

Leadership Mohawk Valley Newsletter

A publication of LMV

November 2008

Volume 1, Issue 1

Largest Class in LMV's History

Special points of interest:

- Largest class in LMV's 18 year history
- LMV's Board of Directors
- LMV welcomes new Director, Ann Rushlo (LMV 2002)
- LMV 2009 Group Projects
- Chamber Execs support LMV
- Insight from Peter Falzarine, President of the Board of Directors

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Class of 2009	1
Board of Directors	2
New Director	2
Non-Profit Projects	3
Chambers Support LMV	3
Message from the President	3
Upcoming Events	4

This year's Leadership Mohawk Valley class is by far the largest class in the organization's 18 year history, with 44 current and future community leaders. The class began their initiation into LMV with a two day orientation on the SUNYIT campus, where the group participated in activities that made them think and talk about themselves, their companies, and their communities. Many of the group's activities helped them to not only get a better understanding of the program they'd be a part of for the coming year, but also a better understanding of themselves and their new "classmates" who would be accompanying them on this ten month

journey. Many of the activities, as is often the case at LMV Orientation, were geared toward working together to find solutions to the problem at hand. Nowhere was that more apparent than on the SUNYIT "Ropes Course," where the group participated in such activities as: "The Wall" (it's 12' high, and yes, people got over it, with a little help from their friends), "Triangle Traverse," and the "Spider Web," as well as several other activities that allowed them to strategize and work together, to carry out the designated task. And whether it's on the Ropes Course, in business, or in life, isn't that what we do? We work together, strategize to find solutions, then carry out the mission!

Right: Orientation activity on the SUNYIT "Ropes Course"



Board of Directors (including LMV class year)

NAME	LMV Class Year	COMPANY
Peter Falzarine, President	1998	House of the Good Shepherd
Lori Losowski, Pres. Elect	1998	AmeriCU Credit Union
Tricia Sticca, Secretary	2001	Northland Communications
Bill Read, Treasurer	2007	Day, Scarafile & Read
Vince Casale	2001	HCCC
David Habbel, PhD	n/a	Utica College
Claudia Hartz	1998	Human Technologies Corp.
Ralph Imundo	1995	Mohawk Limited
Deb Kessler	1996	M. A. Polce Consulting, Inc.
Peter Perkins	2006	SUNYIT
Bill Pirillo	n/a	NYSTEC
Don Purtell	1998	First Source FCU
Mary Lou Reape	1995	Mid York Library Systems (retired)
Mary Kate Rolf	2004	Visiting Nurse Association
Brian Saville	2000	Utica National Insurance

Jim Rohn

...on Leadership:

“Leadership is the challenge to be something more than average.”

...on Ambition:

“Goals. There's no telling what you can do when you get inspired by them. There's no telling what you can do when you believe in them. There's no telling what will happen when you act upon them.”

Director “Digs In” to New Role

After 28 years in Banking and Finance, a 2002 LMV grad takes over the helm as Director. **Ann Rushlo** (pictured, at right) joined SUNYIT’s Continuing Professional Education Department as a Program Coordinator, where the bulk of her duties are as the Director of the 18-year old Leadership Mohawk Valley program. She started in her new role “unofficially” at Orientation, and officially on September 2nd, just in time for this year’s first Program Day: Lifelong Learning Day, on September 3rd. Since that time, with the help of able and competent design teams,

she has facilitated “Media & Promotion” and “Economic Development” Program Days, and continues to work with both the Board of Directors and the Special Events Committees on upcoming events and initiatives.



Non-Profits to benefit from LMV Projects

This year, as in years past, the class is split up into “project teams” that will work throughout the year on a project for a local non-profit agency or organization. With such a large LMV class, we were able to grant seven project requests.

The beneficiaries of this year’s projects are:

- YWCA of the Mohawk Valley
- Johnson Park Center
- Oneida County Family Treatment Court
- Family Nurturing Center
- Rome Community Concert Band
- Big Brothers/Big Sisters
- Utica Safe Schools/Healthy Partnerships

Peter Perkins, SUNYIT (LMV ‘06) is the Board of Directors’ liaison to the project teams. He works closely with the teams on Program Days to provide suggestions, perspectives and guidance (thanks, Peter!). The project teams are working together with their non-profit groups, and the outcomes will be highlighted during presentations at LMV graduation on May 6, 2009.

Chamber Executives Assist with Economic Development Day Design

Economic Development Day on November 5, 2008, brought together people and organizations from area Economic Development agencies, and other agencies associated with those efforts. On the day’s design team, and pictured (right) with LMV’s Director, are Chamber Executives Bill Guglielmo (Rome), Frank Elias (Mohawk Valley) and John Scarano (Herkimer

County). Also on the design team (absent from the photo because he was the photographer) was Ferris Betrus, immediate Past President of the Chamber Alliance of the Mohawk Valley. Jim Castilla from MV EDGE rounded out the day’s design team. Thanks for your continued support, gentlemen!



A few words from our President, Peter Falzarine...

By the time you receive this newsletter, Thanksgiving will be over and the most wonderful time of the year will be approaching. I know we all have active lives, but I hope you all took the time on Thanksgiving Day to say "Thank You" to someone who has cared enough to make your life better. The greatest acts of kindness don't have to be gigantic in scale; they can be as simple as being a friend to someone in need or taking care of someone who is going through a very difficult time in their life.

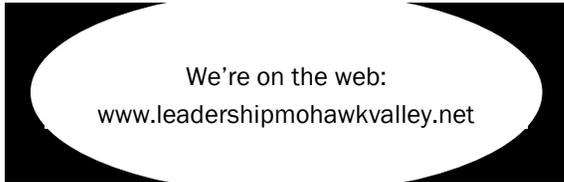
To me Thanksgiving isn't one day, but everyday. When we look around, there really is so much to be thankful for. We tend to be so focused on reaching our goals we often don't see the wonders that are around us. Stop for a moment and really see what is happening in your life every day.

As I mentioned earlier, the most wonderful time of the year is approaching. I'm not referring to any religious holiday, but a time when joy is bouncing off the walls, music fills the air with melodies that we can't stop singing, and yes, people...people showing their “softer” side and showering each other with peaceful thoughts and joyful greetings.

I would like to take the opportunity to wish all LMV alumni and members of the current class a special holiday season.

Leadership Mohawk Valley
P O Box 3050
Utica, NY 13504-3050

Phone: 315.292.4482
Fax: 315.792.7278
E-mail: info@leadershipmohawkvalley.net



Leadership Mohawk Valley was established in 1990 in response to a need for greater community leadership, civic responsibility, and community trusteeship. LMV participants broaden their perspectives and confront the issues facing our community, thereby gaining a clearer picture of the community as it exists today. Ultimately, the 10-month program concludes by creating a new pool of 30 to 35 future leaders, better informed and prepared to go forward and to serve the communities where they live and work. In addition, LMV serves as a springboard for the participant's future community leadership efforts. As clearly as we have received our inheritance, very soon, we will be leaving our legacy for the generations that follow. LMV is a valuable asset towards achieving our preferred future.

Upcoming LMV Events

Sponsor/Alumni Reception
January 7, 2009

Every year, we have one event to honor the sponsors that make our programs possible, and our alumni, who have grown to over 500 in number. For more information, please check the LMV website.

For more on these events and other LMV information, be sure to visit our website:

www.leadershipmohawkvalley.net

★
★ **Follow the Leader** ★
★ **Awards & Dinner** ★
★ **March 18, 2009** ★
★
★ Each year, Leadership Mohawk Valley honors ★
★ local leaders and businesses during the Annual ★
★ Follow the Leader dinner. LMV is accepting ★
★ nominations for our prestigious Follow the ★
★ Leader award and will honor individuals who ★
★ have graduated from the LMV program and ★
★ have demonstrated excellence in the work- ★
★ place and/or the community. ★
★
★ Leadership Mohawk Valley will also honor ★
★ two businesses/organizations for their out- ★
★ standing commitment and support of Leader- ★
★ ship Mohawk Valley and its programs. One ★
★ award will be given to a business/ ★
★ organization with 50 or fewer employees, and ★
★ the other award to a business/organization ★
★ with greater than 50 employees. ★
★
