

LEADERSHIP West

Newsletter September 3, 2010

www.leadershipwest.org

Cultivating Leadership Capital for the West Valley

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Thanks to everyone who came out for the “Meet Class XVII” Mixer

We had roughly *seventy* alumni, founders and members of Class 17 attend the mixer on August 19th. Attendees were welcomed by **Class 15’s Tamara Caraway** of Adolfsen & Peterson Construction who generously sponsored the event and by Nena Gourlay, Director of Sales at the beautiful Comfort Suites Glendale, which provided most gracious hospitality. New class member Kiel Klaphake won a night in the Presidential Suite.



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Hope to see you at WESTMARC’s 18th Annual “Best of the West” Awards!

WESTMARC's Best of the West Awards and Dinner program is widely regarded as one of the most prestigious events in the West Valley. And Leadership West alumni are well represented among the attendees and the winners! This year’s event will be held on Thursday, October 28, 2010, at the Renaissance Glendale Hotel, 9495 W. Coyotes Boulevard.

To reserve your seat, or to inquire about sponsorship opportunities, visit www.westmarc.org.



WESTMARC
leadership • advocacy • public policy

Our Vision: Informed, engaged, and inspired leaders transforming the West Valley into highly livable, quality communities.

GOLF 4 5th Annual
GOOD
Leadership West

The most fun golf tournament in the West Valley!

Friday, October 29, 2010 Palm Valley Golf Club - Goodyear

For everything you'd ever need or want to know about this year's tournament, including forms and sponsorship information, click [here](#).



We hope You'll join us as Arizona Town Hall, The City of El Mirage and Leadership West Present an action-focused discussion on the recommendations from the 96th Arizona Town Hall.

Tuesday, September 14, 2010
12:00 p.m. - 1:30 p.m.
Communiversality of Surprise
15950 N. Civic Center Parkway
Surprise, Arizona

Complimentary Lunch

Register and see more information at www.aztownhall.org.

Thank You , Coaches!

The following LW alumni have agreed to serve as coaches for the members of Class 17. Thank you for your service and your commitment to the ongoing success of Leadership West and the Cultivation of Leadership Capital for the West Valley!

DIANA BOHR, Class 8
DAWN DEMERS, Class 16
DAVID FYKE, Class 16
ED GERAKE, Class 16
MIKE GODBEHERE, Class 14
MELISSA HOLDAWAY, Class 16
JERRY HOYLER, Class 16
JILL KNAAK, Class 16
DARCIE MCCRACKEN, Class 14
JOHN MAHER, Class 13
OTHELL NEWBILL, Class 15
PATRICK O'GRADY, Class 14
TOM PAYTON, Class 15
LLOYCE ROBINSON, Class 16
LESLIE ROWANS, Class 12
SCOTT SHIVELY, Class 16
ZAC STOREY, Class 9
CONNIE STOVER, Class 13
ANTHONY SUMNER, Class 14
MICHAEL WHITE, Class 14
ELIZABETH WILKINSON, Class 16

LEADERSHIP WEST-ERS MAKING GREAT THINGS HAPPEN



Click [here](#) to read about **Chuck Fitzgerald, Class 13**, and Peoria Rotary's water drive for the Homeless as seen in the *Peoria Times*.

The Oro Valley Town Council voted on Wednesday to appoint Interim Town Manager, **Jerene Watson, (Leadership West, Class 4)** to the post full-time, making her the first woman to be appointed to Town Manager in Oro Valley's 36-year history.



Watson has been serving in her current role since October of last year, following the departure of former town manager David Andrews. In that time, she has earned recognition and praise for putting in place numerous communications and outreach improvements. Jerene joined the Town in 2007 as the assistant town manager. Prior to that, she was responsible for several key management and operational functions with the City of Goodyear, Arizona, as a director overseeing Community Services, Community Initiatives and Intergovernmental programs. Congratulations, Jerene!



Garrett Olexa, Class 15, is enjoying great success at his law firm, Jennings Strouss. He recently tried a substantial product liability case in which he defended a well known national product manufacturer. The Plaintiff was seriously injured and demanding \$12 million in damages. After a month long trial, the jury was out for 45 minutes and returned a unanimous defense verdict for Garrett's client.

Read comments by **London Lacy, Class 10**, Water Conservation Analyst for the City of Surprise as seen at [az-central.com here](#).



SUBMIT YOUR NEWS, ALUMNI SIGHTINGS, AND RECOGNITIONS TO THE LW NEWSLETTER. SHARE AND PROMOTE AMONG THE WEST VALLEY'S LEADERSHIP COMMUNITY. FREE TO DUES-PAYING ALUMNI! (PLEASE SEND LINKS.) KATHY@LEADERSHIP-WEST.ORG



Mike with Lori Schmidt and Linda Kirby

On August 3rd **Mike Tellef, Class 6**, Peoria Police and Fire media relations was honored with the 2009 **Linda S. Kirby WATER Award** for his big heart and passion for child injury prevention by the Drowning Prevention Coalition of Arizona. Mike's primary focus is water safety and he has dedicated countless hours of his time to educate the public through events, media and community outreach, as well as serving as a resource and support for water safety advocates across the state. *The recipient of this special recognition goes to individuals who consistently hold up the tenants of the award: Willing, Attentive, Tenacious, Enthusiastic, Resourceful.*

Also, Mike has been working with FEMA over the last couple of years and has been instrumental in the development of new, cutting edge programs for Public Information Officers across the country. You go, Mike!

West Valley Leaders will be Interested.....

Click the images below for information.

**Thank you to all our
Wonderful
Supporters!**

Advisory Board

- Lisa Atkins
- Shelley Bade
- Mayor Bob Barrett
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- Candace Wiest

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Landis Elliott
Melissa Holdaway

Leading Members \$250
David Fyke
Kathy Knecht
Jerry Mullen
Brian Nelson
Lloyce Robinson
Jessie Singer
Connie Stepnitz

Friends Afar
(living and working outside of the West Valley, but still contributing to LW)
Heather Murphy
Jerene Watson

To help Leadership West cultivate leadership capital for the West Valley we love, make your tax-deductable dues payment at www.leadershipwest.org



an innovative, action-oriented dialogue and planning day dealing with pressing issues facing our state. Take part in this gathering focused on civic action and civil dialogue.

Accepting applications for the new class through September 15.



LW will be exhibiting at this Greater Phoenix Chamber event for leaders and activists on Sept 29.

It is with sadness that we note the passing of **Dr. Fred Scott, Class 5**. Click [here](#) to view the obituary as seen in the *West Valley View*.

Fred's classmate, **Heather Murphy**, offered up the following thoughts:

Dr. Scott was "the man who could do almost anything" in my opinion as a Class V member. Sun City and Sun City West had fairly robust care for the elderly and aging. Much of the rest of the West Valley region was younger, with vastly different needs and was classified as medically under-served by the medical profession. Dr. Scott was extremely influential in bringing quality medical care and services to the greater West Valley.



We were about halfway through our Class V experience before Dr. Scott told us that he and his wife had successfully raised seven children. For a man who had achieved such great success in his personal and professional life, he was humble, generous and thoughtful in all of his interactions with his Class V colleagues. I regret that I lost touch with him but will always remember his good humor, kindness, keen intellect and carefully considered positions on matters of significance.