

Leader's Edge



Greetings fellow alumni,

I am sure you will join me in expressing our gratitude to our past president, Connie Maxfield who continued to keep us on course even while traveling back and forth to the UK. We want to keep the momentum going and continue to be committed to service in our communities. Thanks Connie for a job well done.

We have the wonderful opportunity to work, live and recreate in one of the most vibrant cities in this great nation. I am honored to be the president of such an enthusiastic and dedicated group of leaders. Our focus this year will be to *Engage!* This focus for our group will be to compel our fellow classmates to participate in those activities that are dear to us all.

Challenge **One** will be to harness all of the power contained within our areas of expertise and to direct those energies toward the areas of greatest need while also providing maximum impact for our efforts.

Challenge **Two** is to contact our classmates and encourage them to become members or to become active again in the alumni association.

Challenge **Three** is to seek commitments from our classmates to attend and participate in at least two alumni-sponsored events.

I know you are saying “just what we needed, three more challenges”. But remember, leaders don’t see challenges but opportunities for extraordinary things to be accomplished by ordinary people!

I look forward to serving you as president

Robert Thomas—2010—2011 LNHA Board President

November, 2010
Volume 4, Issue 1

Inside this issue

2010 LNHA Board.....	2
Chamber Spotlights– Community Chamber of Commerce EMC.....	2
Greater Tomball Area Chamber.....	3
Class of 2010 –2011.....	3
Alumni in the Spotlight	4
2011 Class Member Spotlight	5
Business Spotlight	6
Alumni Accolades	6
Community Services.....	7
Service Opportunity.....	7
LNH Investors Recognized.....	8

LNH Program Sponsors

- African American Chamber of Commerce of Greater Houston
- Community Chamber of Commerce of East Montgomery County
- Cy-Fair Houston Chamber of Commerce
- Greater Tomball Area Chamber of Commerce
- Houston Intercontinental Chamber of Commerce
- Houston Northwest Chamber of Commerce
- Lone Star College System
- North Houston Association
- The Lake Houston Area Chamber of Commerce

2009—2010 LNHA
Board of Directors

Robert Thomas, President
Class of 2001

Melissa Lombard, Vice President
Class of 2008

Suzanne Parmer, Treasurer
Class of 2001

Rev. Justin Lindstrom, Secretary
Class of 2007

Connie Maxfield, Past President
Class of 2004

Brandy Beyer
Class of 2006

Pat Bouillion
Class of 2006

Brian Dooley
Class of 2005

Margaret Eyster
Class of 2005

Kelly Hammons
Class of 2006

Kennie Kerr
Class of 2002

Bennie Lambert
Class of 1997

Judy Lux
Class of 2001

Leslie Martone
Class of 2008

Woody Mitchell
Class of 2008

Kelly Norton
Class of 2002

Phyllis Oustifine
Class of 1999

Marchel Peterson
Class of 2010

Larry Rideaux
Class of 2007

Melissa Robey
Class of 2009

Chamber Spotlights

Each LNHA newsletter will feature updates from two of the eight Chambers that support Leadership North Houston. We have asked them to share with us what is new in their communities and update us on any events and the current hot topics. This month we checked in with Andy Dill, President of the Community Chamber of Commerce East Montgomery County, and Bruce Hillegeist, President of the Greater Tomball Area Chamber of Commerce.

Community Chamber of Commerce EMC Andy Dill, President

Business is still good in East Montgomery County. The 12-month period ending Aug. 17th showed an 11% net gain in membership for the cham-



ber. We are extremely pleased with these results considering the economy.

Other important issues for our area include the announcement of the new minor league baseball complex and Cal Ripken Baseball Academy that will begin construction soon and be ready to open in the spring of 2012. This new independent league team will play in the American Independent League and will not be affiliated with Major League Baseball. The stadium is expected to seat 4,500 and attract not only baseball but other events including concerts, motor cross races and many other events. The complex will be utilized year round and bring another exciting tourist attraction to our area. Earth Quest continues toward its quest of beginning construction. Securing long range financing is still under way that will cover the project for many years to come. Lake Houston Wilderness Park is undergoing significant upgrades that will make the park a much more inviting place to visit. This City of Houston project has been underway for several months now and will be completed soon. The upgrades to U.S. Highway 59 are nearing completion all the way to the Liberty County line. This will complete Hwy 59 to interstate standards throughout Montgomery County.

We are gearing up for our first annual Wine, Hawgs & Chocolate event beginning at 6 p.m. Nov. 11th at Harley Davidson of Kingwood beginning at 6 pm. Then on Dec. 4th come out for 4:45 p.m. Christmas Parade and 7 p.m. Tuba Christmas concert It is an exciting time in East Montgomery County so come on over and *Grow With Us!*

Find the Community Chamber on the web at www.communitychamberemc.com

Greater Tomball Area Chamber of Commerce Bruce E. Hillegeist, President

Last month we wrapped up the summer at the Greater Tomball Area Chamber of Commerce with our first annual *Small Business Conference, E3—Educate, Enrich, Empower*. Comments following the conference were very positive and GTACC plans to expand this offering next year.



In addition to helping our local businesses with the conference, GTACC recently partnered with Service Corps of Retired Executives (SCORE) to offer a monthly roundtable coffee. These early meetings are becoming so popular we may have to expand them, as well.

As the year is closing, the GTACC staff is preparing for its 2011 Miss Tomball Pageant and annual Holiday Parade Nov. 20. Both signature events draw huge crowds, are chamber fundraising events and are receiving strong support. Also in the works is GTACC's annual Chairman's Ball Jan. 21, 2011.

Here are a few other issues GTACC is watching this fall:

- Public Education Funding – GTACC Board of Directors is reviewing a resolution calling for the state to increase public education funding by offering a “recess” for state mandates that increase local spending.
- Transportation Funding – GTACC and its Mobility and Transportation Committee are continually working with Harris County and TxDOT to keep SH 249 and the Grand Parkway in the forefront. More emphasis is being placed on high-speed rail and the chamber supports the proposed route connecting Houston to Dallas, with Tomball being discussed as one possible station site.
- State Funding – funding of roadways, education and the state of Texas are in great distress as we face the upcoming 82nd Legislative Session. Issues like state and federal fuel taxes along with a rework of the business franchise tax are vital to small business. GTACC will be watching all of these to make sure the best interest of business is represented.

Find the Tomball Area Chamber on the web at www.tomballchamber.org

Leadership North Houston Alumni

The mission of Leadership North Houston Alumni Association is to encourage the on-going development of LNH graduates through community service participation and strong leader to leader relationships. Building on the momentum of Leadership North Houston, the Alumni Association ensures that graduates continue expanding their leadership skills and remain committed to improving their communities.

LNH Class of 2011

Dr. Thad Anglin

Callie Barnes

Heather Carothers

Dr. Aaron Chapa

David Crume

Cynthia Davis

Rhea Davis

Dr. Linda Garcia

Karen Garrison

Carol Hadley

Stacey Hamlet

Christine Holloway

Robert Maxwell

Michael McEnany

Trazanna Moreno

Michelle Parnell

Pat Patterson

Kristina Perez

Dr. Darrin Rankin

Karla Sandoval

Thomas Schumacher

Johnnie Ray Scroggins

Denise Simmons

Cecelia (C.C.) Sutphen

Christina Todd

Kimberly Zahn

Alumni in the Spotlight

Who are they? Where are they now? What are they up to? We know you are curious about your fellow LNH Alumni, so each LNHA newsletter will feature a different alumnus. Want to be featured? Submit your request to editor@leadershipnorthhoustonalumni.org.

Janine Moore

LNHA: What class were you a part of?

JM: I had the privilege of being a member of the “best” class, LUCKY 13, in 2007-2008.

LNHA: Tell us about your business, as well as any charities or non-profits you are passionate about.

JM: In a nutshell, Peak Financial Group focuses on helping people save for the future. We diagnose broken 401(k) plans and help employers determine whether they need to tweak a few funds or provisions in the plan to make it work or go out to bid for a replacement plan. We represent the best 401(k) providers in the industry and are able to bring an unbiased approach to the table.

I proudly serve on the board of Liberty Path, Inc. (a Christian Counseling non-profit) and participate in a group called Get Together Northwest, which partners local businesses with community mission organizations to improve the lives of the less fortunate in our city. I am also the programs chair for Northwest Houston Business & Professional Women and serve on two finance committees for Women's Business Enterprise Alliance and my local church, Champion Forest Baptist. I enjoy teaching an eighth-grade

Girls Life Group each Sunday and provide job shadowing for Aldine Y.O.U.T.H., a local non-profit.

LNHA: How has being in LNH affected your business?

JM: The months I spent in Leadership North Houston helped me find my true passion - community service. It has affected my business in helping me to find ways to serve my community. Our business has flourished and we have been nominated for the Lone Star College/SBDC Small Business of the Year as a result.

LNHA: What has the impact of LNH been on your life?

JM: Leadership North Houston has had a profound impact on my life. A major turning point for me was at the Team-building Retreat...conquering my fear of heights by climbing up the telephone pole, then leaping off the top and grabbing the trapeze, while my classmates cheered me on. At that point, I decided that I could not let fear keep me from trying new (and scary) things! The friendships made in this group have been long-lasting and although I don't see everyone on a regular basis, I still feel very close to everyone and celebrate their successes.

LNHA: What is your favorite leadership quote?

JM: “It's surprising how much you can accomplish if you don't care who gets the credit.” - Abraham Lincoln



Current Class Member Spotlight

Christine Holloway, member of LNH Class of 2011

LNHA: Tell us about your business.

CH: *Coffee News* is an entertaining weekly publication delivered to restaurants, coffee shops, hotels, hospitals, etc. -- anywhere people go to eat or where they have to wait. *Coffee News* has the week's funniest and most unusual news stories, jokes, trivia, amazing facts, and more. *Coffee News* was designed as an alternative to expensive traditional print advertising.

LNHA: What made you decide LNH was something you wanted to be a part of?

CH: A friend and mentor, Darlene Benz, was in the previous class. She was the one who first told me about the program and thought I would really enjoy it. Once I looked into the program, I knew it was something that I could really benefit and grow from.

LNHA: What is the best part of the program so far?

CH: The program is really helping me to understand myself better. In doing that, I can further develop my strengths and learn to overcome my weaknesses. Not to mention, I am learning excellent communication skills.

LNHA: How do you intend to use your LNH experience to make a difference?

CH: I have dreams of serving my community. I believe the skills I will develop and the experiences I will have are going to further me along in meeting the service goals I have set for myself. I really want to make a difference with the life I've been given.

LNHA: Who is a leader you admire and why?

CH: There are so many, but I would have to say Jesus Christ. All of my weaknesses were his strengths. I enjoy reading about his interactions with other people, his heart to serve, and of course, his selflessness. He is someone I try to imitate every day.

Class of 2010-2011 at their retreat



Business Spotlight -

Phyllis Oustifine
Hawes Hill Calderon

LNHA: What class were you a part of?

PO: I participated in the 1998-1999 class.

LNHA: Give us a general overview of your business.

PO: Hawes Hill Calderon LLP provides professional consulting services to municipal governments, community organizations, private development interests and real estate investment trusts on public policy, economic development, infrastructure, mobility and public/private financing.

Specializing in the creation and administration of tax increment reinvestment zones, public improvement districts, municipal management districts and local government corporations, we produce innovative development solutions and proven revitalization strategies. In addition, the firm consults on development and redevelopment projects through the

HAWESHILLCALDERON
LLP



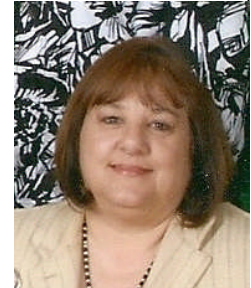
structuring and negotiating of public/private financing ventures.

LNHA: Why do you support LNHA?

PO: I believe in the LNH program. As a board member for the Alumni I feel that the graduates should have opportunities to stay connected, form new relationships, continue their education and make a difference in their communities. The activities that we plan do just that and also raise scholarship money for future LNH classes.

LNHA: What difference has your experience in LNH had on your business?

PO: I have had the opportunity to meet individuals from all across North Houston, from Tomball to Humble. Through our friendships we become more educated on what is happening in our communities. We learn from each other and become more effective leaders.



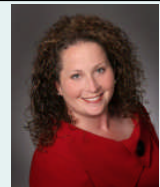
(Continued on page 7)

Announcements and Accolades

Leslie Martone, Class of 2008, was honored as the Woman of Excellence for CYFEN, the Cy-Fair Express Network of ABWA. Leslie was honored at the Federation of Houston Professional Women Gala held Sept. 11th.

Janine Moore, Principal of Peak Financial and her partners, Darrell Ellisor and Tracey Brundrett, were honored as one of the Houston Business Journal's Fastest Growing Women Owned Business (ranked 44). Janine is from the Class of 2008.

Jill Boullion, Class of 2004, has been named the Development Director for the Greens Bayou Corridor Coalition. Jill works with Executive Director Regina Lindsey, who was in the Class of 2010.



Leslie Martone



Jill Boullion

Community Services

Greetings from your Community Services Committee. Our last volunteer event was the Epicurean Evening that was sponsored by the Houston Northwest Chamber of Commerce. The event was held on Thursday, Aug. 26th at the Sam Houston Race Track. We had a total of 15 LNHA volunteers who turned out to help the Houston NW Chamber promote this event. This is one of the chamber's largest events. Jill Boullion coordinated the event volunteers for the chamber. Every volunteer had free admission to the event. We were able to sample all of the fantastic food that was being offered by the participating restaurants and

vendors. They had a great silent auction. LNH Alum Kelly Hammons won the bid on a \$500 yard make over.

We are looking forward to additional volunteer events that our chambers of commerce will be sponsoring. We want to make this a successful year for our Community Services Committee. Encourage your chamber to contact us when they are looking for volunteers for upcoming events. Also if you have an event that you would like LNH Alumni to volunteer at, please contact Brian Dooley, Chair of LNHA Community Service Committee, by e-mailing brian.v.dooley@lonestar.edu.

Encourage your chamber to contact the LNHA if they are looking for volunteers for upcoming events.



Volunteer Opportunity

What: Greens Bayou Corridor Coalition Clean Up and Tree Planting

When: Saturday Nov. 6, 9:00 a.m.—12:00 p.m.

Where: Along Greens Bayou

If you are interested in helping clean up our corner of Houston, contact Treena Dockery at 281-874-2146 or e-mail tdockery@greenspoint.org

(Continued from page 6 - HawesHillCalderon LLP)

LNHA: What leadership advice can you share with our readers?

PO: Become an active part of your alumni. Pay your dues, attend the events, share ideas about activities you would like to see and continue the LNH journey. Become active in your community and continue to personally grow as leaders.

Look for LNH and LNHA on LinkedIn® and Facebook



Are you on LinkedIn®? If you want to be connected to Leadership North Houston, look for the LNH Group and join to make new connections. LinkedIn® helps you make better use of your LNHA network, stay informed with activities and find commonalities with other LNH alumni. Join today!



If you're on Facebook, search for the LNHA page "Like" us to stay in touch.

A Special Thank You to the LNHA 2010-2011 Contributors

INVESTOR LEVEL

Ari Fleitman

Phyllis Oustifine—HawesHillCalderon LLP

PARTNER LEVEL

East Montgomery County Improvement District:

Connie Bloodworth

Linda Floyd

Suzanne Parmer

Margaret Eyster—Magoo's Print Shop

Bill Ginder

Darcy Mingoia

ASSOCIATE LEVEL

Greenspoint District:

Al Aranda

Bart Baker

Treena Dockery

Jocklynn Keville

Regina Lindsey

Jerry Lowry

Diane Newman

Brandy Beyer

Janel Dehnart

Bruce Hillegeist

Melissa Lombard

Connie Maxfield

Marian Sanchez-Ali

Support LNHA

The LNH Alumni Association cultivates the on-going development of program graduates through learning opportunities, community service participation and strong leader-to-leader relationships.

Modest dues and optional higher levels of investment opportunities help provide scholarships to future participants in the LNH class. These dues also help pay any costs associated with the annual service projects.

If you would like to join, go to the LNHA web site and join or renew today. Online credit card payments are accepted. Go to: www.leadershipnorthhoustonalumni.org and click on "How to Join." You can also download a brochure with investment options and additional information if you would like to mail in your payment.