

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.

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### President's Message

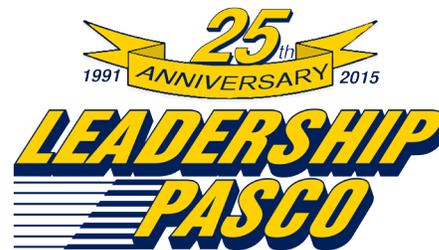


Thanks to everyone who joined us at Orientation night on August 28 to welcome the Class of 2015. We are thrilled to have 41 individuals in this year's class, making it the largest class in our 25 year history.

We kicked off the 2014-15 year with a two-day Bus Tour on September 18 and 19 touring all sections of Pasco County and visiting both existing and new businesses and many other locations and historical landmarks throughout the county. The feedback indicates that class members enjoyed the bus tour days and learned a lot about Pasco County. Thanks to Harold Sample and Kurt Conover, along with many other alumni and leaders from across the county, who helped to make the annual Bus Tour Days a memorable experience for the class.

We have some outstanding program days this fall including Criminal Justice Day in October, Healthcare Day in November and Infrastructure & Growth Day in December. These program days will provide class members the opportunity to get an in-depth look at each of these industries and learn about current services and projected plans for growth here in Pasco County. We are fortunate to have Leadership Pasco alumni who are chairing these program days, joined by individuals in the community who will also assist in planning and hosting these specific educational days for the Class of 2015. It's difficult to include all aspects of these industries into one day, but we try our best to capture the highlights and schedule our program days at sites throughout the county, focusing on current trends and issues. These program days provide outstanding opportunities for class members to learn more about a variety of industries in Pasco County and we're thankful for everyone involved in hosting these excellent program days.

If you are interested in helping out with a future program day, please contact myself or Tina Shelton, Program Chairs, to let us know of your interest. The program days continue to improve each year based on feedback and chairs that are committed to making these days filled with outstanding speakers, hands-on experiences, and tours of various businesses and organizations throughout Pasco County.



I would like to remind you that this year is a milestone year for Leadership Pasco as we're celebrating our 25 year anniversary as an organization. Throughout the year we will be highlighting some of the stories and memories you have from throughout the years. Please let us know if you would like to share a memory with us that can be published in a future newsletter. Maybe a story about a new colleague or business partner you met through Leadership Pasco or an organization you now volunteer for or a company you joined that you learned about during your program year. Please email your stories to our administrative assistant, Jason Longo, at [administration@leadershippasco.com](mailto:administration@leadershippasco.com) and we will publish them in the next newsletter and place them in a special section on our webpage.

Maureen Moore

# BUS TOUR - CLASS OF 2015



## Orientation Update

*Lorraine Lane (Class of 2004)*

On August 28th, 41 business owners and professionals from Pasco County gathered at Tampa Bay Golf and Country Club for Orientation into Leadership Pasco's 2015 Class. These future leaders are participating in the 25th Leadership Pasco class. The Orientation event launches the Class into Leadership Pasco's mission which is to develop leaders in the County who will contribute to the Community's growth and development. During the evening, Program Chairs introduce themselves to the class and describe what will be learned during the Leadership Day dedicated to Health, Education, Criminal Justice, Government, etc.



Alumni gather for this event and participate by introducing an incoming classmate to everyone in attendance: Alumni, other Classmates, Sponsors, and Dignitaries. The Program Chairs introduced a new format this year and it appeared to have accomplished the stated goal of using the time to orient and introduce the incoming class effectively. The enthusiasm and energy

of this year's gathering suggests that interest in Leadership Pasco and its mission is well received in the Community. A challenge was offered to the 2015 class by the Board of Directors, because you are the 25th and largest class, help all the Alumni who preceded you to celebrate this historical milestone with your great contribution to the Pasco Community!

During the evening, Craig Laporte, Orientation Program Chair, presented a tribute to David Parris whose leadership was an example of generosity, selflessness, and a giving heart. He was recently crowned King Pithla at the Chasco Fiesta and will be remembered for his initiation of the Celebration of Lights which others will continue in his honor. His daughter, Kara Parris, is a member of this year's Leadership Class.

Thank you to the Orientation Program Chairs, Heather Grimes, Assistant County Administrator, Craig Laporte, Attorney and Lorraine Lane, Business Consultant for their planning and production of this year's welcome to the Class of 2015.

We look forward to the Graduation of the 25th Leadership Pasco Class on May, 28, 2015!

# VOICES OF LEADERSHIP

*Nichole "Nikki" Alvarez-Sowles  
(Class of 2013)*

Chief Operations Officer, Pasco County  
Clerk & Comptroller's Office



Taking part in Leadership Pasco was an opportunity afforded to me through my position with the Pasco County Clerk & Comptroller's Office. Looking back, my involvement with Leadership Pasco has been one of the most rewarding professional experiences.

The experience is so much more than gaining knowledge about the County or about the inner workings of industries within the County. The monthly programs are amazing. Each program day is put together to ensure class members walk away with a new appreciation about the industry. Class members experience hands-on learning and behind the scenes tours. Nowhere else will you have an opportunity to gain the levels of understanding and the opportunity to meet industry leaders than through Leadership Pasco.

In addition, working together with classmates on a project that positively impacts our community is very rewarding. I was honored to be elected class president and had the opportunity to work with classmates (some of the most dynamic leaders in Pasco) to organize the class project. Classmates worked together to raise over \$20,000 through the Taste of Pasco event for the National Alliance on Mental Illness, Pasco (NAMI Pasco). I am very proud of the work the Class of 2013 accomplished. By working together on such an important cause, a lifelong bond was created. The time spent with classmates is something I will always treasure.

There are many benefits a person can experience through Leadership Pasco. I look forward to working on the board and the future experiences I will gain as an alumna.

*Scott Byrnes  
(Class of 2012)*

Owner, All Corners Home Inspections  
"You can't out do the Class of 1-2"



I was accepted to the 2012 class through a scholarship offered by the Young Professional Group of the West Pasco Chamber of Commerce. I have lived in Pasco since 1999 and started my business in 2004, but I never "understood" Pasco until I got involved with Leadership Pasco. It has been a very enlightening & educational experience and the comradery between my fellow classmates is unique and timeless. I've learned that when you find an organization like this, you need to stay involved. With that in mind, I volunteered to be and have been the Infrastructure and Growth Co-Coordinator since 2013, a volunteer for SIMSOC since 2013, and a member of the Board of Directors as of 2014. Leadership Pasco has been a great source for networking and connections in the community that I could never find anywhere else.

Scott Byrnes is the owner of All Corners Home Inspections and is celebrating his company's 10th year. He is a member of the West Pasco Chamber of Commerce, the West Pasco Board of Realtors, The Rotary Club of Trinity and Leadership Pasco. He is also currently the Vice President for the State of Florida's National Association of Certified Home Inspectors and is a Home Inspector trainer.

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## Save These Dates

*Alumni Mixer — December 10, 2014*

*Taste of Pasco — April 11, 2015*

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

*Vital Leadership Pasco Programs Need Your Sponsorship.*

*[www.LeadershipPasco.com/Sponsorship](http://www.LeadershipPasco.com/Sponsorship)*

*Alumni dues can be paid at [www.LeadershipPasco.com](http://www.LeadershipPasco.com)*

#### **Benefits of Leadership Pasco Alumni Membership**

Membership directory online  
Membership forums  
Orientation banquet reception  
VIP Access to annual Taste of Pasco event  
Quarterly newsletter (Mailed)  
Invites to other networking events

#### **Renew By Mail or Online**

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