

1998 JEARBOOK

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"You are not here merely to make a living. You are here in order to enable the world to live more amply, with greater vision, with a finer spirit of hope and achievement. You are here to enrich the world, and you impoverish yourself if you forget the errand.

- Woodrow Wilson



chair letter

Congratulations! You have made the investment in time and energy to graduate from the Leadership Aurora Program. The purpose of Leadership Aurora is to provide programs which prepare current and developing community leaders who are committed to shaping Aurora's future. This seems like a good time to take an inventory of what you learned about our community, each other, and yourself.

"The way to do things is to begin."

- Horace Greeley

We began the year in Breckenridge at the opening retreat where you met for the first time as a group. Throughout the year you had an opportunity each month to experience a part of Aurora. You did a wonderful thing when you helped the Comitis Crisis Center as a class project. And yes, the flight from Buckley on a KC-135 tanker training mission to re-fuel F-117 stealth fighters in mid-air, was something you will remember for years to come. I hope you took away something from each experience.

The Leadership Aurora Board works countless hours to prepare the program. The board is made up of graduates of the program who donate their time and expertise to ensure the program meets the expectations of our participants. In addition, there are many community leaders who we count on each year to provide their time to the program. Please help me say thank you to these dedicated people.

Thank you for making this another successful year for Leadership Aurora. We hope it was a success for you. Our community is counting on you. Aurora is a wonderful place to live and work. Tell the story each chance you get.

Tom Bowman Norwest Bank Leadership Aurora Chair

leadership aurora

Since 1984 the Aurora Chamber of Commerce has promoted and fostered the development of leadership in our community. Leadership Aurora is a program designed to meet our city's need for the active participation of informed, skilled and involved community leaders.

Leadership Aurora provides the opportunity for participants to broaden their knowledge of the community and enhance their leadership skills. Each month from September to May, topics are presented by community leaders from the public and private sectors, in-depth dialogue of current issues, case studies, site visits, interactive, and hands-on experiences.

The program brings diverse people together to learn from each other; creates an expectation of servant leadership; produces a basic understanding of how people and groups function; and builds in real opportunities to teach knowledge and skills.

The purpose of Leadership Aurora is reflected in its goals:

- To develop awareness of the Aurora area — its challenges and opportunities
- To strengthen leadership abilities by identifying leadership styles, skills, and possibilities
- To form a network of informed, concerned citizens who can guide the future growth of Aurora
- To educate and motivate leaders to greater involvement in the community

We congratulate those who have accepted the challenge to make Aurora a better place to live, work and play —

The Leadership Aurora Class of 1999!







class of 1998-99 CLASS OF 1998 - 99

anne ryap bell



Writer/Consultant WindWord Communications 3288 S. Fairplay St. Aurora, CO 80014 303-693-1947 AnneRBell@aol.com

Originally from Oregon, Anne has held communications and education positions in Colorado since college. She earned her Bachelor of Arts in English from Oregon State, and a Master of Arts in Communication Arts at the University of Wisconsin. She recently completed four years as Director of Training and Communication for Arapahoe Advocates for Children, an Aurora-based non-profit. She is taking time off from the "real working world" to pursue personal writing projects, including children's books and family history, as well as communications consulting. Her volunteer and non-profit work have convinced her of the impact individual citizens can have. Leadership Aurora has strengthened that knowledge and her understanding of the complexities of a growing, dynamic city.

favorite quote: "Never die of ordinariness!" — graduation charge

robert We hielfeldt



Regional Vice President A First United Bank A 14501 E. Alameda Avenue Aurora, CO 80012 A 303-360-5555 rwbiel@aol.com

Rob came to Colorado from Chicago in 1998, with his wife of 11 years and his 4-year old boy/girl twins. He earned his Bachelor of Science in Business from Indiana University and a Masters of Business Administration from DePaul University. He stays busy with the Rotary Club of Aurora and the Ambassadors Program of the Chamber, and enjoys biking, hiking, skiing, and camping with his family. Through Leadership Aurora, he has learned how he can play an important role in the community on both a personal and professional level.

favorite quote:

"The world only exists in your eyes. You can make it as big or as small as you want."

– F. Scott Fitzgerald

janine L. birmingham



Sales and Marketing Manager
Cara Auto Glass
1471 Elmira St. Aurora, CO 80010
303-693-5900
Wreyet2ja9@aol.com

Janine has lived in the metro area since age 4. A mother very strong in character helped her through a childhood full of hard knocks, and bred in her the strength she is proud to possess today. She is the proud mother of three exceptional and wonderful children, and with her husband has owned and operated a successful small business in Aurora. They recently sold their business to a large corporation so that Janine could pursue other goals. Leadership Aurora has aided her understanding of the many issues facing our city, and armed with that new-found awareness, Janine believes that she has only just begun to make the impact that she intends.

favorite quote:

"There is no wealth but life." — John Ruskin

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Chief of Safety
Colorado Air National Guard
140 S. Aspen Street
Buckley Air National Guard Base
Aurora, CO 80011-9544
303-677-9488
jbuckingham@COBKF.ANG.AF.MIL

Buck was born in Joplin, Missouri, and then moved to Seattle when he was 15. He graduated from Central Washington State College and was then selected by the United States Air Force for Undergraduate Pilot Training. Flying F-4 Phantoms and A-10 Thunderbolts for the Air Force involved postings to Florida, Korea, North Carolina, New Mexico, and Louisiana. Buck and his wife have two sons (one of whom we met on Military Day). Doomed to flying a desk if he remained in the Air Force, in 1986 he switched to Colorado's Air National Guard and now has over 5,000 hours flying the F-16. Buck has found the people of our beautiful state to be very friendly, and is glad he and his family made the right choice.

favorite quote: "These aren't going to fit in there."

Pat Landaker

daniel Charlen hamberlain - -



Executive Vice President FirstBank of Aurora 2300 S. Havana St. Aurora, CO 80014 303-337-2000 Daniel463@aol.com

Dan was raised in rural Nebraska, and earned his Bachelor of Science in Business Management at Kearney State College before graduating from the Graduate School of Banking in Madison, Wisconsin. Married for ten years, Dan is the proud

father of four wonderful children. He joined FirstBank in 1986 and is now Executive Vice President. His Leadership Aurora experience has shown him how the various agencies work together to create a prosperous city.

favorite quote:

"Life is a mystery to be lived and not a problem to be solved." — Author unknown

lee cooperman -



Owner A Fastsigns of Aurora A 2495 S. Havana St. Aurora, CO 80014 303-750-8890 I leec52@Hotmail.com

Lee is a native of Washington, D.C. and earned a Bachelor of Science in Education from the University of Maryland. After serving as a school vice-principal and principal, Lee moved to Aurora in 1996 and now is coowner of Fastsigns of Aurora. A recent graduate of the Aurora Citizens' Police Academy, Lee is active in the Chamber's Ambassador program and in his congregation, and is a member of the Smoky Hill Rotary. Lee loves Aurora's close-knit feeling, and is pleased that the community is constantly evaluating itself as it strives to be a leading city.

favorite quote:

"Not that I have already attained, or am already perfected; but I press on, that I may lay hold of that for which Messiah has also laid hold of me."

- Philippians 3:12

jeannie davis JEANNIE DAVIS -



President A Now Hear This, Inc. A 14571 E. Mississippi Ave. #213 Aurora, CO 80012 A 303-337-1991 A PhoneSkill@aol.com

Jeannie moved to Aurora from Pittsburgh 23 years ago. She has worked in public relations for 25 years, including 12 years in management positions at USWEST. She is President of Now Hear This, Inc., a communications training company specializing in professional telephone skills workshops. Jeannie has published both articles and a book, *Beyond Hello: A Practical Guide for Telephone* Communication and Quality Customer Service. Jeannie is a board member of the Aurora Chamber, a leader in the Denver Metro Chamber, and chairs the Denver Small Business Development Center. She is active with the Denver Tech Center Rotary Club, and serves on the boards of the Open Door Youth Gang Alternatives, the Colorado Supreme Court Nominating Committee, and the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights State Advisory Council. Leadership Aurora has taught her that anyone who lives in this city can be proud of the effective operation of its public/private sector business community and certainly ought to be more aware of the value-added benefits of residency.

favorite quote:

"Do not follow where the path may lead. Go instead where there is no path and leave a trail."

lynn dawsg AWSON



900 Potomac Street Aurora, CO 80011 303-363-5302

Lynn grew up in Cheyenne, Wyoming and attended Colorado College before graduating from the University of Texas in Austin. She earned a Master of Arts from the University of Northern Colorado. She has worked in non-profit, public, and proprietary entities, including employment as a psychologist, as Director of Planning for Mental Health for the State of Colorado,

and as CEO of a multi-specialty physician practice in the Front Range. As President and Chief Executive Officer of Spalding Rehabilitation Hospital, Lynn runs a 153-bed hospital system with facilities from Morrison to Cheyenne. She serves on the boards of Opera Colorado and the Rocky Mountain Stroke Association. Lynn brings a unique perspective to Leadership Aurora, as a graduate and board

member of Leadership Jefferson County; her son is chairing the Steering Committee for the Youth Leadership Program in Jefferson County. Despite that experience, her participation this year has honed her understanding and appreciation of Aurora.

favorite quote:

"If you do what you've always done, you'll get what you've always gotten."

Author unknown

bryan doak



Director of Admissions, Registration and Records

Community College of Aurora 16000 E. CentreTech Pkwy. Aurora, CO 80011 A 303-360-4737 Bryan.Doak@cca.cccoes.edu

Bryan moved to Aurora from Iowa in 1987. He earned his Bachelor of Arts in Business from Columbia College-Aurora, and is working towards his Master of Arts in Business. He enjoys

helping the students from our community, and through Leadership Aurora has developed a much better understanding of what our city is made of.

favorite quote:

"The difference between the impossible and the possible lies in a person's determination." - Tommy Lasorda

steven fish



FISHER -Presiding Judge Aurora Municipal Court 15001 E. Alameda Drive Aurora, CO 80012 ^ 303-739-6536 ^ SFisher@ci.aurora.co.us

Born and raised in New Jersey (what accent?), Steve graduated from the University of Virginia Law School. After 3 years in the United States Navy, Steve married his wife Liz and they moved to Colorado. He has lived and worked in Aurora since 1971, in private practice and in the Aurora City Attorney's Office, and has been a judge since

1978. He enjoys working with young people, and has been active with youth soccer in Aurora, with school church youth groups, and Steve also helped establish Aurora's Teen Court. He also serves as deacon and Bible study leader in his church. Despite his long association with the city

government, Leadership Aurora has brought him into contact with a broader spectrum of the community, and he feels more a part of Aurora than ever before.

favorite quote:

"And what does the Lord require of you but to do justice, to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?" - Micah 6:8

debra grace

Administrative Manager Aurora Mental Health Center 14301 E. Hampden Avenue Aurora, CO 80014 ^ 303-617-2300 ^ Debbie_Grace@AuMHC.org

Debbie has been with Aurora Mental Health Center for seven years. As Administrative Manager, she has had the opportunity to work with a wide variety of individuals and organizations that impact and benefit the City of Aurora.

Through her involvement with Leadership Aurora, she has been able to broaden her knowledge and make new friends. The course permitted her to have an in-depth look at areas she would normally not have been exposed to.

favorite quote:

"The sharp edge of a razor is difficult to pass over; thus the wise say the path to salvation is hard."

- Katha-Upahishad



thelmanautierreaz



Media Coordinator 🔺 KACT-TV, Channel 8 🔺 14949 E. Alameda Dr. Aurora, CO 80012 - 303-739-6588 - tgutierr@ci.aurora.co.us

Born in Chihuahua, Mexico, Thelma has lived in Colorado most of her life. She graduated from Denver's J. F. Kennedy High School and worked for an auto parts distributor before employment by the City of Aurora in 1992. As Media Coordinator for Channel 8, she enjoys her daily contact with the public. Leadership Aurora has

taught her even more about our community and its people. Thelma has served on the Americans with Disabilities Act Committee for the city, and uses her fluency in Spanish to help ease barriers. She's on the board of the Nuñez Foundation and is looking forward to securing a degree in Business Administration. Away from work, she likes to bike, garden,

and spend time with her husband of 14 years, Jose, and her 2 children, Jaime and Monica.

favorite quote:

"You gain strength, courage and confidence by every experience in which you really stop to look fear in the face. You must do the thing which you think you cannot do."

- Eleanor Roosevelt



Commercial Loan Officer/Assistant Vice President - Citywide Banks 10660 E.Colfax Avenue 🔺 Aurora, CO 80010 🔺 303-365-3611 BKHPYV@aol.com

Brian is working to help develop a mid-sized community bank into a middle market regional provider of banking services with a focus on "Banking with the Human Touch." After work, he enjoys running, golf, mountain

biking, and playing ice hockey. From Leadership Aurora, he has gained a comprehensive understanding of the city's diversity.

favorite quote: "Success is limited only by your desire." Author unknown

vicki hull -



B&H Furniture Systems, Inc. 🔺 12385 E. Cedar Circle 🔺 Aurora, CO 80012 303-340-4412 khull@dnvr.uswest.net

Vicki and her husband moved to Aurora in 1991 and started their own home-based furniture business. Married 30 years, they have four children and one grand-child. Since 1980 she has volunteered in the schools, and has served as Treasurer of the

Advisory Board of the Aurora Fox Arts Center since 1996. Leadership Aurora has shown her the operations that "make a city hum," and introduced her to the hundreds of concerned, enthusiastic, caring people who attempt to meet the community's needs.

favorite quote:

"Sure, you could quit, or you could stay and try to make a difference."

Dale Mingilton

geoffree hunt .



Associate Professor of History and History Department Chair Community College of Aurora 🔺 16000 E. CentreTech Pkwy. 🔺 Aurora, CO 80011 303-360-4825 - geoff.hunt@cca.cccoes.edu

Geoff's love of history is shared with students not only at Community College of Aurora, but also at Columbia College-Aurora. His 26 years of museum experience in Japan, New York and the West include serving as the Organizing Director of Wings Over the Rockies Aviation & Space Museum at the former Lowry site.

He holds history degrees from University of Wyoming (BA), Cooperstown Graduate Program, NY (MA) and University of Colorado-Boulder (PhD).

He and Rebecca Hunt share not only their love of teaching and museum work, but also two adult children. Geoff is also an avid Civil War re-enactor, and you can see him get killed (twice!) in the movie "Gettysburg."

Geoff praises Leadership Aurora for introducing him "to a cohort of bright, lively, engaged people who care about their community."

favorite quote:

"Ships are safe in harbor, but that's not what ships are for."

> - Admiral Grace Hopper, U.S. Navy

pat landaker



President A Pat Landaker Agency, Inc. P.O. Box 31003 Aurora, CO 80041 303-361-6982 PLAgency@aol.com

Pat's experience includes writing, editing, public relations, marketing and publishing. Pat holds a BS in Journalism from UCLA and has won several awards for writing and publishing. She has been a managing editor of a newspaper and is a nationally syndicated columnist. Her accomplishments include helping create the UCLA Hospital and Clinics newsletter and writing environmental impact statements for Congress.

Through Leadership Aurora Pat has gained great friends and relationships as well as a better knowledge of the Aurora community. "Sharpshooter Pat" also claims to have lost her fear of guns, having never touched one before the Police Day Session.

favorite quote:

"Accomplish your dreams."

Mom

daniel marques



Police Lieutenant Aurora Police Department 15001 E. Alameda Dr. Aurora, CO 80012 303-739-6687 DMarques@ci.aurora.co.us

A Colorado native, Dan has traveled extensively, but has always returned to the beautiful front range area. Dan has 22 years in police work and is currently a lieutenant assigned as Patrol Watch Commander in District Two. With a bachelor's degree in Criminal Justice from Columbia College, he is pursuing a Master's in Public Administration. Dan thrives on staying incredibly busy, including involvement in many community activities and boards. A few of his "fun" interests include drag-racing the Aurora Police Association Race-a-Cop racecar, skydiving, and martial arts.

Through Leadership Aurora, Dan says he has met some talented, aspiring community leaders and gained an increased awareness of the activities, problems, and promise of our community.

favorite quote:

"To laugh is to risk appearing the fool...To weep is to risk appearing sentimental...To reach out to another is to risk involvement... To express feelings is to risk exposing your true self... Only a person who risks is free."

Author unknown

jan mçlees



Career Development Coordinator
Community College of Aurora 16000 E. CentreTech Parkway
Aurora, CO 80011
303-360-4835 Jan.McLees@cca.cccoes.edu

Jan enjoys the career development field and is a member of a number of professional career development associations. Originally from Winterset, Iowa, she attended Sterling College (KS), where she was honored in Who's Who Among Students in American Universities and Colleges, then received her MA from Azusa

Pacific University (CA).

Jan's love of music has taken her on an international tour of 26 countries with a singing group and to Pasadena to march in the Rose Parade with a handbell choir. She currently sings with a 100-voice church choir.

As a new resident of the City of Aurora, Jan applauds the

Leadership Aurora program: "Where else would you get to participate in a police and fire ride along, shadow a reporter, or fly in a military plane to learn tools for leadership?"

favorite quote:

"God gives every bird its food, but He does not throw it into the nest."

- J.G. Holland

kim podobbik



Public Information Officer
City of Aurora
1470 S. Havana St. Aurora, CO 80012
303-739-7081
kpodobni@ci.aurora.co.us

Kim, our class president, brings an international flavor to the class. Born in Peru, she lived in Papau, New Guinea and Indonesia before moving to the U.S. to attend college. She received her BS in Public Relations from Northern Arizona University and currently works to promote City of Aurora special events including KidSpree and the Fire & Ice Festival, and helps provide Cultural Awareness training to city employees.

Kim is a member of the Public Relations Society of America and the National Association of Government Communicators.

As a newcomer to the community, the Leadership Aurora experience has provided Kim with a number of resources - she knows just who to call to get the job done! favorite quote:

"Step with care and great tact and remember that Life's a Great Balancing Act. Just never forget to be dexterous and deft. And never mix up your right foot with your left."

> -Oh, the Places You'll Go, by Dr. Seuss

patrice APRIL SWELL



Assistant Vice President \checkmark Norwest Bank Colorado, N.A. \checkmark 999 S. Sable Blvd. Aurora, CO 80012 \checkmark (303)752-8001

A native of Colorado, Patrice grew up in Denver and Greeley and received her BA from Aims Community College in Criminal Justice. She became interested in banking, and has been with Norwest Banks since 1992. She and her husband enjoy hiking and camping, mountain biking and motorcycling. Patrice has appreciated the opportunity to observe Servant Leadership in action in the Aurora community through her Leadership Aurora experience and says she has been particularly inspired to become more involved in issues related to children.

favorite quote:

"The real voyage of discovery consists not in seeking new landscapes, but in having new eyes."

- Marcel Proust

susan guates .



Paralegal/Legal Secretary 🔺 12124 E. Virginia Dr. 🔺 Aurora, CO 80012 303-343-3782 🔺 SQU1039749@aol.com

Susan graduated from Gateway High School in Aurora and is currently studying biotechnology at Community College of Aurora where she is a member of Phi Theta Kappa. Susan also belongs to the Business and Professional Women's group and volunteers for the Arapahoe County Democrats. In addition to her work as a paralegal, she has served for the last three years as Assistant to the House Minority Leader and as legislative aide at the State Capitol.

Susan is mom to a 12 year-old daughter and a 3 year-old son who was born with Down Syndrome.

Through Leadership Aurora, Susan has gained a better understanding of the challenges various community organizations face, and feels that most of the general public probably does not fully appreciate the assets which Aurora has.

favorite quote:

"In every journey, there is meaning. In every conflict, there is growth. In every action, there is purpose. In every moment of doubt, remember to believe in yourself."

- Author unknown

dorothy sawyer Mention Officer - The Me



Chief Nursing Officer
The Medical Center of Aurora
1501 S. Potomac Aurora, CO 80012
303-695-2603
Dorothy.Sawyer@Columbia.net

Originally from Washington State, Dorothy received her BS and MS in Nursing from Eastern Washington University. She also enjoys a Graduate Executive Fellow status through the University of Houston at Clear Lake. She is a member of the American Organization of Nurse Executives and the American College of Healthcare Executives and has contributed to publications in quality assurance and healthcare administration. While residing in Arizona, she had an opportunity to share U.S. healthcare methods with physicians, nurses and government officials in Almaty, Kazackstan.

She enjoys community involvement, and as a new resident of Aurora she feels that Leadership Aurora has enriched her personal and professional journey.

favorite quote:

"Organizational innovators are dreamers who generate future images of possibility and then lead their organizations toward those images."

- Leland Kaiser

del schwabhwab



Battalion Chief Aurora Fire Department 1470 South Havana Aurora, CO 80012 303-752-4839 d.schwab@ci.aurora.co.us

A Colorado native, Del joined the Aurora Fire Department in 1972 and has seen the department grow from five stations to a projected fifteen stations over the next few years. He attended Northeastern Junior College and University of Colorado-Denver and was a member of the first paramedic class at Denver General Hospital. Del has been a strong advocate of this medical component of fire department response and remembers when the entire Aurora Fire Department had only three paramedics; now every station has a paramedic unit.

Through Leadership Aurora, Del has met many different people, developing friendships, understanding, and knowledge about other professions. Del appreciated the opportunity to "learn to trust someone I hardly knew and find out we really had a lot in common."

favorite quote:

"You can get everything in life you want if you help enough other people get what they want."

norma j silvers edd



Principal Antelope Ridge Elementary School State Aurora, CO 80015 (until school opens, contact Cherry Creek Schools 303-773-1184) Insilvers@CCDS.K12.co.us

Antelope Ridge Elementary is scheduled to open August, 1999 and Norma, as "founding principal," has enjoyed the opportunity to create a new school from the ground up. She and her husband, Wayne, are both native Coloradans and have lived in Aurora since 1963, when Norma began teaching at Holly Ridge Elementary in Cherry Creek Schools. With a BS in Elementary Education from CU and MS in Curriculum and Instruction from UNC, Norma has recently completed her doctorate in Educational Leadership from NOVA Southeastern University (FL). Norma and Wayne enjoy ballroom dancing, reading and bike riding.

Through Leadership Aurora, Norma has had fun getting to know other class participants and has appreciated learning more about the different aspects that make Aurora such a great place to live.

favorite quote:

"If you don't read, you'll only be as big as your own life and your own experiences. Books give you other centuries, other cultures, all kinds of people you wouldn't otherwise know." — Jean Fritz

bob stef



Detective/Public Information Officer Aurora Police Department 15001 E. Alameda Dr. Aurora, CO 80012 303-739-6616 RStef@ci.aurora.co.us

Bob has lived in Aurora since 1972 when his family moved here from Southern California. A graduate of Gateway High School, Bob received his BS from Regis College in 1980 in Accounting and Business Administration. He began his law enforcement career in 1981 and joined the Aurora Police department as a member of the first "lateral" class in 1991. Bob earned the credentials of "certified fraud examiner" in March, 1997, which has been beneficial in the successful prosecution of many criminal fraud and larceny cases. He was appointed Public Information Officer in June, 1998.

Bob enjoys participating in family activities, golf and playing baseball. Leadership Aurora has reinforced Bob's belief that Aurora is a progressive, innovative city, destined to be a leader for coming generations. favorite quote:

"Watch your thoughts, they become words Watch your words, they become actions Watch your actions, they become habits Watch your habits, they become your character Watch your character, for it becomes your destiny."

- Author unknown



bob steine teader for coming generations. Attorney at Law A The Law Offices of Robert Owen Steine, P.C. A 2620 S. Parker Rd. #170 Aurora, CO 80014 A 303-755-5856 A SteineEsg@aol.com

> Bob has been a resident of Aurora since 1972, attending Overland High School. He graduated from Colorado State University in 1990 and earned his Juris Doctorate from Gonzaga University School of Law. His law office focuses on real estate, business law, bankruptcy, family law, contracts and international business transactions.

Bob is also a professional actor and has appeared in commercials, television, industrial films and motion pictures.

From Leadership Aurora, Bob has gained remarkable insight into how local government interacts with the citizenry.

favorite quote: "Peace does not rest in charters and covenants alone. It lies in the hearts and minds of all people. And if it is cast out there; then no act, no pact, no treaty, no organization, can hope to preserve it without the support and the wholehearted commitment of all people."

 John F. Kennedy address before the U.N. - 9/20/63



Vicki story Marketing Director + Aurora

Marketing Director Aurora Mall 14200 E. Alameda Ave. Aurora, CO 80012 303-344-9764 OZBATBCH@aol.com

Originally from Oklahoma, Vicki attended the University of Oklahoma and began her career in property management in 1989, moving into marketing in 1991. She has held the position of Marketing Director at the Aurora Mall since October, 1996. Since coming to

Aurora, she has become involved in many community activities including the Comitis Crisis Center, Kaleidoscope Aurora and the city's Visitors Advisory Promotion Board.

Through Leadership Aurora she has built new and lasting friendships and has enjoyed gaining insight into the inner workings of the various organizations within the city.

favorite quote: "Learn to laugh at yourself; you'll always be amused."

Author unknown

lisa strawn



Retail Specialist City of Aurora 1470 S. Havana St. Aurora, CO 80012 303-739-7052 Istrawn@ci.aurora.co.us

A Colorado resident since age five, Lisa attended Littleton Public Schools and Denver University. She worked in marketing and public relations for several energy firms in the mid-1980s until plunging oil prices and a shrinking industry led her to new opportunities in Washington, DC. There she worked for 10 years in marketing for an international real estate development firm, the last three years shuttling between London, Paris and Washington, DC. Lisa decided to return home in mid-1996 and quickly landed a newly-created position with City of Aurora, marketing the city to the retail real estate community.

Lisa enjoys the ongoing professional relationships with many local area business and community leaders, and is pleased that she could enhance connections in the city through Leadership Aurora.

favorite quote:

"If we listened to our intellect, we'd never have a love affair. We'd never have a friendship. We'd never go into business, because we'd be cynical. Well, that's nonsense. You've got to jump off cliffs all the time and build your wings on the way down."

- Ray Bradbury

june sturming Reller

Staff R.N. - Women's Services A The Medical Center of Aurora 1501 S. Potomac St. Aurora, CO 80012 A 303-695-2671

June describes herself as the "penultimate direct patient care nurse." Her commitment as an advocate of patients' rights prompted her to seek the staff position on the Colorado State Board of Nursing, where she is now completing her sixth year. She enjoys being involved in decisions directly impacting the nursing profession through this board as that of the National Council of State Boards of Nursing.

June also serves on the Board of Directors for Aurora Community Mental Health and New Beginnings Thrift Store and volunteers as a nurse for the American Lung Association's Champ Camp for asthmatic children.

Through Leadership Aurora, June has gained a deeper appreciation

for Aurora's people, leaders and services and a keen interest in helping achieve future goals.

favorite quote:

"Help me be my brother's keeper, Let me learn the healer's art. To the wounded and the weary Let me show a gentle heart."

- Susan Evan McCloud

steve tre



STEVE TREVINO - - - -

Funeral Director/Manager Family Funeral Care 8600 E. Hampden Ave. Denver, CO 80231 303-771-4636

At Family Funeral Care, Steve meets with families, arranging and directing funerals and manages the daily operations of the funeral home as well. He has served as president of both the Denver Metro and Colorado Funeral Directors Associations and has served on several national committees. He also was chosen "Funeral Director of the Year" by Morticians of the Southwest in 1996. Family Funeral Care also received favorable television coverage last year in a feature designed to show viewers how they could avoid high costs of funeral and burial arrangements.

Steve is committed to community involvement and has appreciated the opportunities provided through Leadership Aurora to meet leaders from various businesses and to understand the unique qualities it takes to become a leader. "The challenges put before us intensified the synergy level of the whole class."

favorite quote:

"To get a good look at our own lives, we may need to see our reflections in the images others have of us."

- Mort Crimm

congratulations THE LEADERSHIP AURORA CLASS OF 1999!

acknowledgments

Leadership Aurora is one of more than 1,000 community leadership programs across the United States. It is a program of the Aurora Chamber of Commerce, underwritten by the Chamber, in-kind donations, and tuition. Curriculum and other

program specifics are overseen by Leadership Aurora Board members who themselves are graduates of the program.

The community becomes the classroom as sessions are held at various locations in Aurora. Class members learn about every major aspect of community life from education and economic development to media, police and fire protection, quality of life, and healthcare. The success of the program is measured by the positive effect on the participants, their organizations and the community.





The Leadership Aurora program expresses its gratitude to each board member who spent countless volunteer hours formulating program content and securing presenters for each session. They bring their commitment, knowledge and expertise in developing leaders for our community. On behalf of the Leadership Aurora Board, we also extend our thanks to all of the speakers and presenters who volunteered their time during this past year. You each share in the success of the program. Thank you!

opening retreat

One by one, 33 students in Leadership Aurora's Class of 1999 arrived in Breckenridge, Colorado for a 3-day retreat at the Great Divide Hotel. The retreat was filled with workshops, discussions and teambuilding exercises.

The first evening's dinner told a lot about the students, who were asked to reveal something truly unique about themselves. What an eclectic class made up of a variety of individuals including an auctioneer, an author, a judge, a skydiver and a beauty queen. These revelations sparked conversations. "What a terrific icebreaker," one student commented. Now comfortable with each other, the students were ready to let the fun begin.

Classmates worked hard to meet their assigned tasks, and it didn't take long for friendships, partnerships and leadership to take shape in the wonderful mountain setting. Personality trait exercises and trust-building activities unveiled leaders, decisionmakers and movers and shakers. Positive messages and other valuable leadership tools provided by prominent community members added to the rich lessons students received throughout the 3 days.

Participants enjoyed lots of leisure time together also.

SESSION COORDINATORS

Tom Bowman (chair) Sheila Anthony Matt Cook Tim Ehgotz Steve Marshall Dominic Martinez Jo Snell Terri Wohlever

They danced, discussed and dined. So while students may have come to Breckenridge as classmates, there's no doubt they went home as teammates.



commercity, day

police session

SESSION COORDINATORS

Cindy Bohl (chair)

Sheila Anthony

Annie Ayers

Catherine Canny
Kim French
Dave Huffine
Sheila Martin
Terri Wohlever

his was the first day of class and most students would agree that it was filled to the brim with tours, site visits and discussions. Who knew so many valuable resources were available in Aurora. Students went to shelters, a theatre, recreation centers, and soup kitchens. The day covered Aurora's art, history, recreation and leisure activities, while taking a look at how the city provides for families, youth and crisis. In addition, students learned

about Aurora's many cultures from a very interactive police officer and three language translators. These presentations were also useful lessons on how to interact with people from different backgrounds and how to avoid conflict through better understanding. Participants were treated to lunch at a soup kitchen, a popular Mexican restaurant, a German deli and to Moroccan Mediterranean cuisine. This should have been a fourday experience, but packed into 8 hours provided the class with a cheat sheet to Aurora 101.

SESSION COORDINATORS . Steve Marshall (chair) . Dave Huffine . Paul Short . Marc Stine



Police Day offered a hands-on experience for class participants. Everyone appreciated the opportunity to get an up-close-andpersonal look at the day-today operations in the multifaceted work environment of our city's police department. With the limited time available and so many services to talk about, only a few — PAR, D.A.R.T., K-9, victims assistance and gang task force were discussed. Police ride-alongs, peeks at the clandestine infrastructure of a SWAT team and tours of the police dispatch area cleared the mystery of what goes on behind those walls. One student used her visit to the shooting range to release a life-long fear of guns. The highlight had to be the tour of the jail, which was followed by lunch in the jail — a wake-up call every citizen should experience.

SESSION COORDINATORS A Randy Simpson (chair) A Matt Cook A Dave Huffine Karen Odell A John Spann

> Media Day gave students a look at the many aspects of the TV, radio and news industry combined with the opportunity to appear on TV. Groups were asked to find an issue important to Aurora and build a media campaign around it then present it "live" on TV. The experience allowed some students to showcase their known talents

while others discovered hidden ones. Participants gained useful tips for writing the perfect press release, dealing with reporters and handling a TV interview. This most beneficial class day helped students build their confidence and learn more about the benefits of good media relations. Stars were made on Media Day—and that's a "Take."

healthcare session

SESSION COORDINATORS . Terri Wohlever (chair) . Annie Ayers . Cindy Bohl . Kim French



ealthcare Day provided students with a glimpse of Aurora's medical community. Visits to nursing homes, hospitals, clinics and other health-related agencies outlined the variety of services available, while a tour of the Medical Center of Aurora's new facilities showcased the latest in medical technology. Classmates donned surgical gowns, caps, and masks and toured the ICU, OR, ER and many other departments. They viewed a heart-lung machine, trauma rooms and

surgical operations. Overviews by charge nurses, department heads and the hospital's public affairs officer helped students put all the pieces in place creating a detailed picture of this medical community. Dr. Fred Abrams' discussion on medical ethics and a look at various case studies challenged participants to answer questions and make decisions from an ethical standpoint - challenges that helped them realize the difficult determinations healthcare professionals face on a daily basis.

education

SESSION COORDINATORS A Marc Stine (chair) Catherine Canny Tim Ehgotz Andre Lanier



ducation Day provided a twopart opportunity to go inside Aurora's school system. Prior to class day, students designed their own curriculum then were dispatched to a variety of schools to teach, talk, and in some cases, listen. Elementary, middle and high schools and one vocational school were visited. Students had a variety of experiences. Some were shocked by what they witnessed, others were moved and even others were inspired. The class came together at the APS Administration office, formed groups and discussed their

educational adventure. Group leaders overviewed their classmates' experiences and highlighted the artifacts they picked up from their assignment. Some participants created artifacts. The class day also included overviews of Aurora's two school districts, Aurora Public and Cherry Creek, and a brief look at the history of education in Aurora. What did Leadership Aurora students learn from this day? They learned that education continues to adjust itself to the needs of those it serves. Let's just say Education Day was truly enlightening.

economic & infrastructure session



SESSION COORDINATORS A Paul Short (chair) Tom Bowman A Larry Grandison Sheila Martin Dominic Martinez Joe Pucci Jo Snell

Everyone enjoyed the role-playing opportunity experienced on this day. Teamed up with professionals, students represented council members, city staff, developers and neighborhood association members. Participants scripted and acted in their own version of "Not In My Backyard." No emotion was left unturned as classmates went to battle over buffers, increased traffic flow and building heights. Result:

Neighborhood Association-1 Developers-0. Included in this informative day were presentations by representatives from the City's Planning Department, City Council, an architectural firm and the E-470 Authority. Even the City's Mayor participated, using his more than 30-years of experience in government to give students a historical glance at Aurora. Fun and informative sums up this class day.

military session

SESSION COORDINATORS A John Spann (chair) A Buck Buckingham (class member) A Tim Ehgotz A Larry Grandison A Joe Pucci



ost students used one word to sum up Military Day - awesome. Upon receipt of their orders to report to Buckley ANG, students embarked on a truly unique experience. Class began with a briefing on military operations by Brigadier General Wayne Schultz. Representatives from the Denver Naval Reserve and Air **Reserve Personnel Center** rounded out the briefings, which helped students realize the scope of the military's

presence in Aurora. The adventure of boarding a KC-135 turned most students into wideeyed kids. During the flight, they observed the refueling of B-1 bombers, F-16s and F-117s a firsthand look at an intricate and elaborate, yet daily routine function. It's amazing that what one person views as "just a job" seems an incredible feat to another. When students thought it couldn't get any better, it did as a fellow classmate and three other F-16 jet pilots topped things off with a "flyover." AWESOME!

fire session WHERE THERE'S SMOKE, THERE'S FIRE"





et's just call this day an amusement park field trip for adults. Participants put out fires, rappelled from a five-story building, climbed a fire ladder and donned firefighter garb. It had all the elements of pure entertainment...namely fun, fun, fun! Who doesn't have respect for firefighters? Yet, one really has to walk in their shoes to understand the tremendous job they do and what it takes to do that job. Students experienced only a drop of what these men and women deal with dailyneedless to say they were

exhausted. What surprised most participants was the weight of the firefighter's clothing and equipment. The classroom lesson on household fire safety was well-presented and immediately applicable, and the overview of fire administration enlightened classmates to the infrastructure of the world of firefighting. The camaraderie, trust, respect and group effort it takes to do this job was evident and really personified the meaning of leadership. What a fun and informative day!

class project comitis center



The 1999 Leadership Aurora class chose the Comitis Crisis Center as their class project. The small grassroots service agency was in need of some minor repairs and fresh paint. Students didn't hesitate to jump on board this effort. They spent one day prepping the center and another painting the dormitory, hallways and stairwell. Dim surroundings became a brighter existence thanks to this much-needed face-lift. This project exemplified what a little volunteerism can accomplish and gave students the opportunity to do something nice for a great community resource.

interest directory LEADERSHIP AURORA 1998 - 1999 INTEREST DIRECTORY



directors 1998-99



Sheila Anthony Aurora Senior Center 30 Del Mar Circle Aurora, CO 80011 303-361-2902

Annie Ayers Comitis Crisis Center P.O. Box 919 Aurora, CO 80040 303-341-9160

Cindy Bohl Aurora Mental Health Center 14301 E. Hampden Avenue Aurora, CO 80014 303-617-2373

Tom Bowman, CHAIR Norwest Bank Colorado 1450 S. Havana Aurora, CO 80012 303-752-6332

Catherine Canny 14064 E. Hampden Place Aurora, CO 80014 303-766-0849

Matt Cook KACT-TV - Channel 8 14949 E. Alameda Drive Aurora, CO 80012 303-739-6606 Kimberly Curtis Program Director Aurora Chamber of Commerce 562 Sable Blvd., Ste 200 Aurora, CO 80011 303-344-1500

Tim Ehgotz Pickens Tech Center 500 Airport Boulevard Aurora, CO 80011 303-344-4910

Kimberly French Bonfils Blood Center 717 Yosemite Street Denver, CO 80220 303-363-2362

Larry Grandison DFAS-Denver Center 6760 E. Irvington Place Denver, CO 80279-8000 303-676-7718

David Huffine 697 S. Nome Street Aurora, CO 80012 303-364-1683 Dr. Andre Lanier Horizon Community Middle School 3981 S. Reservoir Road Aurora, CO 80013 303-693-4242

Capt. Steve Marshall Aurora Police Department 15001 E. Alameda Drive Aurora, CO 80012 303-739-6352

Sheila Martin Redi-Print, Inc. 378 S. Chambers Road Aurora, CO 80017 303-745-0010

Dominic Martinez Norwest Bank Aurora 9000 E. Colfax Ave. Aurora, CO 80010 303-360-4848

Doug McBee Aurora Fire Department 1470 S. Havana Aurora, CO 80012 303-739-7128 Karen Odell Aurora Mall 14200 E. Alameda Ave. Aurora, CO 80012 303-344-9764

Kim Podobnik Class President City of Aurora 1470 S. Havana Aurora, CO 80012 303-739-7081

Joe Pucci 1334 S. Macon Street Aurora, CO 80012 303-751-6978

Paul Short Integrated Companies 1190 S. Colorado Blvd., Ste 301 Denver, CO 80246 303-504-9999 ext. 13

Randy Simpson KACT-TV Channel 8 14949 E. Alameda Drive Aurora, CO 80012 303-739-6605

Jo Ellen Snell E-470 Public Highway Authority 22470 E. 6th Parkway Aurora, CO 80018 303-537-3470

John Spann Buckley ANG Base/Stop 27 140FW/PA, 140 Aspen Street Aurora, CO 80011-9544 303-677-9431

Marc Stine Rangeview High School 17599 E. Iliff Avenue Aurora, CO 80013 303-695-6848

Terri Wohlever The Medical Center of Aurora 1501 S. Potomac Aurora, CO 80012 303-873-5942

graduates LEADERSHIP AURORA GRADUATES

Ann Abernathy William Adams Carla Adams Tanja Alexander Robert Allen John Ahlenius Doug Anthony Sheila Anthony Greg Appling Ken Arfa Kimberly Armitage Tom Ashburn Susan Aubin Anne Ayers Melissa Badley Don Bailey Pamela Bailey Suzanne Bailey Barbara Banks Becky Barcheski Cynthia Barnes Ray Barnes **Richard Barnhill** Lila Bartel Jon Bartlett Joseph Basile Frank Baysore Larry Beach Erin Bear Linda Bedinger Jim Behl William Bell Julie Bender **Kimberly Bennett Ricky Bennett** Ron Bennett Pauline Berry Sandra Bice Marchann Bittler Stephen Blackburn Penny Block Cheryl Blum Theresa Blumberg Joyce Bradney Susan Bobka Cindy Bohl John Bokeno Don Boling Mary Bopp Darryl Borgonah Tom Bowman Anne Boyd Dee Ann Boyd Sgt. Thomas P. Boyle Parris Bradlev Joyce Bradney Len Brady Jo-Morgan Brooks Charlene Brown John Buckner Diane Burridge Marsha Bush Kathleen Buys Peggy Cain Theresa Campbell Margee Cannon Catherine Deus Canny Robert Cardenas Carla Carlson Maureen Carr

Rob Chaney Carol Chapman Yong Duk Choi Sam Cipolla Sue Clark David Clary Barbara Ann Coffey Michael Coffman Arlen Cohn Tommy Collins Naomi Colwell Linda Cook Matthew Cook Janet Cornell Carole Costello Artimese Cowan Stephen Cross Talee Crowe-Ahlenius Gerald Cummings Kathy Cunningham **Evelyn Daniels** Lawrence Davila Barbara Davis Dale Davis James M. "Mike" Davis Jerome Davis Paul Davis William Davis David Day Margaret Day Winfred "Win" Deal Dennis Deas Thomas Deter Carol DeYoung Shirley Diedrichs Gayle Dinga John Dingess Jim Dolbier Norine Domenico Steven Doney Joan Duke Karen Eakes Wilson Egan Timothy Ehgotz Jim Everett Margaret Faciszewski Marian Fagerstrom Lanny Fahlenkamp Donald Fecko Fred Fendel Laurie Findley Kevin Fletcher Ann Flores Nancy Flores Perry Ford Barbara Fosbaugh Linda Fowler Rosemary Fountain Mark Franzen Linda Frazee Kimberly French Peggy Friesen Larry Fuller Louis Garcia Michael Garcia Cynthia Gayles Terri Gehler William Genger Tim Geraghty Rheda Gerlock, O.D.

Brenda Gerringer Steve Ghadaifchian Linda Gibson Gary Gilliard Linda Gleason Patrick Goode Gloria Goodgain David Goss Jim Gourley Joan Grady Larry Grandison Doris Grant Cherie Green Leon Groce Peter Grosshuesch Renee Gullickson Marc Guttman Terry Hadsall Thomas Haefliger Jan Hall Jay Hammerstadt Tom Hanenburg Barbara Hansen Alice Hanson David Hansford Reagan Heese Jack Heimbichner Ginger Hekkers Sally Hekkers Mark Hellenschmidt James Henderson Brenda Holben Jeff Holler Edward Hollman Sue Holmquist Amy Holyfield Scott Holzschuh Kevin Hougen David Huffine Brandon Hull Mann Hur Lyn Hutchins Nancy Jackson Sherida Jackson Brent Jacobsen Linda James Linda Jaster Steven Jensen Peter John Michael Johnson Dick Jones Jeffrey Kaes Patrick Kamins Sherrie Kantor T.J. Karklins John Kasper Steve Kauffmann Paul Kaufhold Sharon Keefer Kelz Kelzenberg Victoria Kendrick Odie Kennedy John Kerst Kathy Ann Kirkpatrick Kim Komitor Janice Koshio Arden Krugerud Debbie Kunkel-Benson Don Kupp Linda Labertew

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Christine Soto John Spann Susan Spindler Cindy Spraque Ginny Steele Larry Steele Wayne Stein Mark Stephenson Robert Stiffler Marc Stine Randy Stith Sam Stookey Gary Swanson Hugh Sweeney Heidi Tackett Chuck Terry Ann Thomas George Titus Kenneth Tomlin Geri Towndrow Gary Trisdale Nancy Truax Lisa Trudgian Richard Tubbs Jeff Tucker Jeff Turner Julia Unkrich Christie Lynn Van Dyk Karl Van Etten Linda Vaughn Kenneth Vedra Carla Vellos Dayna Vogel Stephen Volstad Robert Wagner Owen Walcher Mario Waller David Ward John Wehrle Robert Weibel Rose Weinrich Roseanne Weiss Susan Wentzell Maureen Westerland Sammye Wheeler Stacia Whetstone Shirley Widom Casandra Wilbon Judy Williams Bruce Wilson David Wilson James Wilson Pamela Wilson Linda Winkler Kim Wintner Terri Wohlever Barton Wong David Wood Lynnette Woodbury Steve Yackel Larry Yates Ralph Yoder Sylvia Young George Zacharkiw Vincent Zagarella Kathleen Zeleski Rosalvn Zigmond



Redi Print, as we moved to accommodate the I-225/Alameda Interchange, has progressed beyond phase one. Phase two began with the acquisition of our new Xerox 5799 Color copier and Splash RIP. During Phase three we updated our computer system with new software and equipment.

Redi Print was awarded 4 Best of Category awards by PIAMS for printing excellence in a three state area.

We are proud to serve our new and established customers. Please come and see why our customers are #1 at Redi Print.

Congratulations to the 1999 Aurora Leadership Class

A special thank you to: SiX & SiX, inc. for the yearbook design and layout Mikel-Gamber Photography for professional services on the class photos Class members Anne Bell, Geoff Hunt, and Pat Landaker for their expertise in writing copy Class member Geoff Hunt for serving as official class photographer and taking some great candid photos Other photos by classmembers and staff



AURORA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

562 Sable Blvd. • Suite 200 Aurora, Colorado 80011 Phone 303-344-1500 Fax 303-344-1564 E-mail: auroracham@aol.com Website: http://www.aurorachamber.org