



Class of 2017-18...The Best Newsletter from the Best Class Ever!

Volume 1, Issue 8 (FINAL EDITION)

June 6, 2018

WHAT'S NEXT?

Final Session/
Graduation
June 7, 2018 @9:00am

Summit Conference & Event
Center
411 Sable Blvd.
Aurora, CO 80011

Inside this issue:

<i>Fire Day Recap</i>	2
<i>Pay It Forward Event</i>	3
<i>Fire Day Pictures</i>	3
<i>Classmate Interviews</i>	4

From the President...

Amazing—That's All I Can Say!

Okay, all – I'm taking a chance here that not everyone consistently reads my Monday Weekly Check-ins. With that in mind, I'm doubling down on my message this week because we have a ton of which to be proud. Are you ready to be impressed? Check out what we've achieved this year!

Newsletter Committee:

Newsletters completed: 8

Talk about high quality – these were professional-grade!

Pay It Forward Committee:

Breakfast with Santa funds raised:
\$415

Purposity Launch Party funds raised:
\$4,920

TOTAL: \$5,335 (plus proceeds from
Graduation Sponsorships)

Social Committee:

Breweries/distilleries/beer halls visited:
6 (with honorable mention to Dry
Dock North Dock for the Pre-
Retreat Social and Launch Party)

Top Golf visits: 1

Chamber holiday party visits: 1

Graduation Committee:

The Committee has been hard at work
to make next Thursday's event su-
per memorable!

Graduation Sponsorships: \$7,100

Photography Committee:

Oh, just wait. You are really going to
be impressed with this!

Yearbook Committee:

While I haven't seen the finished prod-
uct yet, with Emily, Rachel, and
Mitzi leading the charge, you know
it's going to be amazing!

Project Committee:

Sponsorships: \$4,900

Grassroots funds raised: \$5,330

TOTAL: \$10,230

Product Launched: Purposity in Auro-
ra – 290 users have already met 10
needs!

All Together:

Community Explorations made: in ex-
cess of 70

Fun had: IMMEASURABLE

Positive impact made: EXPONENTIAL

Finally, as my farewell to you all –
thank you for the contributions you
have each made this year. I am in-
spired by each of you. I know that to-
gether we will achieve greatness for
our community of Aurora. Thank you!

Tricia Johnson
Class President
2017-18 Leadership Aurora

Fire Day

Leadership Aurora Goes Back to School to learn about Fire Behavior and Chemistry

What do you get when you combine heat, fuel, an oxidizing agent, and finally a chemical chain reaction? That's right – FIRE! The Leadership Aurora class of 2018 went to school with Captain Siegfried Klein, former captain of Aurora's Fire and Explosion Investigation Division and current captain of Station 13 and the Wildland Fire Team. There is no better person to teach about fire science than Captain Klein with his expertise, diverse investigation experience, and passion for education. Think of Captain Klein as a mix between Bill Nye the Science Guy and a modern day superhero! Leadership Aurora students observed and participated in many small-scale, highly-controlled demonstrations of how common household items can be involved in dangerous fires and explosions. We received a quick refresher on our high school chemistry classes to make connections on how fuel sources in various physical states can quickly be consumed by fire in the right environment.



Members of LA Class 2017-18 pose for a picture during the hands on portion of Fire Day.

The Aurora Fire Department's Fire and Explosive Investigations Bureau is known nationally and internationally for its expertise in investigating catastrophic fires, explosions, and bombs. These professionals investigate all fires in collaboration with multiple law enforcement agencies, as highly destructive fires are connected to criminal investigations. The Aurora Fire Department has three full time fire investigators who work in collaboration with other fire department, law enforcement, and emergency response agencies.

Captain Klein describes fire as, "...a living, breathing thing." The intensely destructive nature of fires proves to create many challenges when conducting a criminal investigation. By its very nature, fires destroy evi-

dence. Everything will eventually burn, given adequate heat and oxygen. The unique thing about fire, however, is that it destroys the evidence. Fire and explosion investigators must be able to examine the indicators left behind of how the fire behaved and the likely causes for that behavior. Through their extensive knowledge of fire behavior and chemistry, investigators are able to "reconstruct" crime scenes to determine the cause of the fire, the ignition source, and progression of the fire through its life cycle. Through their investigative efforts, the Fire and explosive Investigations Bureau can provide critical information to law enforcement officials during active criminal investigations.

A more recent development in fire investigations is the phenomenon of "hash oil" explosions. Hash oil is the concentrated liquid form of marijuana created by forcing butane gas through marijuana. It is extremely valuable due to its high concentration of THC. Colorado voters approved Amendment 64 in 2012, which outlined policy addressing the personal use and regulation of marijuana for adults over 21 year of age, as well as commercial cultivation, manufacture, and sale. Colorado also experienced its first hash oil explosion in November of 2012. In total, the Aurora Fire Department has conducted investigations for 8 fires and explosions attributed to the production of hash oil since October of 2013. Due to the extremely high volume of butane required to extract the oils from marijuana plants, there is a great deal of highly flammable butane gas in the air in these makeshift labs. Even the most minor charge can set up explosions in these labs, causing catastrophic results. Something as minor as a burst of static electricity from walking on a carpet in socks will ignite these deadly explosions. As we continue to learn more and more about the illegal production of hash oil, law enforcement agencies hope to shut down these dangerous labs before accidents happen and tragedies strike innocent victims.



Capt Klein demonstrates how fire can start using different ingredients.

Pay It Forward Event/Purposity Launch

Our grand finale Pay it Forward Event/Purposity Launch was held on Friday, May 18th and was a huge success. In addition to being incredibly fun, the night included delicious food, great beer and the best company. Not only were we able to raise \$10,230 for Purposity, 130 people attended the event at Dry Dock Brewery. That means 130 people were able to learn more about Purposity and how they are able to help Aurora families in need. In addition to our successful attendance, everyone deserves a big thank you for their contributions to the wine pull, balloon pop and silent auction. Between these games, ticket sales and our silent auction, we raised \$4,920. Thank you! Thank you! Thank you! These results show Leadership Aurora,

purposity



Get to know your classmates!

Each month we talk to a group of your classmates and ask questions so we can get to know each other better. In our last edition of "Getting to Know Your Classmate" Sarah Grobble tells us possible plans for her mid-life crisis and reminds herself that sometimes you need ten seconds of courage.

Here is what she had to say:

What do you do in your current position?

Sarah: Inspire a culture shift for Cherry Creek School District stakeholders, as we focus on both career and college preparedness and success for all students.

What's the craziest dare you ever took?

Sarah: To cliff jump off a thirty foot cliff. I am pretty sure I could never do it again, but I

am so glad that I had the ten seconds of courage that I needed in that moment.

What interesting skill do you want to learn?

Sarah: I have always wanted to learn to be a recreational pilot. We had a plane growing up, and I didn't take advantage of the opportunity to learn when I was young. Perhaps a mid-life crisis could help me with this dream.

If you could live any historical figure's life, which one would you choose?

Sarah: I would love to have been Winston Churchill. He lived in such a pivotal time in our history, and I would like to see how each small decision changed the world.

If you could go anywhere in the world for a vacation, where would you go?

Sarah: Australia. I have always wanted to travel there and see the outback.

What advice would you give to your younger self?

Sarah: Wear sunscreen; laugh more; travel, travel, and travel; learn another language rather than Latin; and get ten seconds of courage when you need it! If you wrote a book, what would it be called?

Sarah: These are the days of my personal circus . . .

Finally, what would you like people to know about you?

Sarah: I have loved having the chance to be part of Leadership Aurora. I am not someone who puts myself out there until I can see the bigger picture. Now that I understand how much I have grown because of this experience, I hope to continue to volunteer and support Aurora in other capacities.

Leadership Aurora Class of 2018-19

Do you know someone who would be a great fit for future Leadership Aurora Classes?

The Aurora Chamber of Commerce is now accepting applications for the Leadership Aurora Class of 2018-19.

What is the Commitment?

- Two-night MANDATORY opening retreat (September 13-15, 2018)

- One full weekday session per month (October—May) normally scheduled on the third Thursday of each month.

- Graduation Program—1/2 day session plus luncheon or dinner (June 6, 2019)

- Community experiences/projects—required independent of monthly class sessions

Application Process:

Tuition for the Leadership Aurora program is \$1,250 per participant. Tuition covers the retreat, monthly sessions, meals and materials. A limited number of partial scholarships are available to those not able to pay the full tuition. Scholarships are awarded based on need and class composition.

Applications are due by July 15th.

Tuition is due in full by September 1st unless prior arrangements have been made.

For more information and to apply, please visit:

<http://www.aurorachamber.org/leadership-aurora/leadership-application>.

Aurora Chamber of Commerce
14305 E. Alameda Ave, Suite 300
Aurora, Colorado 80012
(303) 344-1500