

The Leading Edge

Spring/Summer 2011 Volume VII

Graduation June 24 Leadership Class of 2011

Fantasy Springs Resort Casino
84-245 Indio Springs Parkway
Indio, CA 92203-3499

Join us in the spectacular 12th floor lounge for a reception followed by dinner and a graduation celebration!

6:00pm Reception
7:00pm Dinner and Program



Guest Speaker:
2002 Teacher of the Year
Chauncey Veatch

Chauncey Veatch, a history and social studies teacher at Coachella Valley High School in Thermal, CA, was named the National Teacher of the Year on April 24, 2002 by President George W. Bush during a Rose Garden ceremony. Veatch, who defines his role of teacher in terms of his students' successes, strives to be a "dream maker for my students, not a dream breaker."



Veatch was chosen from among 58 teachers in Riverside County, then became the California Teacher of the Year in October, 2001. There were four finalists for the National Teacher of the Year honor including Veatch. Others came from Connecticut, Florida, and Kansas.

In addition to teaching history and social science at the high school, Veatch is also the advisor for the California Cadet Corps, a leadership and citizenship-developing program with a strong focus on community service. The program had not been active since the 1970s. Veatch helped build the organization to more than 170 students who participate in a wide variety of community events, visit elementary and middle schools to read to students and promote good citizenship, and perform in military parade competitions.

Teaching is his second career. He has served as an officer in the U.S. Army infantry and the medical services corps for 22 years, retiring in 1995. During those years he had assignments in Spain, Costa Rica, Panama, El Salvador, Paraguay, and Peru. He studied Spanish at the military's Defense Language Institute in Monterey, California, and the Octavio Paz Center for Latin American Studies in Guadalajara, Mexico.

"Everything I did was to prepare me to be a teacher," he said. A brother who also teaches encouraged Veatch to join the profession. During his first three years of teaching from 1995 to 1998, he earned his social studies teaching credential by taking evening and weekend classes. Besides his three years at Coachella Valley High School, Veatch taught seventh and eighth grade students from 1995 to 1999. Since 1995 he has taught English as a Second Language and citizenship classes at the evening Adult Education School, part of the Coachella Valley Unified School District. Along with social studies classes, Veatch teaches a ninth grade career preparation course as well as the Cadet class, and is a member of the Leadership Advisory Board.



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Susie Harvey (founder)
Peggy Sue Lane '08
Bill & Darlene Murphy '08, '07
Matt Rifkin '11
Scott Wilson '11

A Tasty Night At Toscana

A special reception hosted by Leadership Coachella Valley was held on Thursday, February 24 at the elegant Toscana Country Club in Indian Wells. Current LCV class members, alumni, and guests attended for cocktails, a full array of delicious hors d'oeuvres, and a discussion and presentation with David Peck, senior executive coach at the Goodstone Group LLC. Tremendous thanks to Integrated Wealth Management for sponsoring the event.



LCV 2012 Recruitment

CALLING ALL EMERGING LEADERS!

Do you have a friend or colleague who would be perfect for next year's LCV class? Please let us know so that he/she can fill out an application!

Each year, up to 40 applicants are selected to participate in the ten month program designed to identify, motivate and develop future community leaders. The program encourages involvement by providing knowledge and perspective on valley-wide needs and concerns. Participants meet current community leaders and experts in forum and group discussion settings once a month for ten months, from September to June.

Applicants are screened based upon their demonstrated leadership potential, commitment to community, and desire to assume a greater responsibility in a leadership role. Applicants must have lived or worked in the Coachella Valley for at least one year and must be over 18 years of age.

Current tuition is \$950 and includes all ten full-day sessions, lunches, break refreshments, class materials, field trips, graduation dinner and ceremony. Tuition must be paid in full before the first class session. Tuition for most students is paid by their employers and / or may be paid by the student personally. There are a limited number of scholarships, for which an application may also be completed. Thanks to our sponsors, we have been able to keep tuition rates manageable with only a slight increase for this fall.

Applications must be fully completed and received in the Leadership office by 4:30pm on August 15, 2011, and all applicants will be notified of their status on or before September 1. Interviews for applicants may be scheduled by the selection committee. Applications may be obtained online at www.leadershipcv.org, or by contacting 760-346-6111 or Leadershipcv@gmail.com

Alumni Council

Join the all new LCV Alumni Council and help continue to shape what happens to the lives of LCV grads here in the desert!

The council is open only to individuals only (no businesses) at the sponsorship level of \$250. Alumni Council members receive recognition on the LCV website, in our newsletter, on session agenda sidebars, and in all blast emails. What a great way to give back to the program that gave you such so much.

Please email us at Leadershipcv@gmail.com or call us at 760-346-6111 to join!

ALUMNI COUNCIL MEMBERS

Amir Afsar '10
Wes Ahlgren '08
Mitch Blumberg '09
Alison Elsner '07
Susie Harvey (founder)
Peggy Sue Lane '08
Bill & Darlene Murphy '08, '07
Matt Rifkin '11
Scott Wilson '11



LCV Mentor Program

TO MENTOR: *To serve as a trusted counselor or teacher - usually a more experienced person - to another person.*

LCV MENTOR PROGRAM

On March 29, Leadership Coachella Valley held a “Mentor Brainstorming” meeting at the Palm Desert Chamber office. Sixteen people attended the gathering, facilitated by Advisory Board member Kay Hazen, to discuss aspects of implementing a mentoring program within LCV. Topics included: program goals, responsibilities of mentors and mentees, processes for matching, how to identify mentors and mentees, and how the program could be integrated into the existing curriculum.

Everyone participating was excited about the program and how this type of program would be able to take LCV to the next level by adding more value to the overall LCV program and offerings.

A committee was selected to consider all of the brainstorming ideas that were presented at the meeting and to formalize into a Mentor Program. The Mentor Committee consists of Susie Harvey, Kathy Asher-Burns '04, Stu Bailey, Joan Boiko '06, Eva Guenther-James '01, Steve Hill '04, Dan Mahoney '11, Dennis Stratton '11, Shawna Trombetta '02, and Susan Francis '09.

Please stay tuned for more information regarding next steps on the LCV Mentor Program and how YOU can get involved!



THE ORIGINS OF MENTOR -- DID YOU KNOW?

In Greek mythology, Mentor was the son of Alcumus. In his old age, Mentor was a friend of Odysseus who placed Mentor and Odysseus' foster-brother Eumaeus in charge of his son Telemachus, and of Odysseus' palace, when Odysseus left for the Trojan War.

When Athena visited Telemachus, she took the disguise of Mentor to hide herself from the suitors of Telemachus' mother Penelope. As Mentor, the goddess encouraged Telemachus to stand up against the suitors and travel abroad to find out what happened to his father. When Odysseus returns to Ithaca, Athena appears briefly in the form of Mentor again at Odysseus' palace.

Because of Mentor's and Eumaeus' near-paternal relationship with Telemachus, the personal name Mentor has been adopted in English as a term meaning a father-like teacher. The word mentor: a trusted friend, counselor or teacher, usually a more experienced person.

Some professions have structured mentoring programs in which newcomers are paired with more experienced people, who advise them and serve as examples as they advance. Schools sometimes offer mentoring programs to new students or to students having difficulties.

Today, mentors provide expertise to less experienced individuals to help them advance their careers, enhance their education, and build their networks.

Famous Mentor - Mentee Matches:



- **Business:** Freddie Laker mentored Richard Branson
- **Politicians:** Aristotle mentored Alexander the Great
- **Directors:** Roger Corman mentored Francis Ford Coppola, Martin Scorsese, Ron Howard, Peter Bogdanovich, Jonathan Demme, Joe Dante, James Cameron, and John Sayles.
- **Actors:** Laurence Olivier mentored Anthony Hopkins. Martin Landau mentored Jack Nicholson. Mel Gibson mentored Heath Ledger.
- **Musicians:** Johann Christian Bach mentored Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart. Dr. Dre mentored Eminem.
- **Athletes:** Eddy Merckx (five-time Tour de France winner) mentored Lance Armstrong (seven-time Tour de France winner).
- **Movies:** Obi-wan Kenobi mentored Anakin Skywalker and his son Luke Skywalker.

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Alumni News

Kristal Granados, LCV class 02, accepted the position of Assistant Vice President/Business Development Officer with Desert Commercial Bank in Palm Desert. Her new email address is: kgranados@desertbanking.com.

Kimberly Bowers, LCV 09, has accepted the position of Communications Director with the Mojave Desert Land Trust. Her new email is kimberly@mojavedesertlandtrust.org.

Steve Hill, LCV 04, has written a book of harp arrangements. Titled "Easy Classical Pieces arranged for Lever Harp" - and published by Afghan Press. www.folkharp.com Also, El Paseo Bank acquired 6 of Steve's beautiful giclee art prints. They decorate the El Paseo Bank branch in the Albertson shopping center in Rancho Mirage.

Shelley Daily, LCV 09, accepted the position of Development Director with Joslyn Center.

Paul McKey, LCV 11 & Julie Rosser, LCV 04, entertained a full house at Fantasy Springs singing Broadway Love Songs to benefit Well in the Desert. A "bravo" performance!

Elizabeth Romero Toledo, LCV 07, was re-elected to the Coachella Valley Unified School District Board. Within a week however, she was appointed to the Riverside County Board of Education representing both Coachella Valley and Desert Sands Unified School Districts.

Kathi Jacobs, LCV 04 & David Peat, LCV 04, have been appointed to the Board of Directors of the Coachella Valley Economic Partnership. Kathi is Director of Public Affairs for Time Warner Cable. David is Vice President and Regional Manager of the desert region for Pacific Western Bank.

President's Message



Dear friends,

This year has sure flown by. The current class just finished their eighth session and has only two more to go before graduation. The feedback from the sessions so far has been outstanding. I get pulled aside at various social functions and told, by current class members, the Program has exceeded their expectations. The class members are engaged, excited and eager to get involved in any way they can.

The Board has been working hard to elevate the quality of the program. We meet once a month to discuss speakers, venues, topic, ideas, and material that will make an impact to each and every participant. I'd like to thank Susie, Peggy Sue, Amir, Tracy, Deborah and Alison for their dedication and fantastic ideas. It's great to be a part of such a cohesive Board that is passionate about their goals and responsibilities.

I'm looking forward to our last two sessions and graduation which is shaping up to be a stellar event at a beautiful location featuring one of the Desert's finest citizens. Hope to see you all there!

Robin Harding
President, Leadership Coachella Valley Board of Directors

OUR MISSION

Leadership Coachella Valley is a program designed to identify, motivate and develop future community leaders. The program encourages involvement by providing knowledge and perspective on valleywide needs and concerns. Each month, participants meet current community leaders in forum and group discussion settings.