

## PAL Mission ...

... to develop and inspire individuals to contribute to the vitality and leadership of Yavapai County, AZ.

### Board of Directors 2009-2010

John Rasmussen, XVII  
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Sandy Klinikowski, XIX  
David Maurer, XVIII  
Karen Singleton, XVIII  
Marilyn Yetter, XVI

## The Winds of Change at PAL

by Tracey McConnell

While holding steadfast to the core principles of our mission, PAL's 20th Year is alive with the signs of transformation. A humming system coming right up . . . that's right! The PAL Board of Directors is giving some down home attention to its foundation:

- Creating a business plan and budget plan
- Updating policies and procedures
- Rejuvenating our PAL website
- Updating and publishing our directory of PAL Alumni
- Providing management support for a myriad of annual activities

Firming up our foundation provides more organizational energy for developing and inspiring effective leadership. Make the most of our upcoming events!

- Central Yavapai Institute
- Class XX Issue Days
- PAL Mixer Events
- Prescott Area Youth Leadership program
- Man, Woman & Youth of the Year Awards; and
- A 20th Year Reunion

Join us in shaping the destiny of PAL! These changes present meaningful opportunities for your involvement. Be a part of the winds of change.

## President's Message

by John Rasmussen

Greetings PAL Alum:

The twentieth year of PAL is underway! From my observations of interviews, the class retreat and the first issue day, I think Best Class XX has potential to be the best class yet. I am looking forward to a great year of issue days and other PAL activities organized by this year's participants. PAL events will be posted on the website ([www.prescottarealeadership.org](http://www.prescottarealeadership.org)).

The retreat for Class XX was successful. We had the typical busy retreat schedule with speakers, exercises and the camaraderie that all of us probably recall from our own PAL retreat. Ron Barnes was informative and engaging while speaking of "Lessons for Leaders." Because I know you are curious, it is true indeed that groups were established to reach consensus on sets of "agree/disagree statements". We also heard from PAL members Aalt Brower regarding Meyers Briggs; Marilyn Yetter on True Colors, and had a meaningful team building activity led by Jesse Eller.

Another of the retreat highlights for me was

the barbeque and campfire activity on Friday evening. I would very much like to express my gratitude to all of the alums who came out to Friendly Pines for this event. Immediate Past President Brad Fain and President Elect Steve Bracety displayed their expert barbequing talents and cooked for us all. The food you brought was delicious and your participation around the campfire was even better. I'm certain the new class appreciated your thoughts on your PAL experience and your welcoming comments. Representative Lucy Mason deserves special thanks for attending the barbeque and campfire despite the foot-cast. She spoke of her PAL experience and welcomed questions on anything (even current budget politics).

Your PAL Board of Directors is working hard to continue the dedication to PAL demonstrated by past boards. The Board has been meeting regularly through the summer and held a retreat in July. In addition to an excellent first year for Class XX and a great second year for Class XI, the Board has identified some straightforward objectives for the organization. These include updating and publishing a directory, creating a business plan and a budget plan, updating By Laws, Policies & Procedures, and planning for a January Board Retreat to evaluate our effectiveness and set new goals for 2010.

*The most effective servants are those who can persuade others to go with them and who have learned to work in teams.*

*Robert K. Greenleaf*

## Meet the Best Class XX

### **David Aden**

Managing a corporation that operates a variety of businesses; he also partners in a Colorado project that builds commercial property and private warehouses that are sold and leased. Holding several degrees, he has been involved with a number of scientific and dental organizations, served on committees of graduate students, directing post-doctoral associates, and hosted one of the first exchange Chinese scientists in the '70's.

### **Andrew Becke**

An associate attorney with Murphy, Schmitt, Hathaway & Wilson, he practices primarily in the areas of personal injury, appellate practice and professional licensure and discipline. he holds a Bachelors in Hotel and Restaurant Management, and law degree from ASU, graduating cum laude with pro bono distinction in 2007. Heavily involved with American Youth Soccer Andrew recruits, trains and schedules referees who serve more than 1,000 youth players ages 4 to 18, during the fall season.

### **Alan Blaine**

A Branch Manager for Arizona State Credit Union, he also holds an Arizona State Insurance license and received the designation of Accredited Asset Management Specialist. Alan has a BS in Economics from ASU. Alan is the chairman of the Family Services Committee with the Kiwanis of Prescott, is a member of Sharlot Hall Museum, Vice Commander of the Sons of American Legion, Post 6, and Arizona's Children Association.

### **Wendy Bridges**

The Economic Development Specialist and Film Commissioner for the City of Prescott, she is responsible for business retention and expansion, as well as promotion and marketing of the Prescott region. She has attended college and has completed Prescott's Leadership Academy, AFCI Film Commissioner courses, and U of A's Economic Development Course. Active with the AFCI, a new member of Arizona Association for Economic Development and the Prescott Chamber of Commerce, she was recently approached about, and is facilitating, a new young professionals group.

### **Debra Carbone**

Debra is the Regional Sales Manager for National Bank of Arizona. She is responsible for 10 branch locations. Debra has 25 years in the financial industry with an array of training in financial, people management and leadership skills. She is a Board member of the local YMCA and has most recently taken on the responsibility of developing a Volunteer Board which will encompass all areas of the YMCA. She is also a Spinning instructor.

### **Heidi Griswold**

A Health Systems Specialist/Administrative Assistant to the Chief of Staff of the Northern Arizona VA, she provides support by analyzing, evaluating, advising and coordinating health care delivery operations. Heidi has US Army Personnel Specialist training, a BA in Management, an MA in Organizational Management and various other certificates. She is active in Cub Scout Pack #6, a realtor, a mentor and participant in the VA Prescott Leadership University for Success Program, and an active participant of various Prescott VA committees and boards.



### **Gregory Krzmarzick**

An administrator for Good Samaritan Society in Prescott Valley, he ensures his facility provides the highest quality of care to community seniors. Gregory has a BS in Long Term Care and Aging Studies from the University of Minnesota. He is an active member of the advisory board for the Good Samaritan Society, Prescott Home Health and Hospice advisory board and a current member of the Aging Services of Arizona Association.

### **Donna Laxson**

A Branch manager at the Prescott Valley branch of Arizona State Credit Union, she manages the daily operations, ensuring that the office is exceeding member expectations. Donna has taken specialized classes and participated in banking related training classes. She is involved with the Chamber of Commerce Membership committee and Orientation committee in Prescott Valley.

### **Bret Minnihan**

The Supervisor of Prescott operations for APS, he is responsible for keeping the lights on in Yavapai County, responding to emergency calls, customer outages and customer voltage issues. Bret completed a four year Lineman Apprenticeship with APS. He has been involved with Diamond Back Little League for 17 years and helped start and build this League from one T-ball field and one Minor/Major League field to two more of each, along with two lighted Senior League fields and concession stands.

### **Jennifer Nelson**

A Care Management supervisor for Yavapai County Long Term Care, she is responsible for providing direct supervision, technical assistance, problem solving, procedure clarification and review of duties and activities completed by Care Managers. Jennifer received a BS in Exercise Science (Physical Therapy emphasis) and a minor in Physical Science from NAU. She currently volunteers for Cub Scout Pack #197 in Chino Valley, and volunteered at Flagstaff Medical Center in the Neuro Rehab while attending NAU.

### **Randy Pluimer**

A Building Inspector supervisor for the City of Prescott, his duties vary from working with the public, supervising field inspectors and plan reviewers, and working with supervisors on the goals and budget for the upcoming year. Randy has taken several college courses, technical courses, and seminars covering a wide range of topics. He is a

# Retreat Kickoff



Lucy Mason at Retreat '09

by Wendy Bridges, Class XX Reporter

Early Friday, August 21, Class XX met at Friendly Pines Camp for the kickoff retreat. After breakfast Brad Fain and John Rasmussen did an icebreaker by putting animal names on class members backs. Everyone then had to determine what animal they were.

Dr. Ron Barnes gave everyone a copy of his book, *Lessons for Leaders*; then led an entertaining and thought

provoking discussion about leadership traits and styles.

Aalt Brouwer introduced the class to the Myers Briggs tests and explained the results. The next activity was The Ropes Challenge! The camp's staff led the group to a beautiful green meadow and delighted the class by turning everyone into egg and Elvis. We split into two groups and the team building activities began.

After the rope challenges we were treated to a BBQ and potluck by PAL Alumni. Although a thunderstorm threatened to end the evening early, the night sky cleared in time to enjoy s'mores with

homemade marshmallows. Sitting around the campfire, we heard inspirational testimonials from PAL alumni, including State Representative, Lucy Mason.

Day Two focused on working as a team and learning how to encourage and support each other., Jesse Eller had half the class steer the blindfolded other half down to the tennis courts and we began what the most emotional of all the team building activities. Jesse lined us up side-by-side and instructed us to hold hands. He asked questions about our childhood, upbringing, financial standing, and relationships; and depending on the answer, positive or negative, the participants would take a step forward or backward. Then we would stop holding hands and stand alone. For many the questions and answers were painful and evoked powerful emotions. Jesse explained that each of us came from different backgrounds and challenges, yet, as a group we discovered we are not as different as we thought.

Marilyn Yetter presented the True Colors test. After more self-exploration, the group identified traits and characteristics in themselves that matched with the colors. We were then grouped by our dominant color and given a task of spending a large sum of pretend money.

Finally members were assigned their Issue Days and ideas on presenting an issue day. The retreat wrapped up with class assignments (this is your reporter here!) and feedback.

Although we were anxious to get back home, it was hard to say goodbye to all the new friends. After handshakes and hugs, PAL Class XX had completed the retreat, forged new bonds, and learned about effective, servant leaders, and a great deal about themselves and each other along the way.



## Class XX

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Sunday School teacher, Royal Ranger leader, 4-H leader, umpire for baseball and football and vice-chairman for the Arizona Building Officials Code Committee and member of the Education Committee.

### Bobette Sanchez-Harvick

The Designated Broker and owner of Firesky Real Estate, she runs the day-to-day operations, sells real estate, and has a new company "Living Green Prescott", which presents seminars. Bobette has completed some college including attending law school for a short time. She is the current President of Yavapai Humane Society and President of the 2009 Women's Council of Realtors.

### Kate St. Clair

The owner and principal consultant of PowerSource Int'l for more than 20 years, she consults with executives to empower them to effectively manage their organizations. She develops and facilitates workshops introducing supervisory and management skills. Kate has a BA in Music, MBA, and a Graduate Certificate. She is a member of the Prescott Chamber Economic Development Committee and Chair of the Medical Subcommittee, Prescott POPS Symphony Board member and Performer, Chair of the Funds Development Committee, Performer in Yavapai College Master Chorale, and Board member of Dressage Desperados.

### Kim Tate

A full-time professional REALTOR® who assists both buyers and sellers, she finds a common thread by listening and communicating. Customer service is a top priority. Kim is also a small business owner and has a BS in Business with an emphasis in Finance. She has also

been a Financial Consultant, done corporate training, has manned a crisis hot-line for the Houston Area Woman's Center, and is Membership Chairperson for her synagogue. She fundraises for the Luther Burbank Center for the Arts, and is a member of the Prescott and Scottsdale Area Association of Realtors.

### Cyndi Thomas

Employed with Senior Services through the Town of Chino Valley, Cyndi is responsible for the daily Meals on Wheels program and the Chino Valley Senior Center. She also helps individuals with Social Services related referrals along with office administration duties. Cyndi attended NAU for two years, left college to pursue other life-changing events and returned to college to obtain a nursing degree, and decided to pursue a degree in Health Care Administration. She has been active with various parent-teacher organization boards, a member of the NAU Classified Staff Advisory Council, Board member of the Northern Arizona Youth Football Association and was the Children's Ministry Director for the First Southern Baptist Church.

### Laura Jo West

The District Ranger for the Bradshaw Ranger District of the Prescott National Forest, Laura is responsible for the management of approximately 350,000 acres of federally managed public lands from Prescott south to Horsethief Basin. She holds a BS from Utah State University in Forest Recreation Resource Management and has completed graduate studies toward an MS in Political Science. A member of the International Association for Public Participation; she has participated in think tanks involving rural area community development; participated with the Heartland Center for Leadership Development; is a member of Prescott Area Wildland Urban Interface Commission; and a board member of Prescott Area Coalition for Tourism.

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## Remaining Issue Days 2009 - 2010

PRESCOTT AREA LEADERSHIP, INC.



### **Issue Day 2 - Business, Growth & Environment**

October 16, 2009

Planners: Greg Krzmarzick & Cyndi Thomas

### **Issue Day 3 - Education**

November 20, 2009

Planners: Kim Tate, Michael Whiting & Andrew Becke

### **Mid-Year Retreat & Skill Enhancement**

December 11, 2009

Planners: PAL Board

### **Issue Day 4 - Criminal Justice**

January 15, 2010

Planners: David Aden, Jennifer Nelson & Debra Carbone

### **Issue Day 5 - Government & Politics**

February 19, 2010

Planners: Kate St. Clair, Bobette Sanchez-Harvick & Heidi Griswold

### **Issue Day 6 - Arts & Media**

March 26, 2010

Planners: Donna Laxson & Bret Minnihan

### **Issue Day 7 - Health**

April 16, 2010

Planners: Randy Pluimer & Laura Jo West

### **Issue Day 8 - Youth**

May 21, 2010

Planners: Wendy Bridges & Alan Blain

### **2010 Synthesis Day**

June 11, 2010

Planners: PAL Board

## Regional Issue Day

by Wendy Bridges, Class XX Reporter

After being warmly welcomed to YRMC West, PAL business and the introduction of the day to come was discussed over a continental breakfast.

Marilyn Yetter introduced Norm Davis who spoke about the roads of Yavapai County. Norm began his career 20 years ago as an engineer for both the City of Prescott and Yavapai County, and presently is the Public Works Director for Prescott Valley. The main issue for building new roads and improving existing ones is funding. Several communities have a dedicated sales tax to provide funding, but also receive money from Highway Users' Revenue Fund (HURF), which is a tax placed on gasoline sales.

After a brief break, a panel was assembled to debate the Taxpayer Protection Initiative. Panel members presenting the con side of the debate were Prescott Chamber of Commerce CEO David Maurer, Scott Helfenstein, CPA. The pro side of the debate was provided by John Danforth and Brad Devries, both members of the Taxpayer Protection Committee. An informative and lively debate ensued.

David VanGorder, PAL Best Class IX, presented the class with his personal and inspiring story of how he was

able to overcome adversity with an attitude of perseverance. He also treated the group to "ComplaintFreeWorld.org" bracelets, to wear as a reminder to maintain a positive outlook.

Reinvigorated by lunch at LaFonda's and a nice walk back to YRMC, Rasmussen introduced the panel presenting water issues: City of Prescott's Jim Holt, Citizens' Water Advisory Group's (CWAG) Chris Hoy, Yavapai County Supervisor Carol Springer, and John Rasmussen from Yavapai County. Rasmussen showed a PowerPoint and gave an overview of the water management areas and the basins, as well as an introduction of the Yavapai County Water Advisory Committee.

Supervisor Springer discussed

her background and presented an overview of water law in Arizona. Holt summarized the Big Chino Ranch Water project and Hoy finished the segment by providing information about CWAG.

The final segment was presented by Councilwoman Lora Lopas who discussed open space, and its role in preserving wildlife habitats. The most requested brochure from the Prescott Chamber of Commerce is the City of Prescott Trails brochure, indicating that people place a high value on connections with nature, peace and tranquility. After identifying priority areas for future acquisition, such as Granite Dells, Willow and Watson Lakes, Councilwoman Lopas noted recent purchases and land donations that have been designated as open space.



### **PAL Mixer Current Class XX & Alumni**

DATE: *Wednesday, October 21*  
 TIME: *5:30-7:30 PM*  
 PLACE: *Manzanita Grill at  
 Antelope Hills Golf Course*

*Hors d'oeuvres  
 No Host Bar*



## Class XX

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### **Michael Whiting**

The Executive Director of United Way of Yavapai County, his responsibilities include promotion of United Way through progressive public relations and fundraising practices. He oversees the business and financial affairs and maintains positive relationships within the communities served. Michael holds a BS from the U of A and MA in Public Administration. He participated with Mesa Leadership, Training and Development for the Mesa Chamber of Commerce; Division Chairman, community campaign, Mesa United Way; on the Advisory Boards for Crime Prevention, Gang Prevention Steering Committee and Housing and Human Services Advisory Board, City of Mesa; Mesa Community Round Table; U of A Business and Public Administration Alumni Council; Board member Samaritan Health Service; Optimist International; YRMC Board of Electors; SCF Safety Committee Prescott Chamber of Commerce.

