



LEADERSHIP

A · U · R · O · R · A

1999 ~ 2000

Yearbook

**“ . . . Progress occurs when courageous,
skillful leaders seize the opportunity to change
things for the better.”**

— Harry S. Truman

Introduction

The Aurora Chamber of Commerce realized the need to promote and foster the development of leadership in our community in 1984. As a result, the Leadership Aurora program was formed 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. 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.



How hot is this burning building?



Living out our ER fantasies during Healthcare Day

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 FIRST LEADERSHIP CLASS OF THE MILLENNIUM - 2000!

Acknowledgements

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 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. Each of you share in the success of the program. Thank you!

Table of Contents

Introduction	2
Chair/President's Letters	3
Class Profiles	4-11
Retreat	12
Class Sessions	13-15
Class Projects	16
Interest Directory	17
Board of Directors	18
Acknowledgements	19



Jo Snell *Leadership Aurora Chair*

Congratulations, graduates of Leadership Aurora 1999-2000! You've moved into the 21st century with a new sense of leadership, friendships, and networking. The Board of Directors worked diligently throughout the year planning informative monthly sessions, and we hope the multitude of information has helped shape your views of leadership and given you new perspectives of the city of Aurora.



Your success in this program came from your commitment throughout the year, participating in the sessions and Community Exploration. The Board applauds each of you for your industrious class projects. The community benefited from your time and hard work. The

program kicked off last fall with a social event to bring classmates and the Board of Directors together. It created a more comfortable setting for you to ease into the retreat at Copper Mountain. You explored the mountainside by working as a team deciphering instructions and successfully (for the most part!) completing challenging activities.

I hope you found the time in Community Exploration beneficial. Now that you have a taste for the variety of boards and committees serving the community, I hope you will consider volunteering your time and furthering your leadership skills.

As you move forward, I encourage you to share your leadership stories and spur interest in others to participate in the Leadership Aurora program. You have contributed to the success of our program.

Jo Ellen Snell, Chair
Leadership Aurora Board of Directors

Jake Shirk *1999 - 2000 Class President*

Congratulations! We made it. From our first meeting at the Doubletree to our last formal meeting at this graduation we have solidified not only our friendship but also our commitment to this community. We have pulled together to assist each other in our endeavors on both a professional and personal level.

As a group we assisted the Boys and Girls Club during Thanksgiving. We helped Maggie with the motel children during Christmas, assisted in raising funds for the Aurora Fox Scholarship Fund, and assisted the City of Aurora in planting trees during Arbor Day. As a group we have made a positive difference in peoples lives. In the end that is the greatest accomplishment one can hope for.

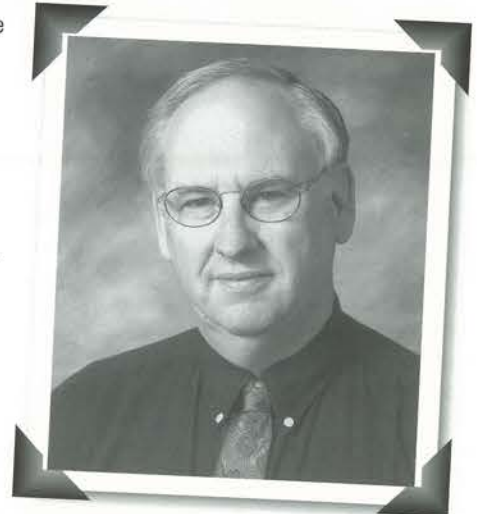
I have had a wonderful time this year. You are all dedicated and professional people. I know that most of you will continue with your efforts to be of assistance to others. Keep up the good work.

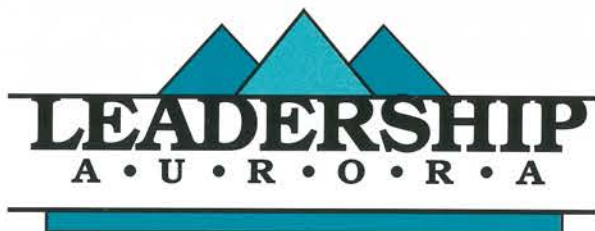
"Wisdom comes from good judgment, good judgment comes from experience, experience comes from bad judgment". I am well on my way to gaining a lot of experience.

My thoughts will be with you and I hope to see all of you again.

Thanks

Jacob Shirk
1999-2000 Class President





1999-2000 Class Profiles

*Michael
Arno*

Chief Operating Officer

The Medical Center of Aurora
1501 S. Potomac St.
Aurora, CO 80012
303-695-2603
Michael.Arno@columbia.net



MICHAEL graduated from Franklin & Marshall College in Lancaster, PA with a BA in Biology. He attended the University of Colorado at Denver, graduating with a Masters Degree in Health Administration and Business Administration. Michael worked as an assistant administrator in Danville, PA, Kissimmee, FL, and Daytona Beach, FL. He was also the Executive Director for Humana Hospital in Snellville, GA. He returned to Colorado and began working for The Medical Center of Aurora in 1999. The Leadership Aurora experience has given Michael the opportunity to see how Aurora has grown, and helped him to be a part of its future. He values the experiences he shared with his classmates, and the lasting friendships he has built with neighbors and community leaders.

*Favorite quote: "No matter what
accomplishments you make, somebody helps you."*

Althea Gibson



BOB moved to Colorado from Commack, New York in 1994. He is a 1970 graduate of Adelphi University, and he graduated from the University of Georgia in 1971 with a Masters Degree. Bob taught school and coached football for seven years, and later worked as a systems analyst for sixteen years. His desire to help people achieve their personal and financial goals led him to join Woodmen Financial Resources in 1995. Bob has been active in the Aurora Chamber of Commerce as an Ambassador for five years, Co-Chair for the Ambassadors for two years, Chair Person for Tips and Leads Group for two years, participant on Public Issues Committee, and other volunteer positions.

Bob's involvement with Leadership Aurora has given him the opportunity to make new friends. He has also gained a comprehensive understanding of the city, its government, various agencies, and business relationships.

*Favorite quote: "Live each day to its fullest,
greet each person with a smile, and try to be a blessing
to someone each day."*

Author Unknown

*Robert A.
Barké*

Insurance Broker

Woodmen Financial Resources
2101 S. Blackhawk St.
Suite# 104
Aurora, CO 80014
303-755-5045



Grant Barrett

General Manager

Engrav-FX Awards
1730 S. Abilene St. #101
Aurora, CO 80012
303-755-0337
yarnups@aol.com



GRANT has lived in Aurora since age six and grew up attending

Aurora Public Schools. While attending Gateway High School, he worked as a lifeguard and swimming instructor for Aurora Public Schools. After graduation, Grant joined the U.S. Navy where he served as an Air Traffic Controller. The Leadership Aurora experience has given Grant a great overview of how the city operates. He has also gained several friendships and business relationships.

*Favorite quote: "This above all: To thine own self
be true, and it must follow, as the night the day, thou
canst not then be false to any man."*

Hamlet, William Shakespeare

REBECCA graduated from University of Colorado - Boulder, and then moved to Denver. She is working for One-Stop Career Center recruiting applicants and employers – a job she thoroughly enjoys. Rebecca loves Colorado's outdoors, especially when it comes to skiing and hiking. International travel is a passion of Rebecca's, and she plans to go on a safari and to Australia within the next two years. When participating in Leadership sessions, Rebecca says she feels like a sponge! She has learned the value of being involved in the community and with government issues. This experience has given her the opportunity to meet many amazing and inspirational leaders within her class and from the sessions. Thanks to her participation in Leadership Aurora, Rebecca feels she has gained valuable tools to become a better leader.

Favorite quote: "Work like you don't need the money. Love like you've never been hurt. Dance like nobody is watching."

– Mark Twain

Rebecca Brookson

Employer Relations Specialist

Adams County One-Stop Career Center
1790 Colorado Blvd.
Commerce City, CO 80022
303-227-2000
rbrookson@hotmail.com



Judith Donaldson

Retail Sales Manager

Wells Fargo Bank
1369 S. Havana Street
Aurora, CO 80012
303-752-6328

Judith.A.Donaldson@wellsfargo.com



JUDITH migrated to the United States from Kingston, Jamaica in 1980. She is a graduate of the Colorado Institute of the Arts Fashion Merchandising program. Judith is married and has two children. She is an active participant in several Wells Fargo sponsored community outreach programs.

Judith believes it is important to be actively involved in community activities because everyone does make a difference.

Favorite quote: "Success should not be measured by the position held in life, but by the obstacles you overcame to get there."

– Booker T. Washington, Jr.

JOE was born in South Carolina, and at the age of five he and his family moved to New York City. He served in the Air Force for twenty years, and during that period he married, became the father of four children, and graduated from college. He and his family lived in Germany, Morocco, Alaska, South Dakota, Oregon, Colorado, and New Jersey. They also traveled to Spain, England, Turkey, and Greece. After retiring from the military, Joe worked for a Community School development corporation, a manufacturer of audio/visual components, an auto brokerage firm, and finally retired from state service on August 1, 1999. Leadership Aurora has given Joe the opportunities of great networking and a better understanding of all the things that make our city work. He feels Aurora has a real exciting future.

Favorite quote: "The greatest revolution of our generation is that human beings by changing the inner attitudes of their minds, can change the outer aspects of their lives."

Joe E. Cooper

Owner/Retired

JEC Consultants
15401 E. Wyoming Drive
Aurora, CO 80017
303-671-9473
Gemini1538@aol.com



Scott Glaser

District Director

Centennial District
Boy Scouts of America
2901 W. 19th Ave.
Denver, CO 80204
303-455-5522
sagsmf@aol.com



SCOTT was born in Rochester, Minnesota, and graduated with a degree in International Business (Spanish) from Wartburg College, Waverly, Iowa. Scott earned his Eagle Scout as a youth and began a professional scouting career in the Frontier District serving Denver's inner-city youth. He was promoted to District Director in March, 1999 for the Centennial District, serving all of Aurora.

Scott's Leadership experience has given him the opportunity to connect with leaders throughout the Aurora area. He has learned how the city operates, and has learned about its plans for future growth. Scott is very proud of the Aurora community.

Favorite quote: "There is a difference between digging into the trenches and getting pounded into the ground."

– Scott Glaser

HANSELL is principal of West Middle School in Aurora. He formerly was principal of Banneler High School in Atlanta, Ga. (a Blue Ribbon school). His experience in education includes twenty years as a teacher and administrator at the elementary, middle, and high school level. He is a member of the 100 Black Men Chapter of Denver and coordinator of student recruitment for the Annual Expanding the Vision Conference. Hansell's honors include: Outstanding Young Men of America Award, Fulton County Superintendent Award, and 5th District Secondary School of Excellence Award.

Hansell's experience in Leadership Aurora has developed and enhanced his self-development skills, developed and enhanced his interpersonal skills, and enhanced his ability to implement school and community activities.

Favorite quote: "The ultimate measure of a man is not where he stands in moments of comfort and conveniences, but where he stands in times of challenge and controversy."

Martin Luther King

Hansell Gunn
Principal

West Middle School
10100 E. 13th Avenue
Aurora, CO 80010
303-366-2671



STEPHANIE, a Colorado native, enjoys living in the metro area with her husband and two daughters. She has been working in the youth development field for ten years as a consultant and program coordinator. Currently, Aurora's Contributing Teens (ACT) is being developed as an asset-based leadership program for middle school students. Stephanie loves to ski, camp, travel, watch movies, and collect arrowheads and other artifacts.

Through Leadership Aurora, Stephanie has gained valuable insight into a variety of issues challenging the community. The sessions addressing health care, economic development, education and human services, were most helpful because of the diverse view points presented.

Favorite quote: "Each of us must be the change we want to see in the world."

Mahatma Gandhi

Stephanie Hoy

Project Coordinator

Aurora's Contributing Teens
1298 Peoria
Aurora, CO 80011
303-361-2990
shoy@uswest.net



Patricia Hynes

Assistant Principal

Cherry Creek School District
12400 E. Jewell Avenue
Aurora, CO 80012
303-696-3705
phynes2@mail.ccsd.k12.co.us



PAT has worked in the Cherry Creek School District for fourteen years. Prior to that, Pat was the Director of the JFK Child

Development Center at the University of Colorado Health Sciences Center for eight years. Pat values the leadership role education plays in our lives and believes there is no greater gift we can give our children. As leaders we must support the process of continuous learning. Leadership Aurora has given Pat access to experts and information about Aurora she would not have had without this experience.

Favorite quote: "It is a form of civic mindedness to think of children as precious resources."

Nel Noddings

Ed Jankowski

General Manager

Rural/ Metro Ambulance
3350 Peoria St. Suite #100
Aurora, CO 80010
303-343-7098
Ed_Jankowski@rmetro.com



ED has led Rural/Metro's Colorado operations since its

inception in 1999. He has served in various roles within Rural/Metro working in several EMS systems nationwide managing regulatory, legislative, budgeting and general operational issues. Prior to that, Ed worked for the Arizona State Senate as the lead staff person for the Health Committee. Ed earned his Business Degree in Finance from the University of Arizona. Leadership Aurora afforded Ed the opportunity to learn more about the community. Every session was exciting and exceeded his expectations. Ed would recommend the program to anyone.

Favorite quote: "All our dreams can come true if we have the courage to pursue them."

Walt Disney

JOEL grew up and attended college in Des Moines, Iowa. After college, he played professional baseball with the Kansas City Royals and Cleveland Indians organizations for two years. He has lived in Colorado since 1992, and has worked for FirstBank since 1994. Joel also has worked as a stockbroker, a mutual fund trader, and a loan officer while in Colorado. Leadership Aurora has given Joel a good understanding of how the city of Aurora works, and the sense of pride that is demonstrated in the community. He has also developed many new friends and business contacts.

Favorite quote: "You don't have to be great to start, but you have to start to be great."

D. Chamberlain

KEIKO is a native of Colorado, and graduated from Manual High School. During her junior year, she participated in Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA) which led her to her career in banking. She graduated from Regis University with a degree in Business Administration. Keiko participated in the first research project sponsored by Women's Link and Colorado Women's Chamber of Commerce. She is currently a board member of the Asian Education Advisory Council where academic achievement is recognized at all grade levels. Keiko experienced a personal gain and value of community service through Leadership Aurora. This experience gave her the push she needed to get reacquainted with community service, especially working with children. "After all," Keiko says, "there is no greater reward than a child's smile."

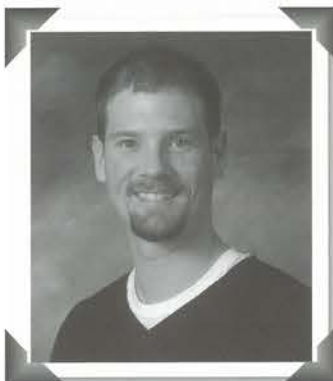
Favorite quote: "Experience the magic of generosity. The more you give, the more you have."

Author Unknown

Joel Johnson

Vice President

FirstBank of Aurora
2300 S. Havana St.
Aurora, CO 80014
303-337-2000
voodiniski@aol.com



Keiko Kawahara

Store Manager

Wells Fargo Bank
8980 E. Hampden Ave.
Denver, CO 80231
303-752-7032
KawahaR@aol.com



Kenney S. Kuehler

Funeral Arranger/Director

Chapel Hill Mortuary
6601 S. Colorado Blvd.
Littleton, CO 80121
303-771-3960



KENNEY is a graduate of West Texas Barber College. She relocated to the Denver area from Amarillo, Texas in 1997 with her husband and two sons. In Texas she was active in the community having served with the Chamber of Commerce, and served on the PTA Board for five years. She also volunteered as a Sunday School teacher for pre-school children, and was a member of the Praise and Worship Team at her church. Kenney has been in the funeral home industry for over seven years. Kenney gained many valuable friendships through Leadership Aurora. It made her aware of how the community relies on each for growth and improvement.

Favorite quote: "Never be afraid to trust an unknown future to an all-knowing God."

Cindy Kunkel

Senior Account Manager/
Sales & Marketing

PacificCare of Colorado
6455 S Yosemite Street
Englewood, CO 80111
303-714-3457
Cindy.Kunkel@PHS.com



CINDY is from Redondo Beach in southern California, where she met and married her high school sweetheart twenty-one years ago. They moved to Aurora in 1981 and now have two children: Kyle, age 13 and Kristin, age 10. The entire family is very involved in sports activities, but especially in the athletic teams of the children which include football, soccer, baseball and basketball. Cindy herself plays women's/coed slow pitch softball and she travels around the country in pursuit of these activities. Leadership Aurora gave Cindy an opportunity to meet and associate with great people, both as classmates and as Board members. It also taught her that Aurora is a city which has much to offer its citizens.

Favorite quote: "It's never over until it's over."
Yogi Berra

JULIE was born and raised in Scottsdale, Arizona, graduating in 1995 with a double major in Marketing and Finance from the University of Arizona in Tucson. She and her husband moved to Colorado in 1998 and now live in Larkspur with their infant son. Julie was hired as the Aurora Federal Credit Union's first Marketing Director in 1998. She especially enjoys the time her position allows her to work in and support the Aurora community. Julie is a graduate of the Citizen's Police Academy, has served on the Chamber's Awards Banquet Committee and the City's Census 2000 Committee. Her interests include scuba diving, skiing, hiking, and visiting new places, but she also enjoys her time with friends and family and with her volunteer work. Leadership Aurora has provided Julie with an invaluable insight into our community as well as several new connections to leaders from a variety of groups and organizations.

Favorite quotes: "All people smile in the same language", and "God gives guidance to those who ask for it."

Julie Lyon

Marketing Director

Aurora Federal Credit Union
12028 E Mississippi Avenue
Aurora, CO 80012
303-755-2572
julie@aurorafcu.com



Ron Markovich

Deputy Director

Aurora Mental Health Center
14301 E Hampden Avenue
Aurora, CO 80014
303-617-2300
Ron_Markovich@AUMHC.org

Favorite quote: "The happiest people don't necessarily have the best of everything, they just make the best of everything."

Kevin Mullin

Commanding Officer/Minister

The Salvation Army
802 Quari Court
Aurora, CO 80011
303-364-1965

Kevin@SalvationArmy-Aurora.org



Janice Napper

Assistant City Manager

City of Aurora
1470 S Havana Street #800
Aurora, CO 80012
303-739-7010
jnapper@ci.aurora.co.us

KEVIN was born in Fresno, California 29 years ago and has three younger sisters. He married five years ago and he and his wife expect their first child on September 30th. Kevin has worked for the Salvation Army for seven years. He is currently working to finish his BS in Christian Ministry. His interests include videography, sports, computer networking, and travel. Kevin's involvement with Leadership Aurora gave him the opportunity to meet and make new friends and gain new perspectives on Aurora.

Favorite quote: "He who thinketh he leadeth and hath no one following him is only taking a walk."
Benjamin Hooks

JANICE has served as Assistant City Manager for the

City of Aurora since 1998. Before taking this position she was the Director of Budget and Management Services for DFW International Airport for five years. She also worked as a Senior Budget Analyst for Dallas area Rapid Transit and for the City of Austin, Texas. In her spare time Janice enjoys activities with her four-year-old daughter. She also enjoys hiking, gardening, cross-country skiing, her cat, and increasing literacy skills in the community. Janice feels she has gained some very good friends and contacts in the community as a result of her work with Leadership Aurora.

Favorite quote: "Work is love made visible."
Kahlil Gibran

DEB was born in Spokane, Washington, but traveled a great deal during her childhood. She graduated from George Washington High School in Denver and received her Associates of Arts Degree from the Community College of Aurora. She is currently a student at Regis University. Deb began her career at Aurora National Bank (now Citywide) in 1976 as a teller and has worked her way up the ranks to become manager of the New Accounts Department at the main bank. She enjoys golf and skiing in her free time. Leadership Aurora helped Debra realize how many different non-profit organizations we have in our City and how they work together to help indigent people. She was amazed at the many and varied projects, and growth taking place on the "new" Lowry, and learned about the City's new businesses, its management, and interaction between City Council, City staff, and neighborhood associations through Economic Day.

Favorite quote: "Discipline is the bridge between goals and accomplishment."

John Rohn

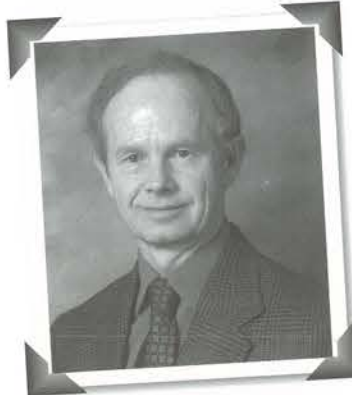
Debra Neeley

New Accounts Officer
Citywide Banks
10660 E Colfax Avenue
Aurora, CO 80010
303-365-3658
Neeley@Citywidebanks.com



Gary Peyton

Deputy Chief
Aurora Fire Department
1470 S Havana Street
Aurora, CO 80012
303-739-7124
gpeyton@ci.aurora.co.us



GARY has worked for the Aurora Fire Department for approximately 24 years. His current position is Deputy Chief, but Gary has gone through the ranks, from firefighter, paramedic, lieutenant, captain, and battalion chief. He served as co-director and training captain at the Rocky Mountain Fire Academy for 8 years. He has an M.P.A. in Public Administration from CU Denver, a BA in Political Science of CU Boulder, and an AA in Fire Science. Gary is also a graduate of the executive fire officer program at the National Fire Academy. In his free time, Gary likes to participate in most sports and enjoys watching his son play lacrosse. Through Leadership Aurora he was introduced to an understanding of how other departments and agencies operate within the City.

Favorite quote: "If there is no wind, row!"
Latin proverb

ANDY attended the United States Merchant Marine Academy from 1970-72, and the University of Colorado from 1973-74. He has owned his own construction firm since 1994 and prior to that, from 1980 to 1990, he owned A Able Carpet. He also was a professional comedian from 1984-94. Andy's interests are as varied as his background, ranging from an interest in politics and community service, ballroom dancing and oil painting. During his time with Leadership Aurora he has been amazed and impressed by the number of volunteers in our City. He has learned that an individual can, and does, make a difference in many lives.

Favorite quote: "For me, there is only the traveling on paths that have heart, on any path that may have heart. There I travel, and the only worthwhile challenge is to traverse its full length. And there I travel looking, breathlessly."

Andrew J. Padon

Owner

Andy Padon Construction, Inc.
611 S Racine Street
Aurora, CO 80012
303-810-3191
andypadon@pcisys.net



Paul Rosenberg

Vice President of
Membership Development

Aurora Chamber of Commerce
562 Sable Boulevard, Suite 200
Aurora, CO 80011
303-344-1500
auroracham@aol.com



PAUL was born in Cincinnati, Ohio, but his family moved to Dallas when he was age one, and moved again, to Fayetteville, Arkansas, when he was 15. It was there that he became interested in politics and served as President of the Young Democrat Club at the University of Arkansas and also ran for City Council in Fayetteville when he was a student at the university. He graduated with a degree in political science and worked in retail as a buyer and merchandise manager in various states before buying a business in Aurora eight years ago. He joined the Chamber staff in 1995. Paul's interests revolve around his children's activities with Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, soccer, swim team and climbing. However, his interest in politics is alive and well and he has served on a number of volunteer boards in the business community. Paul acknowledges an invaluable increased knowledge of the many facets of our community and that an expanded network of contacts within that community is a direct result of his work with Leadership Aurora.

Favorite quote: "And so, my fellow Americans: ask not what your country can do for you ask what you can do for your country. My fellow citizens of the world: ask not what America will do for you, but what together we can do for the freedom of man."

John F. Kennedy, Inaugural Address

SU and her husband, Jerome, have owned their own advertising and public relations firm since 1975. She moved to Aurora in 1995, and has enjoyed getting involved with community organizations such as the Aurora Chamber of Commerce, the Aurora Fox Arts Center Board, the Historic Preservation Commission, and the Aurora Golf Advisory Committee. She is a native of Hastings, Nebraska and a 1967 graduate of the University of Denver. Leadership Aurora has confirmed her belief that Aurora is a very nice city full of very nice people.

Favorite quote: "Success is 1% inspiration and 99% perspiration"

Thomas A. Edison

Su Ryden

Partner

Ryden & Associates
Advertising & Public Relations
655 Grant Street
Denver, CO 80203
303-832-4600
su@ryden.com



MARIAN, originally from Pennsylvania, has lived and worked in Aurora for over twenty years. She has devoted her career to caring for and providing healthcare services for women and children. Marian is a member of the Colorado Society for Nurse Executives and the association for Women's Health Obstetric and Neonatal Nurses. Through Leadership Aurora, Marian has gained friends and relationships with people, and an awareness of how committed they are to making Aurora a great place to be. It has also given her a better knowledge of the diversity, the resources, and the opportunities that exist here."

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

Marian Savitsky

Director of Women's and Children's Services

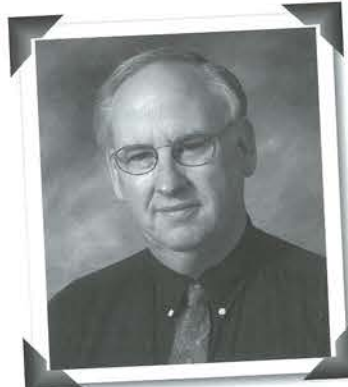
The Medical Center of Aurora
1501 S. Potomac St.
Aurora, CO 80012
303-695-2895
Savitsky@home.com



Jacob Shirk

Police Lieutenant, SWAT Commander

Aurora Police Department
15001 E Alameda Drive
Aurora, CO 80012
303-739-6363
jshirk@ci.Aurora.co.us



JAKE has been an Aurora police officer for the past 24 years. He is currently assigned as the Commander of a 204-bed Detention Center. He is also the Aurora Police Department SWAT Commander. SWAT is a 34-officer unit responsible for handling any incident that requires the use of Special Weapons and Tactics, to include barricaded subjects, hostages, and high risk warrant service. He has a Masters Degree in Management and has four children ages 16 to 23. Jake enjoys racquetball and oil painting, and he holds very special memories of his recent travels in the Ukraine. He believes Leadership Aurora was an excellent opportunity to learn more about the community that he has been serving, connecting him with a great group of professionals and friends that he can network with on both a professional and personal level.

Favorite quote: "Wisdom comes from good judgment. Good judgment comes from experience. Experience comes from poor judgment."

Although he does not know the origin of this quote, Jake believes it holds true for his learning experience with Leadership Aurora, and he believes he is getting plenty of experience.

Cynthia (Cindy) Slovik

Military Personnel Management Specialist

HQ Air Reserve Personnel Center
6760 E Irvington Place
Denver, CO 80280
303-676-6345
Cindy.Slovik@ARPC.Denver.AF.Mil



CINDY was born in Denver, and having lived in Aurora for 31 years,

she remembers when airplanes landed at Lowry, when Havana was a dirt road, and Cherry Creek Reservoir did not exist. But as a military brat she also had the wonderful experience of living all over the world. She feels very blessed with a wonderful daughter who has been a true delight in her life. Cindy has been with the HQ Air Reserve Personnel Center located on the closed Lowry AFB, for 20 years. She also volunteers as an announcer for the Aurora Horseman's Association at their horse shows. Her interests include reading, hiking, road trips, stained glass, and cooking. Leadership Aurora has exposed Cindy to an unsurpassed level of professionalism from each individual towards their job in working for the good of the City. She also learned much about City services and agencies and has, in addition, learned to think and see things from a different perspective and feels more equipped to go out into the community and educate others.

Favorite quote: "Be safe. Be smart."

Cindy Slovik

Cindy used this phrase in raising her daughter through the teen years because it "encompasses all."

DARLA was born and raised in Girard, Pennsylvania and moved to Colorado in 1979. She graduated from Metro State with a BA in Urban Studies and a minor in Non-Profit Administration. Darla has been employed with The Arc for over ten years and has served as the Executive Director in Aurora for five years. Politics, camping, and reading are Darla's favorite recreational activities, but her two young children usually keep her on the move when she is not at work. Leadership Aurora reminded Darla that our community "Aurora" is full of good people doing *going* things. The experience was a pleasant surprise, and to the Aurora Chamber of Commerce, she says, "Thank you Chamber folks – you are a class act!"

Favorite quote: "You may say I am a dreamer, but I'm not the only one."

John Lennon, "Imagine"

Darla Stuart

Executive Director

The Arc of Aurora
14111 E Alameda Ave #310
Aurora, CO 80012
303-344-5390
Arcaurora@sprintmail.com



SANDY moved to Colorado in 1952 from Louisiana and she has lived in Aurora since 1976. She is very much involved in the day-to-day operations of a family printing business. Sandy has been a volunteer most of her life, starting at age 8 when she sold war bonds in her father's store. She has been involved as a volunteer with numerous organizations over the years, and is an occasional guest speaker to groups. Her interests include genealogy, gravestone rubbing, art, historical research and historic preservation. She also enjoys sewing, needlework and golf. Sandy says that Leadership Aurora filled in some of the pieces of this vibrant community that she was not too familiar with - and she loved gaining that additional knowledge. She has also really enjoyed the new friendships.

Favorite quote: "Whenever you are asked if you can do a job, tell them, 'Certainly I can!' Then get busy and find out how to do it,"

Theodore Roosevelt

Sandy Sweeney

Vice-President

Redi-Print, Inc.
378 S Chambers Road
Aurora, CO 80017
303-745-0010
Livelyline@aol.com



Steve Thompson

Human Resources Manager

SuperValu, Inc.
1933 Tower Road
Aurora, CO 80011
303-361-0354

Steve.Thompson@supervalu.com



STEVE, although a native of Missouri, has resided in Colorado since 1979. He and his wife, Mary, and their son John, have lived in Aurora since 1984 and are members of St. Therese Church. Steve has worked for SuperValu, Inc., the parent company of Cub Foods, since 1988. Originally the risk control manager, he has been in his current position as Human Resources Manager since 1996. Steve and his family enjoy most outdoor activities together, particularly fly fishing, hiking and canoeing. He loves dogs, independent films, and also loves to read, especially historical novels related to the American West. Steve has benefited from the establishment of both personal and professional relationships with numerous business leaders in our community through his association with Leadership Aurora, and he believes their unique insights and experiences have helped him to be a better citizen.

Favorite quote: "We all live with the objective of being happy; our lives are all different and yet the same."

Anne Frank

Maggie Tidwell

Executive Director

Colfax Community Network
P.O. Box 202373
Denver, CO 80220
303-360-7556
CCNmaggie@aol.com



MAGGIE has spent "twenty-something years" doing anti-

violence work in families and communities, i.e., child abuse prevention education, anti-racism work, domestic violence prevention and school violence prevention with Project PAVE. She started an organization in October 1998 to assist children and families living in motels on East Colfax. Maggie herself is a single mom with a 17-year-old and is custodian of the Tidwell Animal Menagerie. She describes herself as "not an artist, but very artsy," and she loves to paint watercolors, work with pottery, mosaics, jewelry, etc. She also enjoys jazz and classical music and loves the adventure of travel, learning, and meeting interesting folks. Leadership Aurora gave Maggie the opportunity to form relationships with some of Aurora's most interesting people, and to become a more knowledgeable, involved member of her community.

Favorite quote: "Action is the antidote to despair."

Author Unknown

Opening Retreat

Session Coordinators: Jo Snell, Tom Bowman, Kim Podobnik, Dominic Martinez, Amy Holyfield, David Huffine, Susan Miller



Kenney, is that a cigar?

Many classmates got together for conversation and cocktails at Leadership Aurora's first ever pre-retreat party, resulting in the beginnings of friendships as well as carpooling to beautiful Copper Mountain for the three-day retreat. The Millennium Class enjoyed days filled with workshops, breakout sessions, team building exercises and more - all with fun included!



The opening day presentations gave Aurora's newest class of leaders a complete picture of their city, past and present. The icebreaking activity at the mini-reception found that the class included athletes, artists and even a Madonna impersonator! It did not take long for classmates to become comfortable enough to tease one another about some of their admitted "unique" characteristics.



Orienteering was just one new skill we learned.

Daytime activities shuffled classmates around to different groups, giving them one-on-one interaction with just about everyone in the class by the retreat's end. Students learned their "true colors" and how their personality traits related to different types of leadership styles. The Adventure

Challenge proved to some class members that they were capable of more than they realized. Adventure activities required excellent communication skills and resulted in up close and personal bonding. Later, a Leadership Panel of respected community members provided insights on the current issues in Aurora.

Evenings were fun-filled and included a memorable evening of comedy, juggling and yes, karaoke. By the retreat's end, classmates were ready to head back to Aurora as a team, poised to learn even more about their community and work together to give back through community outreach and strong leadership.



The retreat at Copper Mountain was a great way to get acquainted.



Counting our community assets.

Police Session "In the Line of Fire"

Session Coordinators: Captain Steve Marshall, Dave Huffine, Paul Short

It is not every day your average citizen gets to fire a machine gun, hang out with the SWAT team, and eat lunch in jail. Police Day was packed full of speakers and activities that resulted in a new appreciation for the men and women that make up the Aurora Police Department. Although there was not enough time to cover all aspects of the department, police representatives did their best to provide the class with an overall view. Representatives from PAR, NES, DART and GIU gave presentations, followed by the tour of the detention and communications centers. The SWAT presentation was made memorable by not only firing live weapons, but by experiencing the virtual reality-type program used to train officers on shoot versus no-shoot situations. The day was wrapped up with presentations from Traffic, the Metro Gang Task Force, Vice and Narcotics. The Aurora Police Department reinforced its image of a well trained, professional organization, ready to face the new challenges arising every day in the community.



Target practice at the Police Academy was an ear-splitting experience.



Media interviews were a highlight of the day.

Community Day "We Are Family"

Session Coordinators: Sheila Anthony, Anne Ayers, Cindy Bohl, Dave Huffine, Sheila Martin, Susan Miller, Terri Wohlever

Community Day was very fitting as our first official day of class, giving the group an insider's glimpse of the many resources available in the City of Aurora. With so much to learn about and see, the class split into several groups for hands-on tours led by some of Aurora's community leaders. The Arts and History group visited the Fox Theater, arts programs as well as the Aurora History Museum. Class members in the Crisis and Families group took a close look at the programs that support individuals, families and groups with counseling, housing and other resources. Participants in the Open Space and Recreation group visited as many of the City's 125 parks, open spaces and recreational facilities as they could in two hours. A fourth group explored the various programs available for Aurora's Senior community. The class came back together at the end of the day to share their experiences, where they all found the greatest needs for all the programs were funding and volunteers.



Media Session "Lights, Camera, Action!"

Session Coordinators: Randy Simpson, Amy Holyfield, Matt Cook, Kim Podobnik

Media Day was another full day, providing the class with knowledge about the printed word, crisis communications, public relations, television and radio. A mock press conference gave participants an opportunity to play reporters. The tables were turned when groups of class members answered questions on camera based on a scenario likely to take place in Aurora in the near future - a biotech company proposing to move their headquarters near Fitzsimons. Group members took on roles of the Aurora Mayor, biotech company President, Public Affairs Director and Safety Engineer. They had to be prepared to answer questions about issues including the displacement of current businesses and trailer park residents as well as the potential dangers caused by hazardous materials. The Media Day activities gave class members helpful hints on accessing the media through press releases and public relations in addition to the valuable experience of taping and reviewing their own interviews.



Healthcare Session "Where Does It Hurt?"

Session Coordinators: Cindy Bohl, Anne Ayers, Sammye Wheeler-Clouse, Terri Wohltver

Healthcare Day's look into the medical community went beyond what one can experience as a patient or hospital visitor. Once again, the class split up into groups to visit nursing homes, mental health care providers and other health-related agencies; then came back together to share experiences. Speakers and a diverse panel provided a thought-provoking look into the state of healthcare. Although they were from very different areas of the healthcare spectrum, a common theme emerged: how to function with increased medical costs, decreased funding and a population that is 15% uninsured. The class also enjoyed a behind the scenes look at the Medical Center of Aurora, complete with donning surgical gowns, caps, masks and booties (otherwise known as bunny suits). They toured the OR, ER and ICU as well as many other departments, and checked out the hospital's latest technological equipment. The day was completed with an in depth look at Ethics, giving classmates opportunities to discuss the difficult scenarios healthcare professionals face on a day to day basis.

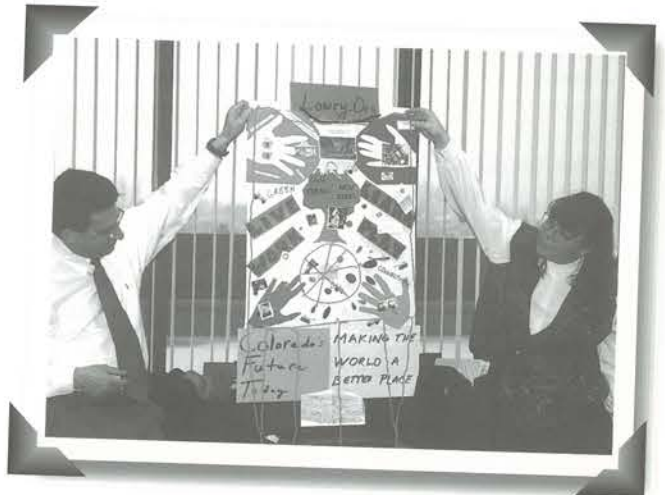


Meet Aurora Medical Center's new surgery team!

Economic & Infrastructure Session "Wheel of Fortune"

Session Coordinators: Sheila Martin, Matt Cook, Amy Holyfield, Dominic Martinez, Karen Odell, Paul Short, Jo Snell

Learning about how the City of Aurora deals with growth was the focus of the Economic and Infrastructure Session. Class members participated in a role-playing exercise that provided a true to life experience of the interaction that takes place between a developer, city staff, neighborhood association and City Council. It was interesting to see the issues that were brought forth by the different groups, and how they all work to communicate their individual views to the final decision makers of any development project, City Council. The class became the first ever to have the City Council side with the Developer, even with opposition voiced by city staff and the neighborhood association. After completing the role-playing exercise, groups explored different parts of the city to analyze the growth already taken place, as well as come up with ideas of what they thought would enhance the area in the future. By the day's end, the class had come to the realization that growth can affect the city both positively and negatively, depending on the point of view.



"Imagine Aurora 25 years from now" was the challenge.

Education Session "School Daze"

Session Coordinators: Marc Stine, Tim Chgoz, Susan Miller and Sammye Wheeler-Clouse

After spending a day at Overland High School, Cindy Slovic was ready to chuck her career and go back to school. She found the teachers, staff, learning tools and the students awesome. Cindy's experience was not unique as other class members related their time spent in the public schools and colleges in Aurora. On Education Day, the class shared their artifacts and had an impassioned debate on CSAP and other current educational issues which Marc Stine, principal at Rangeview High School, moderated.



Sharing teaching and learning experiences.



Firefighting gear is heavy!

Fire Session

"Where There's Smoke, There's Fire"

Session Coordinator: Doug McBee

Fire Day was a fun mix of information and hands-on activities. We had a lively tour of Fire Station #2, and learned about the organization of the department: Life Safety, Support Services, Technical Services and Operations. Everyone was amazed by some of the calls received in Fire Communications:

"I'm 65 years old and 4 years pregnant!" The Fire Behavior presentation by Chief Stephenson taught us that fighting fire is actually a detailed science. Using that knowledge, AFD aggressively goes inside buildings, rather than simply throwing water at visible flames.



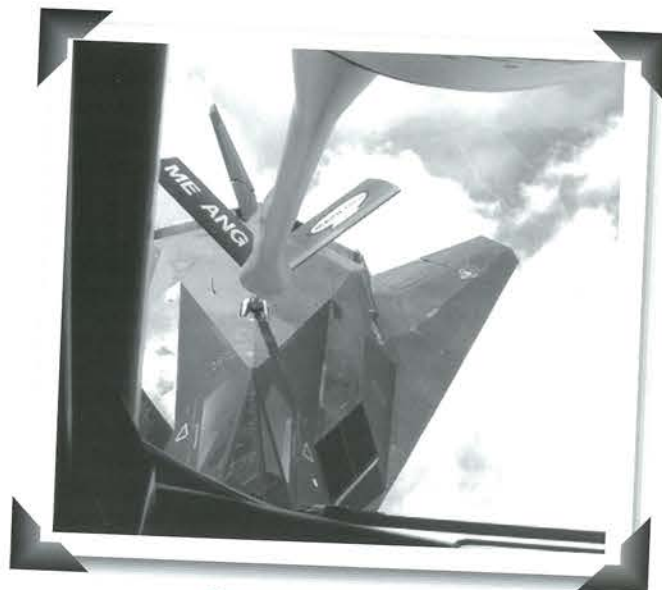
Later we all got to see what we were made of — jumping out of buildings, climbing a very tall ladder, attempting to navigate through a smoke-filled building. As nerve-wracking and physically challenging as some of the drill activities were, we realized that it still wasn't as much as the men and women of the Aurora Fire Department face on a daily basis.

Military Session "Pride and Presence"

Session Coordinators: Lt. Col. Buck Buckingham, Tim Elgotz

The class assembled at a classified meeting site after receiving a secretly encoded message regarding our mission. An overcast sky seemed to be the perfect backdrop for the class to visit Aurora's home of reconnaissance, counterintelligence and espionage — Buckley Air National Guard Base. Class member, Kevin Mullin, was the first to volunteer for a dangerous mission. Having watched Top Gun twice, he in a patriotic burst shared that if necessary he believed he could fly a F-16. The day had just begun . . .

Several briefings ensured the class was informed of the future of Buckley and the future of our nation's intelligence network. Class members were divided into two groups and visited highly classified sites, one of which dots the eastern horizon of Aurora in multiple ball-like shapes. After lunch the class, having been briefed and fed, were ready to complete their mission. They were taken to KC-135 tankers to go where no typical pen pushing executive had gone before — to refuel fighters and bombers. First to be refueled were the F-16's, bearing emblems of honor, next were the B-1's and finally out of nowhere came the Stealth's. Photos were snapped and sounds of "Ah" and "Cool" could be heard. Their mission complete, the crew and members of the class breathed a sigh of relief. The skies over Colorado were safe.



Stealth Bomber refuels midair - wonder what gas prices are up here?

Jake gets into his role as biotech spokesman.



Ed, is that you up there?



Maggie prepares yet another evaluation form.

Class Projects

Santa and His Helpers Land on Colfax Avenue

Our Leadership class' winter project with the Colfax Community Network (CCN) was a big success. Particularly if success is measured by CCN's four guiding principles: generosity, mastery, belonging and independence. Of course, the true measure of success was all of the happy faces, whether they belonged to the children, to the parents or to our volunteers. The look of disbelief and gratitude on the little boy's face who won the roller blades said it all.

The party was held at the First Presbyterian Church in Aurora on December 19. Over 260 grateful people were served dinner, and about 150 personalized gifts were distributed to some very happy children. Our class helped make up over 100 volunteers that ensured the party's success. THANKS to Joel, Grant, Su, Jeff, Stephanie, Marian, Ed, Andy, Sandy, Cindy, Paul, Jake, Cindy, Gary, Deb, Bob, Steve, Rebecca, Keiko and Judith for their invaluable support.



Santa greets helpers at the Colfax Community Network kids holiday party.

Boys & Girls Club Thanksgiving Dinner

Several class members volunteered their time at the Boys & Girls Club Thanksgiving Dinner on November 23. They were rewarded by the thanks given by the kids and their families, in addition to a fun entertainment program. Thanks to Joel, Deb, Grant, Kenney, Jake, Michael, Steve, Judith, Scott, Julie, Rebecca, Keiko, Ed, Paul, Bob & Joe! Those that arrived for earlier shifts helped set up & serve food; others helped with the clean-up!

Aurora Fox Benefit

A benefit performance of the play "Nixon, Nixon" in April raised over \$350 for summer scholarships to the Aurora Fox Arts Center Children's Theater Workshops. Thanks to the generosity of our Leadership Aurora class, several children, who would not otherwise have had the opportunity, will experience acting in a real theater setting this summer.



A night at the Aurora Fox Arts Center benefited children's theater scholarships.



Planting trees at Centrepont Park for Arbor Day.

Arbor Day Tree Planting

Our Leadership class' Spring project consisted of participating in the City of Aurora's annual Arbor Day activities held on Saturday, May 6, 2000.

Our class members worked with approximately 300 citizens of our community in planting trees along Buckley Road between Kentucky and Alameda Avenues.

Centrepont Park, south of the post office annex, consists of a new city park as well as a bike path. Arbor Day participants finished digging holes, planting the trees, building berms for water retention, and adding water and mulch. The trees will help to beautify the area.

The following individuals represented our class: Cindy Kunkel, Ron Markovich, Stephanie Hoy, Su Ryden, Marian Savitsky, Deb Neeley, Pat Hynes and Steve Thompson. Marian and Deb served as team captains.

interest directory

▲ ▲ ▲ ▲ leadership aurora 1999 - 2000 interest directory

	Aging	Arts / Theater	Chemical Abuse	Child Abuse	Childcare	Community Planning	Econ. Development	Education	Government	Handicapped	Health Services	Legal	Mental Health	Recreation	Religion	Small Business	Transportation	Youth Services	Visitor Promotion
Michael Arno			✓				✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓						
Robert Barke	✓				✓		✓	✓				✓					✓	✓	✓
Grant Barrett			✓							✓			✓			✓	✓	✓	✓
Rebecca Brookson			✓		✓	✓		✓	✓	✓							✓	✓	✓
Joe Cooper							✓			✓		✓						✓	✓
Judith Donaldson			✓		✓			✓	✓				✓				✓	✓	✓
Scott Glaser									✓					✓	✓	✓		✓	✓
Hansell Gunn					✓		✓		✓						✓			✓	✓
Stephanie Hoy			✓	✓			✓		✓	✓		✓		✓	✓		✓	✓	✓
Patricia Hynes									✓		✓			✓					
Ed Jankowski			✓				✓	✓	✓	✓		✓				✓		✓	
Joel Johnson					✓		✓	✓	✓			✓				✓		✓	
Keiko Kawahara	✓				✓				✓							✓			
Kenney Kuehler	✓	✓			✓		✓		✓	✓		✓				✓	✓	✓	
Cindy Kunkel							✓					✓				✓		✓	✓
Julie Lyon			✓			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓					✓			✓	✓
Ron Markovich	✓									✓		✓		✓					✓
Kevin Mullin				✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓					✓	✓		✓	✓
Janice Napper			✓		✓	✓	✓		✓	✓					✓			✓	
Debra Neeley	✓								✓					✓			✓		✓
Andy Padon			✓				✓	✓		✓					✓		✓	✓	✓
Gary Peyton							✓	✓	✓	✓					✓				✓
Paul Rosenberg							✓	✓		✓							✓	✓	✓
Susan Ryden			✓				✓	✓											✓
Marian Savitsky					✓		✓					✓	✓						
Jacob Shirk									✓	✓			✓			✓			
Cindy Slovik			✓		✓	✓					✓	✓	✓					✓	
Darla Stuart					✓		✓			✓	✓								
Sandy Sweeney	✓	✓			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓				✓	✓	✓	✓		
Steve Thompson			✓				✓			✓					✓			✓	
Maggie Tidwell			✓		✓		✓		✓									✓	

1999-2000 Leadership Aurora Board

Sheila Anthony

Aurora Senior Center
30 Del Mar Circle
Aurora, CO 80011
303-361-2902
email: Santhony@ci.aurora.co.us

Annie Ayers

Comitis Crisis Center
P.O. Box 919
Aurora, CO 80040
303-341-9160
email: Anne.Ayers@comitis.org

Cindy Bohl

Aurora Mental Health Center
14301 E. Hampden Avenue
Aurora, CO 80014
303-617-2373
email: Cindy_Bohl@AuMHC.org

John "Buck" Buckingham

1050 Cheyenne Place
Parker, CO 80138
303-677-9488
email: john.buckingham@cobuck.ang.af.mil

Matt Cook

1816 S. Evanston Street
Aurora, CO 80012
303-338-9243
email: supelk@earthlink.net

Kimberly Curtis, Program Director

Aurora Chamber of Commerce
562 Sable Blvd., Ste 200
Aurora, CO 80011
303-344-1500
email: kimberly1017@aol.com

Tim Ehgotz

Pickens Tech Center
500 Airport Boulevard
Aurora, CO 80011
303-344-4910
email: time@pickens.aps.k12.co.us

Larry Grandison

DFAS-Denver Center
6760 E. Irvington Place
Denver, CO 80279-8000
303-676-7545
email: larry.grandison@DFAS.mil

Amy Holyfield

335 Lodgewood Point
Lafayette, CO 80026
303-665-9354
email: amyholyfield@yahoo.com

David Huffine

697 S. Nome Street
Aurora, CO 80012
303-364-1683
email: dhuffine@concentric.net

Capt. Steve Marshall

Aurora Police Department
15001 E. Alameda Drive
Aurora, CO 80012
303-739-6352
email: smarshal@ci.aurora.co.us

Sheila Martin

Redi-Print, Inc.
378 S. Chambers Road
Aurora, CO 80017
303-745-0010
email: Smart695@aol.com

Dominic Martinez

Wells Fargo Bank
1450 S. Havana Street
Aurora, CO 80012
303-752-6332
email: Dominic.V.Martinez@wellsfargo.com

Doug McBee

Aurora Fire Department
1470 S. Havana
Aurora, CO 80012
303-739-7128
email: dmcbee@ci.aurora.co.us

Susan Miller

Community College of Aurora Foundation
16000 E. Centretech Pkwy.
Aurora, CO 80011
303-361-7419
email: susan.miller@cca.cccoes.edu

Karen Odell

Aurora Mall
14200 E. Alameda Ave.
Aurora, CO 80012
303-344-9764
email: kodell@simon.com

Kim Podobnik

Arapahoe Co. Social Services
1690 W. Littleton Blvd.
Littleton, CO 80120
303-795-4833
email: kpodobnik@co.arapahoe.co.us

Jacob Shirk, Class President

Aurora Police Department
15001 E. Alameda Drive
Aurora, CO 80012
303-739-6363
email: jshirk@ci.aurora.co.us

Paul Short

Integrated Companies
1190 S. Colorado Blvd., Ste 301
Denver, CO 80246
303-504-9999 ext. 13
email: paul_short@intecorp.com

Randy Simpson

KACT-TV Channel 8
14949 E. Alameda Drive
Aurora, CO 80012
303-739-6605
email: rgatess@yahoo.com

Jo Ellen Snell, CHAIR

E-470 Public Highway Authority
22470 E. 6th Parkway
Aurora, CO 80018
303-537-3470
email: jsnell@e-470.com

Marc Stine

Rangeview High School
17599 E. Iliff Avenue
Aurora, CO 80013
303-695-6848
email: mstine@usa.net

Sammye Wheeler-Clouse

Prairie Middle School
12600 E. Jewell Avenue
Aurora, CO 80012
303-696-3750
email: swheeler2@mail.ccsd.k12.co.us

Terri Wohlever

The Medical Center of Aurora
1501 S. Potomac
Aurora, CO 80012
303-873-5942
email: terri.wohlever@columbia.net



Business to Business **SOLUTIONS**



Business to Business **SOLUTIONS**

Direct Mail

Business Packages

Newsletters

Brochures

Special Die Cuts

Foil and Embossing

Full Digital Prepress Capabilities

1 – 5 Color Printing

Complete Bindery Department

Inventory Management

Quick Turnaround

Competitive Pricing

IMAGE INC.
Printing Excellence

1300 South Potomac Street, Suite 130

Aurora, CO 80012

Phone 303.695.8884

Facsimile 303.695.4327



A special thank you to:

Mikel-Gamber Photography for professional services on the class photos.

SiX & SiX, inc. for the yearbook design and layout

Class members Su Ryden, Julie Lyon, Jake Shirk, Marian Savitsky and Steve Thompson for their hard work
and expertise in writing copy and gathering information

Class member Cindy Kunkel for taking some great candid photos



AURORA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

562 Sable Boulevard • Suite 200

Aurora, Colorado 80011

Phone 303-344-1500 • Fax 303-344-1564

www.aurorachamber.org

E-mail: auroracham@aol.com