

Leadership Saratoga Post

Spring 2006

www.leadershipsaratoga.org

Issue 10



Leadership Saratoga has a website:
www.leadershipsaratoga.org
CHECK IT OUT!

Alumni Board of Directors

- Jim Morris '99 President
- Jay Verro '93 Vice Pres.
- Dewey Walling '00 Vice Pres.
- Denise Romand '04 Secy.
- Cathy Allen '03 Newsletter Ed.
- George Hathaway '86
- Holly Schwarz-Lawton '87
- Lu Lucas '89
- Bruce Kirkpatrick '90
- Rich Ferguson '91
- Kirk Starczewski '94
- Laurie Poltynski '95
- Gavin Landry '97
- Anne Rockwood '98
- Jan Chesterton '01
- Brendan Chudy '01
- Chuck Phillips '01
- Alisa Dalton '02
- Dan Fortier '02
- Sue Malinowski '04
- Linda Toohey: Program Director

You're Invited
Thursday, March 9th
5:30—7:30 pm
\$40 Per Person

***Leadership Saratoga Reunion
and Fundraiser for Scholarships***

***The Brackett House
605 North Broadway***

*Quad Corporate House
Corner of Greenfield Avenue*

Saratoga Springs, NY

***Please RSVP by:
Tuesday, February 21st
584-3255 or email Itoohy@saratoga.org***

(Details Inside)

Also inside:

- ***Exciting New Leadership Saratoga Program Opportunities***
- ***Lisa Niles Distinguished Leadership Award Nomination Form***
- ***Alumni Notes***
- ***Leadership Class of 2006 Update***

Class of 2006 – Halfway There!

It's hard to believe but Leadership Saratoga's Class of 2006 is more than halfway through its scheduled sessions.

To date the Class has successfully completed Sessions on Leadership, Board Service & Meetings, Human Services, Ethics (perhaps the most controversial of all sessions), Education, Fundraising, and Development & Economics. Each of these sessions has been full of wonderful insight and advice from local and national community leaders. The Class of 2006 is genuinely grateful for the opportunity to take part in the Leadership Saratoga program and is looking forward to a rewarding and educational second half.

On October 19th the Class had its self-directed tour of some of Saratoga's most wonderful and unique destinations. The Class began the day with a tour of the National Museum of Racing and Hall of Fame followed by a "behind the scenes" look at the Saratoga Race Course. The Class then headed to SPAC for a back stage tour and on to the Saratoga Automobile Museum for opening day of the SUPERCARS exhibit. From the Automobile Museum the Class ventured to the Tang Teaching & Art Museum at Skidmore. The class then toured the Saratoga National Historical Park and ended the day at the Saratoga National Cemetery, two historic and beautiful destinations indeed!

On Wednesday February 1st the Class of 2006 will have their mid-year retreat where the Class will complete self-evaluations on the progress of their team projects and team dynamics. They will then have the opportunity to weigh in on the mentoring program and the overall Leadership Saratoga experience thus far. After the retreat ends, the Class members and their significant others will be heading over to the Parting Glass for good libations and good conversation. Special thanks to Jen Joseph Perry and Paul Schwartz for setting up what is certain to be an enjoyable time!

Tara Pleat

Question: What do Teri Ulrich and Mike Wallner have in common?

Answer: They are the two members of Leadership Saratoga Class of 2006 whose names were accidentally omitted from the previous newsletter.....Sorry!

The Elections

Public service and elected office are two of the highest callings and greatest gifts leaders can give to their communities. Over the years many outstanding Leadership alums have given their time and wisdom as elected and appointed public servants. There were many in this year's elections. We want to thank those who had the courage to run for office. Whether you garnered the most votes or not, you are still winners in Leadership's eyes. Our thanks to alums **Mike Lenz '05**, **Stephen Towne '91**, and **Tom Curley '90** for their years on the Saratoga Springs City Council. And congratulations to: **Ron Kim '96** who was elected Commissioner of Public Safety; **Joanne Yepsen '93** and **Cheryl Keyrouze '96** who were elected as Supervisors from the City of Saratoga Springs; **Donna Gizzi '03** who has been selected to serve Paul Sausville's unexpired term on the Malta Town Board; and **Sue Nolen '93** who won re-election (unopposed) to the Malta Town Board this Fall. Congratulations as well to **Ian McGaughey '06** who ran unopposed to serve his second term on the Wilton Town board.

LS Post

Alumni Notes

Please **email** me information for upcoming newsletters at: **MAGICRSS@aol.com (Cathy Allen)**. This is one of the most popular sections of the newsletter, so keep the updates flowing! Don't be shy!!!

Jay Verro '93 was accepted into the Jay W. Levine Leadership Development Academy, a program established by the CCIM Institute to foster the development of the next generation of leaders in the commercial investment real estate industry. Twelve CCIM Designees from across the nation were accepted into the Academy for 2006.

After ten years as a commercial loan officer with Albank, then Charter One Bank, N.A., and, most recently, Citizen's Bank, N.A., **Jim Morris '99** has left to join Paragon Prime Funding. This new entrepreneurial opportunity will allow him to open a new office and develop a team of lenders in Westchester and the Mid-Hudson Valley, while still maintaining some relationships in the Capital Region and western New York.

Jeff Shinaman '00 with partner Katie Camarro have opened their own hot fudge manufacturing kitchen. Sundaes Best Hot Fudge Sauce is now being made in the company's new kitchen at the Wilton Business Center on Northern Pines Road in Wilton. Previously, the product was made weekly at the Vermont Food Venture Center in Fairfax, Vermont. They are also celebrating four years in business as Greenfield's Greatest Food Company, Inc. A new, updated website at www.sundaesbest.com will soon be launched. Not only was **Dewey Walling '00** promoted to Senior Publishing Consultant at John Wiley & Sons, Higher Education Division, but he was also named Marketing Representative of the Year. He was elected 2006 Chairman of the Saratoga County Chamber of Commerce Ambassador Committee.

Kathy Schechner '03 is expecting her second child in July. **Donna Gizzi '03**, recently appointed Councilwoman on the Town Board of Malta, has been asked to chair a newly formed Community & Economic Development Committee for Malta. **Bill Canty '03** became Chairman of the Saratoga County Chamber of Commerce for 2006. Classmates **John Mangona '03** and **Cathy Allen '03** have spent time together watching their daughters, Rebecca Mangona and Jackie Stimmel, respectively, on the high school tennis team. John and Nancy's four children, Rebecca, Melissa, Matt, and Erinn appeared in an extensive Saratogian article highlighting their athletic prowess. (John, I hope you don't mind me putting this in the newsletter. You and Nancy should be very proud.)

Our Heartfelt Condolences

We are saddened by the tragic deaths of two of our Leadership Alumni family members.

Steve and **Vicki Merola '99**'s daughter, Melanie Merola O'Donnell, 33, died on January 5, 2006 as a result of a car accident caused by a driver allegedly under the influence of drugs. She leaves behind her husband, George, and 21 month old son, Kennan, and sister, Michelle. Contributions can be made in her memory to Melanie O'Donnell Memorial Fund, Saratoga National Bank, 171 S. Broadway, Saratoga Springs, NY 12866 Attn: Martha McQuigge 583-3114.

Matt Jones '87's 57 year old brother, John, died unexpectedly of a heart attack on New Year's Eve. He leaves behind his father and mother, Mayor Ellsworth and Betty Jones, and his siblings, Mark, Susan, and Matt. Contributions can be made in his memory to the Muscular Dystrophy Association, PO Box 3507, Albany, NY 12203.

ALUMNI ASSOCIATION ESTABLISHING TWO NEW PROGRAMS

In the next couple of months, you will be receiving more detailed information about two exciting opportunities for future personal growth as a community leader. The ideas for these programs are a result of our 2004 Strategic Planning process.

Program One—Advanced Leadership Seminar Series

The Leadership Alumni Association Board has approved an **Advanced Leadership Seminar Series**. The series will give alumni further education on issues and topics that we face while serving on boards of directors or in elected or appointed positions. The seminar series will commence in the spring of 2006 and will continue through 2007. Alums may sign up for individual seminars, or the entire series (at a slight discount). Seminar topics will include:

- Strategic Planning for Nonprofit Organizations
- Understanding Nonprofit Financial Statements
- Good Governance and the Board of the Future (board size, structure & issues)
- Servant Leadership
- What Board Members Need to Know about Sarbanes-Oxley, Audit Committees and Conflicts of Interest
- Trusting Your Instincts
- Resolving Conflicts
- Leading Successful Projects

The cost for each seminar will be \$25, with the exception of the inaugural seminar which will have a nationally known speaker and will cost \$50. Tentative plans are for that topic to be: Bringing Your Organization from Good to Great.

The seminars will run from 8:00 – 10:00 a.m. Our Eggs & Issues Breakfasts will be suspended during the time we are holding the Advanced Leadership Series.

Program Two—Leadership Fellows Designation

The second program is a **Leadership Fellows Designation**. The designation will publicly recognize and honor the volunteer leadership of alumni who meet the following criteria:

- Applicants must be Leadership Saratoga alumni who have served on at least two boards or been involved in at least one organization in a significant, pivotal volunteer role for a total of at least four years.
- Applicant must have held a volunteer leadership position or pivotal role in a non-profit, educational or municipal organization for at least one year, but preferably more.
- Serve as a mentor to a Leadership participant or be a presenter or coordinator of a Leadership session (if asked).
- Attend six of eight Advanced Leadership seminars. (Attendance at Advanced Leadership seminars will carry over for credit towards Fellows designation. In other words, if a Leadership alumna/us does not complete six seminars in one fiscal year, the ones completed count and can be added to ones attended during the next series of seminars).

After attending the seminars, applicant must complete and submit an application that includes:

- A list of volunteer organizations and/or boards within Saratoga County in which he/she has served, including time periods and positions/roles in the organization and/or on board.
- A description of volunteer leadership positions held in the organization(s). Describe applicant's accomplishments while in that/those role(s).
- Letters of recommendation from two Chief Paid Executives or Board Chairs describing your effectiveness as a volunteer leader.

Watch the mail for more details about both programs.



**The Alumni Board of Leadership Saratoga
Invites you to Attend An Evening of Fellowship
at**

**The Brackett House
605 North Broadway
Quad Corporate House
Corner of Greenfield Avenue**

**Hors d'oeuvres, Beer, Wine, & Soda
From 5:30- 7:30 p.m.**

Selections include:

**Mini Crab Cakes with a Red Pepper Sauce; Bruschetta with Fresh Basil, Tomato and
Parmesan Cheese;
Chef Attended Carving Station Featuring Top Sirloin, Horseradish Sauce, and Mini
French Rolls; & much more!**

Price is \$40 per person

**Live Auction with Celebrity Alumni Auctioneers to Include many Fabulous Items
Such as:**

**Lake Placid Getaway Adventure
Golf and Dinner for Four at Saratoga Golf & Polo Club
Libations Package including a selection of Beer, Wine, and Spirits
Saratoga National Golf Club Outing for Four
And more!**

**We look forward to seeing our fellow alumni at this event. A portion of the admis-
sion goes to support the Leadership Saratoga Scholarship Program. Availability is
limited to 60 people, first-come, first-served.**

**Please R.S.V.P. to Linda Toohey by 2/21/2006
Leadership Saratoga
28 Clinton Street
Saratoga Springs, NY 12866
584-3255
ltoohey@saratoga.org**



LEADERSHIP SARATOGA ALUMNI ASSOCIATION- NOMINATION FORM FOR LISA NILES DISTINGUISHED LEADERSHIP AWARD

The Alumni Association Board is seeking nominations for the Lisa Niles Distinguished Leader of 2006. The award is named in memory of Leadership's first Alumni Association President. The recipient will be announced at the Leadership Alumni Association's "Fun Raiser". He or she will receive a recognition gift, and a contribution of \$500 will be made to the charity of his or her choice.

Selection criteria include someone who is a graduate of Leadership Saratoga who "has made significant and notable contributions for the betterment of his/her community/county." Please give us the name of your nominee, as well as your reasons why this person should be selected.

Please return this form to Linda Toohey **no later than Monday, February 13th**. This doesn't give you a lot of time, so.... before this piece of paper gets mixed in with all the others on your desk, please think for a moment, and jot down your choice. You can make it easy and email the application to Linda at the address below. The selection of this coming year's recipient will be made by the previous Distinguished Alums, and will be ratified by the Leadership Saratoga Alumni Association Board.

Thanks!

Name of Nominee: _____

Why you are nominating this person (include their volunteer and board work if you know it:

Please return to: Linda Toohey
Saratoga Chamber of Commerce
28 Clinton St.
Saratoga Springs, NY 12866

Or FAX at 587-0318 or e-mail at toohey@saratoga.org

DEADLINE: Monday, Feb. 13th.