our Class Vice President and able to serve on the LP Board of Directors during the year.

Over the years, I have served as President of the Leadership Pasco Board, Program Co-Chair, Newsletter Chair and Graduation Co-Chair. I've also been able to participate in SIMSOC each year since 2009. By staying active, it has given me a chance to connect with current class members and alumni.

Overall, being involved with Leadership Pasco has been an amazing experience for me. I feel honored and proud to be among the many community leaders that have been a part of the program. I'm excited about the growth of the program over the years and what the future holds!!

CONNECT WITH US

www.Facebook.com/LeadershipPasco

[Twitter @LeadershipPasco](https://twitter.com/LeadershipPasco)

<https://www.linkedin.com/company/leadership-pasco>

www.Facebook.com/YouthLeadershipPasco

Leadership Pasco
P.O. Box 695
Elfers, FL 34680-0695

Printed with partial in-kind sponsorship by



727-376-7200

www.ABCOPrint.com

Save These Dates

Taste of Pasco — April 11, 2015

Alumni Mixer — August 13, 2015

Leadership Pasco Class of 2016 Application (Deadline) - June 1, 2015

Vital Leadership Pasco Programs Need Your Sponsorship.

www.LeadershipPasco.com/Sponsorship

Alumni dues can be paid at www.LeadershipPasco.com

Benefits of Leadership Pasco Alumni Membership

Full access to the membership directory online
Full access to the membership forums
Free invite to the Orientation banquet reception
VIP Access to annual Taste of Pasco event
Quarterly Newsletter
Invites to other networking events

Renew By Mail or Online

Mail to: Leadership Pasco | PO Box 695 | Elfers, FL 34680
OR E-Mail: Administration@LeadershipPasco.com to renew online