

**Leadership
North Houston**

Director: [Cathy Owen](#)

E-Newsletter

December 2006



*Merry Christmas & Happy New
Year!!!*

Class of 2007 Begins the Journey

Leadership North Houston Class of 2006-2007, (Class 12) attended their retreat held at Camp Allen in late September. They participated in Team Building and Challenge Course Activities to begin the process of getting acquainted and learning to trust each other in a non-threatening environment. The Challenge Course activities were led by Dick Hammond, of Leadership on the Move. He and his wife, Lura, with a combined 25 years of leadership facilitation experience, led the class through several activities and helped them create and learn each member's leadership name. Then the group embarked on a day-long journey of teambuilding challenges culminating with the personal challenge of climbing the 40-foot-high pole and crossing the high wire to the zip line. On Friday, the class spent time with Jill Hickman in assessing their Leadership Dimension or style, in setting goals and making plans with the class for the rest of the year's programs. For 06-07, Cathy and Jill introduced a new process for evaluating each session with groups interacting based on their leadership style learned at the retreat. The different styles are character, analysis, accomplishment and interaction.

The class concluded by setting goals and creating their committees to structure the program of choice and community service projects.

Friday after lunch the 2006-2007 Leadership North Houston Class 12 stopped for a few moments to pose for their group retreat picture.



*Leadership
North
Houston
Class of
2006 -
2007*

LHN Class learns about Education & Cultural Arts

The October Education program soon found the class touring and hearing speakers from North Harris Montgomery Community College District, The University Center and Humble Independent School District. Class members had the opportunity to ride on a regular school bus, tour classrooms, meet with teachers and principals and hear about the many challenges facing education to keep up with growth and challenging financial information.

In November, the class session was Cultural Arts with a visit to the Centrum where LNH Alum Nanci Decker heads up the Foundation for Arts and Community Enhancement (FACE). Nanci presented the class with first-hand knowledge of regional arts and the challenges and successes of that program. Then it was off to tour the Museum of Fine Arts and the Holocaust Museum. Elaine Chrisman, LNH Board member and LNH alumni, completed the day by presenting information to the class regarding regional and local arts councils.

Message from the Leadership North Houston Chairman

Dear Fellow Leaders,

The Board of Directors for Leadership North Houston met on August 7th for our annual board retreat and we have an energetic group and ambitious goals for the year. The board is comprised of two representatives from each of the program's 10 sponsoring organizations. Our purpose is to work hand-in-hand with Cathy Owen in creating a program that continues to educate and inspire the upcoming leaders in our community.

Congratulations go to Kim McCully who has been elected our Chair-Elect and Jocklynn Keville who will be serving this year as our board Secretary. At our retreat the board decided to focus its efforts in three primary directions this year. Following is a brief overview and I will expand on these areas in future newsletters:

- 1) Corporate Recruitment: Committee Chair Jerry Martin will be leading this group in finding new ways to increase our recruitment to the LNH program from the large companies in our service area.
- 2) Financial Planning: Under the guidance of Committee Chair Lowell Little this group will be developing a reserve plan for LNH so we stay financially strong for many years.
- 3) Non-Profit/Alumni Matching: Co-Chairs Bill Ginder and Dr. David Sam will be creating a committee to take this program that was conceived last year and bring it to fruition.

We will also work closely with the board of our Alumni Association to develop a web site that will be a useful tool for all of the alumni and promote the program.

It was wonderful to see so many of you at our last Alumni Luncheon and I hope it reminded you of and reinforced the benefits you derived from the program. Please be talking about Leadership North Houston to those in your sphere of influence. Let them know how it benefited you, how it could benefit them and how it benefits our community. Don't let LNH be a secret!

Warmest Regards,



Jill Boullion
Chair, Board of Directors

Message from the Leadership North Houston Alumni Chairman

Dear LNH Alumni Members:

I am so proud to serve as your President this year. Our newly expanded Board of Directors has established some great goals for this year that will benefit everyone in our LNH Alumni Association. Remember the purpose of the Alumni Association is to continue the Journey we started when we first attended the program. We also raise funds for scholarships with our association dues. So please pay your dues so we can continue to help others attend this wonderful program we all love and hold close to our hearts.

The Board decided to focus in four major areas:

1. **Alumni Membership:** The committee plans to increase total alumni membership by 20%, and is sending out a challenge to all members to increase their dues by 10%.

2. **Marketing:** The committee plans to continue the by-monthly newsletter, form a committee to call alumni members for upcoming events, create a marketing piece with upcoming events, create a new website to market upcoming events and create a data base for our alumni to use as a reference, and create a committee to visit Chambers, Civic Groups and Business Leagues, to inform everyone about our wonderful program.
3. **Events:** The committee plans to hold three “**Lunch and Learns**” in the months of October, January and April. They have one more celebration planned in May associated with the 2007 class graduation. More information to be announced soon!
4. **Community Service Project:** The committee has planned a one-day service project that will benefit Aldine Y.O.U.T.H. tentatively planned for sometime in April.

Things are happening very fast, so stay tuned in to all communications coming your way. You will be impressed with the board’s accomplishments! So please join us as we continue our journey as Alumni, and show our communities we are the “**Best Class**” of Leaders North Houston has ever had!

Register Now for the next LNH Alumni Luncheon

Please mark your calendars for our next Luncheon on **Monday January 22, 2007**. Sally Bradford, from the Greater Greenspoint Redevelopment Authority and Tax Increment Reinvestment Zone (TIRZ), will report on the mall re-development plans and other Authority projects within the Greenspoint area. She will also explain the role the city of Houston as it relates to the TIRZ for those not familiar with the subject.

The luncheon, set from **11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.**, will be held at the **Guest House Inn and Suites** located at Interstate-45 and Richey Road (west of I-45.) The **cost is \$25** payable at the door by check or exact cash. The **deadline for reservations is Friday, January 12th and can be with Charmaine at cathy.owen@nhmccd.edu or by calling 832.813 6665**

We are also looking for raffle items to be given out at our events. If you have items you wish to donate, please contact Kelly Norton at: Kelly.Norton@nhmccd.edu and bring them to the event on January 22nd.

We have also launched our new Website. Please check our events calendar for we still have some great programs planned for 2007. The new address is: www.leadershipnorthhoustonalumni.org. Thanks to the focus group of Jill Boullion, Michael Strong, Andre Perez, and Cathy Owen who helped make the dream a reality.

Our LNH Alumni Board of Directors wishes all of you a very Happy Holiday Season and a Joyous New Year!

Sincerely,

Angila Ervin
President LNH
Alumni Association

Leadership on the Move

Several current and former LNH class members have been instrumental in driving an award-winning program in the Tomball area. Tomball's Promise is a youth leadership and service program affiliated with America's Promise, a national organization founded by Colin Powell. Tomball's Promise, launched just 18 months ago, has already achieved breakthrough results with the youth of the north Houston community. In October, Tomball's Promise was awarded the Texas Chamber of Commerce Executives Education Program of the Year for 2006. LNH affiliates include:

Ken Odom - Chairman (class of 2005)
Jackie Barnes (2007)
Elaine Chrisman (2005)
Rick Grassi (2005)

Tomball's Promise is hosted by the Business and Education Partnership of the Tomball Area Chamber of Commerce.

Leadership High School Update

The North Harris Montgomery Community College District Leadership High School began with orientation in late September when the newly approved applicants and their parents learned for the first time the true mission and purpose of the program. Cathy Owen, director and Ben Ibarra, coordinator for LHS, explained the programs and intent of the year. Students then had an opportunity to meet and greet each other and learn a little about their fellow students.

Leadership High School is designed much like LNH and the sessions are similar in structure and goals. Students learn about the challenges facing the various aspects of community such as education, health and human services, local and state government, the arts, culture and criminal justice. They also learn their own personal leadership styles and how to become a better leader.

The class retreat was held at Camp Pine Tree in early October where the students got acquainted while engaging in team building activities that helped them learn to trust each other and prepare them for the Challenge Course the next morning.

2006-2007 LNH Board of Directors

Ann Cates – North Houston Association was left off the LNH Board list last issue. Our sincere apologies – (The Editor)

Alumni Association Events Schedule for 2007

Monday, January 22: 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. **Guest Speaker: Sally Bradford** (Greater Greenspoint Redevelopment Authority and Tax Increment Reinvestment Zone) Ms. Bradford will report on the mall re-development plans and also on other Authority projects within the Greater Greenspoint area. Location : Guest House Inn & Suites, 125 Airtex Drive , Houston, Texas 77090 Cost: \$ 25.00 (includes lunch)

Wednesday, April 11: 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. **Training for Success at the Texas Training Center.** Experience the state-of-art driving simulator for the latest in Safety Training, hosted by LNH graduate, Jeff Beck, President of Frontier Materials Concrete. Location: Texas Training Center, 25003 Pitkin Road, Suite G600, Spring, TX 77386. Phone (281) 210-2770. Cost: \$25 (includes lunch)

Saturday, April 21: 9:00 a.m. to noon **Community Service Project benefiting Aldine Y.O.U.T.H.**
Location : 4700 Aldine Mail Route, Houston, Texas 77039

Leadership North Houston Alumni Special Recognition

INVESTORS

**Hawes Hill Calderon LLP, Phyllis Oustifine
Retirement Specialist, Bruce Wise, CFP, MCRS**

ALUMNI PARTNERS

**Boullion Graphics, Jill & Pat Boullion
East Montgomery County Improvement District,
Suzanne Parmer, Linda Floyd, Connie Bloodworth
GCC Builders, Manuel Garcia
Jill Hickman Companies, Jill Hickman
Magoo's PrintShop, Margaret Eyster
CyFair Houston Chamber, Darcy Mingioa
National Mail Advertising, Angel Collins
NHMCCD, Judy Stubblefield
Newtek Business Solutions, Crystal Sulzer
Paradigm Consultants, Inc., Brent Lapsley**

ALUMNI ASSOCIATES

**Greater Greenspoint Management, Erin Al-Salman
Ignite Biz, Karen Boeske
Martha Cottingham
Community Chamber of Commerce, Andy Dill**

Caldwell Watson Real Estate, Keith Edwards
Tomball Chamber, Colleen Gilbert
Tomball Chamber, Bruce Hillegeist
Greenspoint Community Partners, Sheila Redmon Jones
Light of the World Christian Fellowship, Jerry Martin
Computer Moms, Kim McCully
North Harris College, Andre Perez
Gail Schubot, Attorney at Law
LogoStuff, Inc., Nancy Shortsleeve
Red Awning Antiques, Barbara Tague
Office Organizers, Holly Uverity
YMCA Aldine Branch, Ralph Wheeler

Remember to pay your Dues!!!

The North Houston Leadership Alumni registration forms have been mailed to all of the graduates and past alumni. Please fill out the form and return with your dues. There are several contributor levels available.

Thanks to those of you who have already paid your 06-07 alumni dues. The money you contribute will help pay for scholarships and alumni activities.

Alumni News

Our Leadership graduates are an impressive group. The following are just a few of the achievements that have been accomplished by them.

Pat Boullion - (Class of 2005-2006) and **Jill Boullion** (Class of 2003-2004) of Boullion Graphics have received "Company of the Year" from the North Houston Greenspoint Chamber of Commerce.

David Sam (Class of 2001-2002) received the "Citizen of the Year" Award from the North Houston Greenspoint Chamber of Commerce

Stephen Garceau (class of 2003-2004) and **Kelly Garceau** (class of 2004-2005) owners of Spring Nursery and Landscape, Inc. were declared Small Business Award winners for the Tomball College service area at the annual Small Business Development Center Awards Banquet held on November 1st. Also named as a winner was Pate Engineers, represented by Debra Anglin, newly named president of the full service organization.

Pate Engineers is located in the Cy-Fair College service area. Congratulations to both businesses and individuals who are LNH Alumni!

The banquet is held each year to honor the winners and three finalists from the five different NHMCCD regions. Other finalists previously named in the Summer newsletter were Gail Schubot (Class of 1998-1999), Attorney at Law and Pat Boullion (Class of 2005-2006) and Jill Boullion (Class of 2003-2004) owners of Boullion Graphics.

Please help us recognize our LNH Graduates. Email their accomplishments to poustifine@hhcllp.com .

Seven Traits of Effective Leaders

Are leaders made or born? Can you learn superior leadership skills? No one is sure, but experts have noticed seven specific actions that successful leaders carry out, regardless of the organization or cause they lead. Effective leaders....

.....**Make others feel important.** If your goals and decisions are self-centered, followers will lose their enthusiasm quickly. Emphasize their strengths and contributions, not your own.

.....**Promote a vision.** Followers need a clear idea of where you're leading them, and they need to understand that the goal is valuable to them. Your job as leader is to provide that vision.

.....**Follow the Golden Rule.** Treat your followers the way you enjoy being treated. An abusive leader attracts few loyal followers.

.....**Admit mistakes.** If people suspect that you're covering up your own errors, they'll hide mistakes too, and you'll lose valuable information needed for making decisions.

.....**Criticize others only in private.** Public praise encourages others to excel, but public criticism only embarrasses and alienates everyone.

.....**Stay close to the action.** You need to be visible to the members of your organization. Talk to people, visit other offices and work sites, ask questions, and observe how business is being handled. Often you will gain new insights into your work and find new opportunities for motivating your followers.

.....**Make a game of competition.** The competitive drive can be a valuable tool if you use it correctly. Set team goals, and reward members who meet or exceed them. Examine your failures, and celebrate your group's success.

(The Toastmaster, PO Box 9052, Mission Viejo, CA 92690)

Leadership North Houston is sponsored by the Acres Home Citizens Chamber of Commerce, Community Chamber of Commerce, Cy-Fair Houston Chamber of Commerce, Humble Area Chamber of Commerce, Houston Northwest Chamber of Commerce, North Harris Montgomery Community College District, North Houston Association, North Houston Greenspoint Chamber of Commerce, and the Tomball Area Chamber of Commerce.

Quote of the Month

“Energy and persistence conquer all things”

Benjamin Franklin

E-Newsletter Committee

**Kelly Norton – Cy-Fair College
Phyllis Oustifine - Hawes Hill Calderon LLP**

Please submit articles and press releases to Phyllis Oustifine.