

**LEADERSHIP  
COACHELLA  
VALLEY**  
CREATING TOMORROW'S  
LEADERS TODAY

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*Creating Tomorrow's Leaders Today*

**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.

**La Quinta Chamber to Manage Leadership Coachella Valley**

When the La Quinta Chamber of Commerce takes over the management of Leadership Coachella Valley (LCV) this July, it won't be in any stranger's hands.

Louise Lambly, an LCV alumnae and the former administrator of LCV before she left the Palm Desert Chamber earlier this year, is now president/chief executive office of the La Quinta Chamber of Commerce and will resume management of the organization this summer.

"The Leadership Coachella Valley Board is really excited about the La Quinta Chamber assuming the administrator position for LCV," said Bill Cuff, LCV board chairman. "Besides being an excellent chamber, Louise is very knowledgeable about the program and a great supporter of it. We truly are fortunate to have the La Quinta Chamber assume this critical function."

"The Palm Desert Chamber has achieved an A+ in administering

the LCV program under the leadership of Susie Harvey," said Cuff. "Besides having been an excellent President/CEO of the Palm Desert Chamber, Susie managed the LCV program in her typically intelligent, conscientious and professional manner. Susie was also one of the key individuals who spearheaded the founding of LCV. Some leaders can have a profound and positive affect on their organizations. Susie is one of those lead-



**Board of Directors 2006-07**  
Frankie Riddle, LCV 04;  
Kathy Asher-Burns, LCV 04;  
Bill Cuff, Joan Boiko, LCV 06;  
Rob Anzalone, LCV 06  
Not pictured: Bob Marra

ers and a great example to all associated with LCV."

Lambly said she is very glad to be coming back to LCV.

"As the La Quinta Chamber President/CEO, I am excited to have us assume the administration of Leadership Coachella Valley for the next three years," Lambly said. "I am continually amazed at the dedication of the true leaders of our Valley sharing their perspective on the issues facing the future of our community, and the quality of the students in the program. I have been involved with Leadership Coachella Valley for the past five years, first as a student, then as part of the administration team, and have seen this vital program produce some incredibly strong, informed, passionate community leaders."



**Find Out the Latest on the "Alumni Only" Page**

Don't wait for the next edition of The Leading Edge. Keep up-to-date with information about your classmates by clicking on to [www.leadershipcv.org](http://www.leadershipcv.org).

On the drop down menu for Alumni, click on Alumni Only.

Username: alumni  
Password: lcv



# The Leading Edge

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**LEADERSHIP  
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**Graduation Set for June 15 at Mission Hills Country Club**



The Board of Directors of Leadership Coachella Valley  
Cordially Invites You to Attend

*Class of 2007*

*Graduation Dinner & Ceremony*

Friday, June 15, 2007

6:00 pm Reception; 6:30 pm Dinner & Program

Mission Hills Country Club, Rancho Mirage

\$60 per person

Reservation deadline is Friday, June 8; No refunds after that date.

Reserve by calling 568-0320, or mail to:

Leadership Coachella Valley, 73-710 Fred Waring Dr., Ste. 114  
Palm Desert, CA 92260

Checks can be made payable to Leadership Coachella Valley  
Mission Hills Country Club is located at 34-600 Mission Hills Dr., Rancho Mirage.  
Enter from the gate on Dinah Shore between Bob Hope and DaVall.



## Alumni News



Thank you to everyone who has kept the Leadership office updated. Keep those cards, letters and emails coming! We want to know what is happening in YOUR life.

### Class of 2001

**Katie Slimko** has accepted the position of Director of Member Services for the Palm Desert Chamber of Commerce.

### Class of 2002

**Elise Colson** has moved back to the valley and is now working for the Palm Springs Convention Center. Welcome back!

**Brian Johnston** has joined Desert Commercial Bank as Senior Vice President/Chief Production Officer.

**Adam Ochoa** has been appointed to the board of directors of the East Valley Tourist Development Authority, a subsidiary of the Cabazon Band of Mission Indians.

### Class of 2003

**Louise Lambly** has accepted the position of President/CEO of the La Quinta Chamber of Commerce.

**Terri Milton** has relocated to Northern California in Chico. She says that LCV is close to her heart and she wants to stay connected.

**Marie Santana** is now a Realtor with Century 21 De Oro, Indio Office.

### Class of 2004

**Diane Glanz** has been appointed as the assistant to the general manager of the Coachella Valley Mosquito and Vector Control District.

**Jim Lewis** sends greetings from Long Beach where he is the President/CEO of the Long Beach Rescue Mission. He has just started the Leadership Long Beach Executive Quick Start Program.

**Julie Rosser**, as Governance Chair of the Riverside Country Chapter of the American Red Cross, is seeking Board members from the valley. Contact her if you are interested. Julie.Rosser@bbklaw.com.

Be sure to check out the website and let us know if your info needs to be updated!  
<http://www.leadershipcv.org/alumni.html>

### Class of 2005

**Heather Berk** is the new Finance Specialist at DACE (Desert Alliance for Community Empowerment).

**Dale Gribow** is now producing the **Patti Gribow Show (LCV 06)** filmed live at CBSTV in front of a live audience. PATTI interviews celebrities during her weekly show. Dale was recently named to the Blue Ribbon Committee for Foundation of the Retarded. Dale and Patti were the co-chairs for a recent McCallum fundraising event.

### Class of 2006

**Carlos Campos** was recently named City Attorney for the City of Coachella, where he grew up. Carlos is employed by Best Best & Krieger in Indian Wells.

**Patti Gribow** is now hosting the Patti Gribow Show where she interviews celebrities during her weekly television show with a live audience. **Dale Gribow (LCV 05)** and PATTI were the co-chairs for a recent McCallum fundraising event.

**Rodney Young**, formerly general manager of Desert Willow Golf Resort, has accepted the position of Director of Golf at the University of Oklahoma.

### Class of 2007

**Wes Ahlgren** was recently promoted to Vice President of Corporate Affairs at Rilington Communities. He was also been appointed second vice president to the Building Industry Association Desert Chapter's Board of Directors.

**David Archer** has left EdwardJones to accept a position with Sunrise Bank.

**Ken Gregory** has left the Public Defender's office to begin his own practice. He is now with Law Offices of Kenneth Gregory.

**Carrie Oliphant** has welcomed a new daughter into the world, Ashley Mae Oliphant.

**Joanna Whitlow** was recently featured in The Desert Sun with a story about her businesses For Moms and Babies (a motherhood support center) and Jadabug's (a baby furniture store). Congratulations on the great coverage.



## Dick Heckmann to Address Class of 2007



Local entrepreneur Richard J. Heckmann will be the keynote speaker at this year's Leadership Coachella Valley graduation on June 15.

Heckmann, who recently sold his Calif.-based K2 Inc., for \$1.2 billion, founded the Palm Desert-based US Filter Corp in 1990, which grew into a worldwide provider of water and waste treatment systems. The company be-

came the Coachella Valley's first Fortune-500 company before it was purchased in 1999 by Vivendi S.A. of Paris, for \$8.2 billion in cash and debt assumption.

A Palm Desert resident and an owner of the NBA Phoenix Suns basketball team, Heckmann initiated efforts to establish University California Riverside's Palm Desert program with a donation in 2001 of \$6 million to build the Richard J. Heckmann International Center for Entrepreneurial Management. The State of California added \$10 million to the effort and the City of Palm Desert donated land at Frank Sinatra Drive and Cook Street.

The Class of 2007's graduation dinner will be held at Mission Hills Country Club in Rancho Mirage. Reception begins at 6:00 p.m. followed by dinner and program at 6:30 p.m. Guest tickets are \$60. For reservations, by June 9, call 568-0320.

Heckmann, who received rave reviews when he spoke at the LCV alumni mixer in the fall of 2006, has had a business career that has focused around entrepreneurial themes and enterprises. He founded Tower Scientific Corporation in 1971, which grew into the largest manufacturer of custom prosthetic devices in the United States. Hexcel Corporation acquired

Tower in 1977. He was also founding shareholder of Callaway Golf and former director and owner of Smith Goggles of Sun Valley, Idaho. Heckmann served in the federal government as the Associate Administrator for Finance and Investment at the federal Small Business Administration (SBA) from 1978 to 1979. He served as the White House liaison from the SBA and as a director of the advisory board of the Kennedy Center in Washington, D.C. Heckmann was also chairman of the Listed Company Advisory Committee of the New York Stock Exchange (NYSE) and a member of the NYSE's Special Governance Committee.

## LCV Recruiting Class of 2008

Leadership Coachella Valley (LCV) is currently looking for potential community leaders to be part of the Class of 2008. Up to 40 emerging leaders will be chosen to participate in next season's program which runs from September of 2007 through June of 2008 with monthly sessions focused on various topics including Leadership, Team Building & History; Government, Judicial Process & Law Enforcement; Economic Drivers of the Valley, Tourism & Agriculture; Transportation & Energy; Housing; Art, Culture & Recreation; Healthcare; Education & Diversity; Communications & The Media; and Environmental Issues.

LCV, founded in 1999 by the Chambers of Commerce of Cathedral City, Indio, La Quinta, Palm Desert, Palm Springs and Rancho Mirage, is a 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 in monthly forum and group discussion settings.

"The LCV program made me feel much more connected to the Valley," said Robert Anzalone, vice president and commercial loan officer for Pacific Western Bank and a member of the class of 2006. "It made me appreciate all the fine people that are working hard to make the desert a better place for all of us to live and work for generations to come."

Once a month, participants attend an all-day seminar in which important community issues are reviewed and discussed. The format includes a combination of presentations, panel discussions, and hands-on visits and tours to locales relevant

to the day's theme. Experts share their insights and views and interact with participants during lively discussions. There are also opportunities throughout the year for class members to meet and network with LCV alumni through mixers and forums.

"Leadership Coachella Valley was a wonderful experience," said Debra Kay Ahlers, public relations manager for the Community Blood Bank and a member of the LCV class of 2004. "The people involved are as complex, interesting, and as well diverse as the issues covered. Not only did I learn about the various issues affecting our Valley, but I developed friendships that I value yet today."

"The Class of 2004 has great bonding. I made contacts I still count on every day," said Lynda Kerney, legislative assistant for Riverside County Supervisor Roy Wilson. "Having lived in



Palm Springs for 36 years, it was amazing to realize there was so much I just didn't know about my home. The information shared by the speakers has been an invaluable resource over the last three years. Indeed, the nature of my job requires knowledge of what to do and whom to contact when trying to solve a problem. Many times I have been able to rely on the Leadership Coachella Valley experience to put the right people together to make the community better."

Applications are available on the LCV website at [www.leadershipcv.org](http://www.leadershipcv.org) or by calling 568-0320. Tuition is \$850. Deadline to apply is August 15.

## Upcoming Alumni Event

New Student Orientation & Mixer

Thursday, September 20, 2007

Location tba

**Calling All Volunteers** Are you interested in helping plan the next alumni event? All comers are welcome. Contact us at [leadership@leadershipcv.org](mailto:leadership@leadershipcv.org) and we'll invite you to the next meeting.

Share your successes, promotions and other news with LCV alumni.

Email news to [leadership@leadershipcv.org](mailto:leadership@leadershipcv.org)