

# LEADERSHIP WV

**LEADERSHIP**  
west virginia

Preparing Leaders to Move West Virginia Forward  
www.LeadershipWV.org



## Leadership West Virginia Changed My Life

by Heidi Prior, '15  
Ace Adventure Resort

In the river community, it's widely stated that a private Grand Canyon River trip will literally change your life. It's kind of a rite of passage for river guides: Once you connect with the Colorado River in its most magical place for 15+ days, you'll never see the world with the same blinders again. I've been down the Colorado through the Grand Canyon a few times, and it's true, she does change people.

So, when I was asked to write a quick something about my experience at Leadership West Virginia, I must admit, the Grand Canyon instantly came to mind. LWV changed my life. The program's magic

is as strong as the currents of the mighty Colorado. Sounds kind of cheesy, doesn't it? Sure does, but it's true. It's really true. Let me say it again, LWV changed my life.

LWV taught me more about my career, my family, and myself than I ever knew possible. I am a new mom, and I was beginning to forget who I was. I recently took a promotion and my career was moving quickly towards success, yet was incredibly stressful. I had a hard time finding people who could relate to the stress an important role in the local economy could put on a person. All of a sudden, I had peers who were accomplished professionals from very diverse backgrounds. I found people who also felt the economic impact (and



stress) of their professional decisions on their local economies.

Continued on Page 9

**IN THIS  
ISSUE**

Alumni  
News

**PAGE**  
**2**

ChalleNge  
Academy

**PAGE**  
**7**

Moving WV  
Forward

**PAGE**  
**8**

Class of '15  
Giving Back

**PAGE**  
**10**

# Alumni News

## Class of 2015

In addition to being one of the newest LWV grads, **Kensie Hamilton** also graduated from the FBI Citizens Academy in



November. The FBI Citizens Academy is a 9 week program that gives business, religious, civic and community leaders an inside look at the FBI. The goal of the program is to increase public awareness about the FBI, its mission, its activities, and its people. The program provides an avenue for the FBI to hear and respond to community issues and concerns and to strengthen

relationships and improve understanding between the FBI and the communities it serves.

This past summer, **Holly Kauffman** received the Marion County Chamber of Commerce Women's Achievement Award at their annual meeting.

**Briana Marino** was selected as a 2016 Rising Star by SuperLawyers.

**Carl Nichols** was recently appointed to the Randolph County Community Art Center board of directors.



**Michael Teel** started his own design firm Teel Design Group (TeelDesignGroup.com) with a focus on working with small business. On the artist side, he had two paintings accepted into the West Virginia Division of Culture and History's 2015 Juired Exhibition, with his painting "Friends of Fossilized Carbon" winning an Award of Excellence.

## Class of 2014

This year, **Jo Carol Farmer** will serve a three-year term on the Board of Directors for The Education Alliance.

## Class of 2013

**Hannah Hern** was promoted to HR Manager/Business Partner in March of 2015 at Constellium, Rolled Products in Ravenswood, WV. At Constellium, Hannah aligns business objectives with employees and management in designated business units, providing people solutions to business problems. As a member of the Human Resource team, Hannah promotes a positive working relationship with all employees to create a cohesive workforce. Prior to being a Business Partner, Hannah was the Talent Acquisition and Organizational Development Specialist.



**Laura Jordan** was appointed as the 2015-2016 chairwoman of the Utilities Telecommunications and Energy Coalition of West Virginia (UTEC).

**Joyce Landers** was recently asked to serve on the Healthcare Advisory Committee at Bridgemont Community and Technical College in South Charleston. This is a grant funded program.

**Kimberly R. Moyers** was recently promoted to First United Bank and Trust's Market President for the Morgantown area.

In early November, **Candice Stadler** began a new job as the Director of Career Services and Cooperative Education at West Virginia University Institute of Technology.

## Class of 2012

**John Norman** was recently appointed as President of the Summersville Area Chamber of Commerce. He also serves on the Board of Directors for the American Red Cross Northwest Chapter and the Board of Directors, Roane Family Healthcare.

**Andrea Salina** was recently promoted from Interim Executive Director and Development Director to the permanent Executive Director of the Fairmont Community Development Partnership.

**Sarah Smith** was recently named Executive Vice President of Communications and Business Development at SLS Land & Energy Development in Glenville, West Virginia. Sarah joins her father, SLS President Greg Smith, in the family business after serving as Associate Vice President for State and Corporate Relations at West Virginia University. Prior to WVU, Sarah was Director of Government Affairs for Alpha Natural Resources and Deputy Legislative Director for then-Governor Joe Manchin. She presently serves on the Board of Directors for Leadership West Virginia, as well as the boards of the West Virginia Chamber of Commerce, Vision Shared, and Little Kanawha River Trail.

## Class of 2011

**Alexandria Kincaid Lacy** recently married. She and her husband Mike Lacy reside in Charleston, WV.



**Reid Amos** was named the Mountain East Conference Sportsman of the Year. Congratulations Reid!

**Russel Kitchner** and his wife Lorraine sold their home in Harpers Ferry and officially established residence in Georgetown, South Carolina. Lorraine retired in June, but Russel is continuing his governmental relations work for the American Public University System. Also, they became grandparents on October 25th. Their daughter Allison had identical boys - Adrian Jay and Beckett Russell.

Class member **Tim O'Neal** was the recipient of a generous article in WVU Tech's magazine in addition to the cover.



## Class of 2010

On November 16, 2015, **Teresa Dumire** and her husband, William (Bill) Dumire became parents to Alexandra Grace Dumire. Congratulations Teresa!



## Class of 2010 *continued*

West Liberty University named longtime employee **Ronald “Ron” Witt, Jr.** to the position of executive director of alumni and community relations. Witt has served the University in various administrative roles over the past 18 years, most recently as executive director of University Planning. In addition to working with alumni and community partners, he is responsible for the day-to-day operations of the Liberty Oaks Alumni House Bed and Breakfast. Witt also is a real estate agent with Kennen and Kennen Realtors in Wheeling, where he began in 2012.

## Class of 2009

**Julie Cryser**, was promoted to Assistant Dean, Office of Advancement, WVU Davis College of Agriculture, Natural Resources and Design.

**Bob Dunkerley** was honored as the 2015 Rotarian of the year and also founded a non-profit public education charitable organization supporting schooling in Randolph County, “Say YES, for Children.”

## Class of 2008

**Emily Fisher** was recently appointed to the Commission for National and Community Service by Governor Tomblin. She also welcomed a new grandson this past summer, James John Neville born August 6, 2015.

## Class of 2007

**Jamie Dickenson** published her first book, “Too Smart for the Ivy League: How to Give Your Kids the Best College Education for the Least Amount of Money.”

**Courtney Kirtley** was recently elected to the Board of Governors of the West Virginia State Bar.

## Class of 2006



**Sean Eddy** was recently elected as Treasurer of the West Virginia Health Care Association.

**Pam Harvit BSRDH MS CEA** was chosen as the 2015 Opperman Speaker for the National Conference of Appellate Court Clerks in Park City, Utah. The title of her presentation was “Bringing ‘Court’esy to Your Jurisdiction.”

## Class of 2004

**Jennifer Vieweg** stays active in her community and in the state by currently serving as a YWCA-Charleston member of the board of directors and marketing & communications chair, Education Elevators member of the board of directors and marketing & communications co-chair, and American Heart Association – West Virginia Chapter member of the Heart Walk executive leadership team.

**Michael Winter** was elected to serve on the Independent Insurance Agents of West Virginia Board of Directors from 2013 - 2015.

## Class of 2003

**Kathy Wagner** was recently recertified as a Professional Community & Economic Developer (PCED). She has been successfully recertified every three years since achieving her PCED in 2006. This prestigious certification distinguishes Kathy as a qualified professional who demonstrates determination and desire in the field of community development.

## Class of 2002

**Richard Beto’s** company, Document Solutions, was named In-Plant Printing and Mail Association’s Print Center of the Year for 2015.

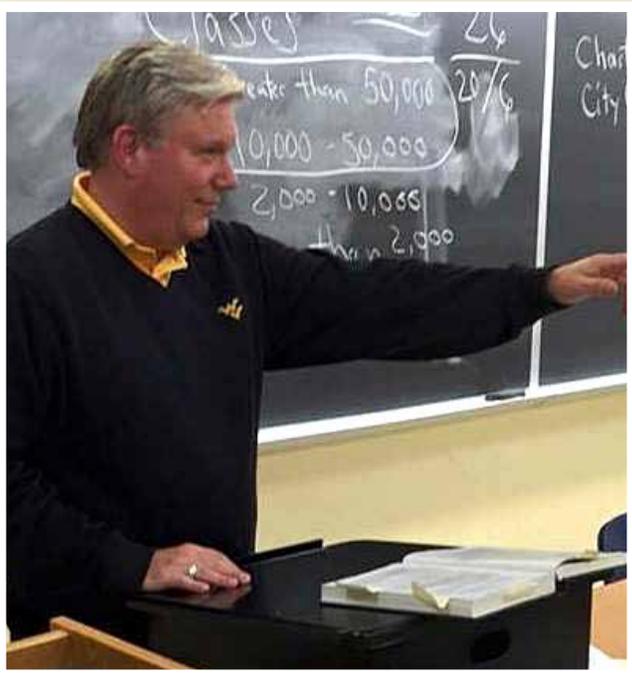


## Class of 2001

**Kim Cooper Post** was recently married. She and her husband Isaac Post reside in Bridgeport WV.

## Class of 2000

**Andy Richardson** continues to serve as a citywide member of the Charleston City Council, advocating progressive policies to help downtown businesses. He also teaches a political science class at West Virginia University on West Virginia Government & Politics, where he regularly spotlights state and local leaders as guest lecturers on the topic being covered in class.



## Class of 1998

**Jeff Barnes**, and the Barnes Agency is excited to share that it has now been operational as a WV based full service advertising, marketing and public relations firm since 2002. They handle clients

such as Cabell Huntington Hospital, The Greenbrier, First State Bank, Southern WV Health System, Roane General Hospital, West Virginia State University and a number of other banks, law firms, manufacturing, athletics, automotive and many other industries.

## Class of 1995

**Patti Hamilton** finished a project with Leadership West Virginia alums **Amy Goodwin**, '15 and **Melissa Garretson Smith**, '12. Patti and The WV Association of Counties, the Division of Tourism, and the WV Courthouse Facilities Improvement Authority created videos for each of the nine tourism regions in the state. The videos feature the courthouses in each county in the region along with other tourist attractions in the regions. Courthouses are very popular destinations for tourist interested in history and architecture. The brief six to eight minute videos will be available on the web sites of the sponsors and for other uses such as convention and visitors' bureaus. 🇺🇸

Leadership West Virginia helped me to build my leadership skills while working within my class to develop professional and personal relationships that will last a lifetime. Leadership West Virginia has more closely connected me to my home state through our sessions and it has made my state smaller as I now feel more connected to each community of West Virginia through my 52 classmates and the one thousand plus alumni who have gone before me. I can't think of a better way to inspire a pride of West Virginia within our leaders of today and tomorrow than through Leadership West Virginia.



**Christopher C. Ross, Esq., '15**  
Pullin, Fowler, Flanagan, Brown & Poe PLLC

## Our Newest Lifetime Investors

Reid Amos, '11  
Ben Beakes, '07  
Scott Cosco, '12  
Paul Daugherty, '05  
Herman DeProspero, '14  
Charlie Friddle, '98  
Willie Gillard, '08  
Amy Goodwin, '15

Sammy Gray, '07  
Kevin Harry, '15  
Bill Harvit, '15  
Pam Harvit, '06  
Dustin Lanning, '15  
Cindi Napier, '07  
Carl Nichols, '15  
Jennie James, '15

Jeffrey Matheny, '15  
Andy McKenzie, '15  
Brian Moore, '12  
Wes Page, '15  
Robin Poling, '98  
Josh Rogers, '15  
Jeffrey Shawver, '15  
William Smith, '06

Mike Smith, '02  
Susan Snowden, '15  
Aaron Spurlock, '15  
Toney Stroud, '15  
Michael Teel, '15  
Marjorie White, '15

## 2016 Board Member Additions



**Robbie Morris, '09**  
Executive Director, Randolph  
County Development Authority



**Jim Scott, '14**  
President/CEO  
RMS



**Jan Vineyard, '93**  
President, OMEGA



My LWV experiences have been much more than I ever imagined. Everything from speakers to on-site visits to networking, etc. have been top-notch, and I realize that lifetime contributions play a huge part in keeping the program viable.

**Carmen Prati-Miller, '15**  
American Electric Power

## 2016 Leadership West Virginia Executive Committee

Chair

**Jim Fawcett, '07**  
Manager, Energy Efficiency &  
Alternative Energy Initiatives  
Appalachian Power

Chair-Elect

**Rob Aliff, '06**  
Member  
Jackson Kelly PLLC

Secretary/Treasurer

**Cindi Napier, '07**  
Sr. Director of National Sales  
The Greenbrier

Past Chair

**Dale Clowser, '00**  
Vice President  
BB&T

# Mountaineer Challenge Academy

by Kensie Hamilton, '15  
West Virginia Executive

**In early November, Leadership West Virginia (LWV) partnered with Generation West Virginia (GWV) and the Mountaineer Challenge Academy to have the first ever Leadership Day with academy students from across the state. This first-time event brought together LWV alumni, GWV members and industry leaders to help provide support to troubled youth who are looking toward a brighter future.**

Several members of the LWV Class of 2015 interacted with students by leading mock interviews and offering advice about serving as the next generation of leaders. Class member Kensie Hamilton Fauber shares her thoughts on the importance of LWV's involvement with the Mountaineer Challenge Academy, as well as the success of Leadership Day, and what we can do as alumni to continue to stay involved.

"Every time I have the opportunity to visit the cadets at the Mountaineer Challenge Academy, I leave feeling inspired, which is why this organization has come to mean so much to me. It was wonderful to see our team of LWV class members and alumni be able to very quickly pull together a group of industry professionals willing to give of their time and talent to help the academy. They had the chance to share their knowledge and passion for their industries and potentially open up a whole new world to the cadets they got to spend time with.



From left to right: Pam Farris, '98, Pam Harvit, '06, Heidi Prior, '15, Natalie Roper, '15, Mark Barnes, '12, Kate Reed, '12, Kensie Hamilton, '15.

It was also exciting to get to introduce some of the community leaders to the program who weren't already familiar with it. Leadership Day gave them the chance to meet the cadets and hear from them firsthand what the program has done for them. It is really impactful to hear directly from an adolescent that they know without this opportunity they would not be successful. The cadets who share their personal stories with the visitors are always heartbreaking and uplifting at the same time.

On my drive home from Leadership Day, I thought about how without LWV, my classmates and I would not have had the opportunity to come together to have a positive impact on the lives of these cadets and the academy classes that will follow. LWV is not only enabling leaders, but it's allowing them to inspire a new generation of leaders. Events like this are a great reminder of the power LWV lends to the state." 🇺🇸



# Moving West Virginia Forward

by David A. Clayman, Ph.D., '98  
Clayman & Associates

After three years of exciting educational programming in our Moving West Virginia Forward series it seems it is time to stop talking and start acting. There could be no more appropriate time to use the collective wisdom of over 1000 Leadership West Virginia (LWV) alumni to put ideas into action to do our part to save our state.

Since 2013, we have benefited from the wisdom and experience of outstanding leaders addressing the challenges of healthcare and education as well as broadband Internet access and the need for better developed infrastructure. Among our all-star cast of presenters have been President Gordon Gee - emphasizing collaboration and personal commitment; General James Hoyer - serving WV and inspiring action especially with our youth, and Ralph Baxter - creating vision and demonstrating what can be done. Our panelists, often drawn from our alumni body, have talked about challenges, but have also proudly shown what can be accomplished when someone defines a dream and implements a plan with success best assured with hard work.

Evident throughout all the discussions there has been one common factor upon which our future will be built and that, of course, is our people. As those of us who love this state will attest this must be our greatest resource but unfortunately it is one that is dwindling. We have talked about ways to attract and retain younger workers while holding onto the wisdom of our more experienced part of the labor, administrative and professional workforces. Even with all our good intentions WV is one of a few states that has seen a critical drop in population paralleling the devastating effects national policy has had on our coal industry. Our congressional delegation in Washington has shared with us their perceptions, goals and frustrations as they try to advocate for ways to preserve our state.

What we have learned from our conferences is that West Virginians care about the state. This is further reflected in the increasing numbers of candidates we have for each new LWV class and the participation we have in events such as the annual Legislative Reception that occurs after the Governor's State of the State address and our always sold out Alumni Dinner held in August. There is always energy, wisdom, vitality

and hope felt at each of these functions as well as at every class session from March through November.

The lessons we have taken away from the past three years has prepared us for what is to come. We are about to celebrate our 25th anniversary. Using our existing alumni network we will continue to reach out and reengage those of you who have been contributing to the betterment of your communities without making LWV part of your commitment to service. It is time to define the legacy of OUR program by finding ways to "step it up" and use the collective wisdom of LWV graduates to reach out. . . to work with existing organizations and programs to mentor our youth, stabilize families, create new job opportunities, improve graduation rates, increase participation in vocational and college educational pursuits, decrease drug use, and just make West Virginia a great place to live and thrive.

Take your pick. Let us know what you are doing now or want to start. Tell us how we can help facilitate existing activities to reduce duplication that would maximize increasingly scarce fiscal and human resources. LWV should be taking a prominent but not controlling or domineering role that emphasizes action with clearly defined and measurable goals to show what 1000+ determined LEADERS can do make our program a critical component to the positive future of our home. 🇺🇸

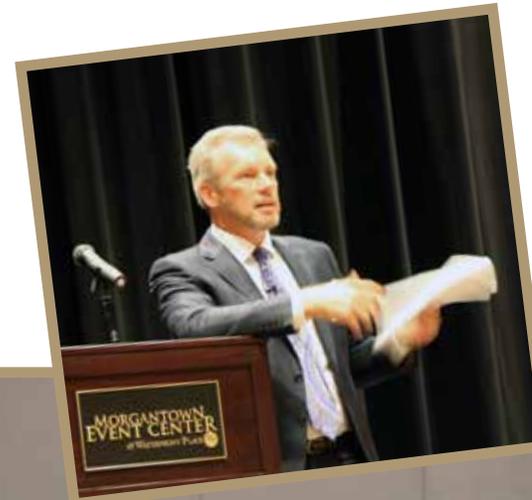


**Leadership WV Changed My Life**  
Continued from Page 1

I found other moms who also battled with the guilt of being a career-driven woman with a family. I discovered that my husband and son having alone time with one another was imperative for our family's long-term success. But most importantly LWV introduced me to WV in a way I NEVER would have seen. I did not grow up here. But now, I feel connected to WV as a state, not just the region of the

state I now call home, but the entire state. I am connected to 52 amazing people who outside of LWV, I likely would have never met. I got to know them, their communities and had so many great conversations about topics that are affecting their regions, professional sectors and families. I learned the stories behind the issues and I now understand the state with so much more depth. I have a new love for WV and especially its people, because of LWV. I will always look

back at 2015 and remember it's the year I connected with my career, my family and my new home. It's a year that changed everything for me and I will always be grateful for the amazing friends, memories and deeper understanding of WV this amazing program provided me. Thank you to all who make this program flourish. It represents what makes WV so wild and wonderful in all of the best ways. 🇺🇸



# Class of 2015 Giving Back



by Marjorie White, '15  
Dow Chemical Company

What inspired the Class of 2015 to make donations to each region they visited? The answer is simple if you've been through the LWV program. After the initial session in March, you realize you are part of something big; no, something huge. You've been honored by being selected to represent your company. You've been nominated by a previous class member. Someone sees something special in you, and you don't want to let them down. Then you realize there is no need to wait for your diploma to start making a difference. Not only that, you've been paired with 52 other phenomenal leaders, and the combined impact of their strengths could literally change the world. In this class's case, they decided to change the world for a non-profit organization in each area they visited.

They donated diapers, Staples gift cards, children's shoes, women's shelter supplies, canned meat, baby food, and animal rescue supplies. In many cases they were able to see their direct impact as volunteers from the non-profits would collect items in the Friday afternoon session. Tears, hugs, and overwhelming appreciation were seen on the volunteers' faces. There was no doubt that the Class's contributions made a world of difference to these organizations.

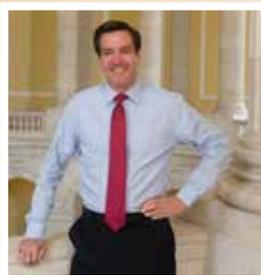
The Class's passion to help didn't stop when they graduated. They pulled together and discussed how they could continue giving back to West Virginia, now with the combined strength of 1,200+ LWV Alumni. One day, one state wide effort modeled after the United Way's Day of Caring became the top idea. "Imagine what we could do for the state, the good of the LWV Program, and the positive impact on our communities," said

Marjorie White, Class '15. "It gives me goose bumps, actually."

The first "**Serve WV**" day will be held **Friday, May, 20, 2016**. Please mark your calendar, ask for the day off, and invite your family and friends over age 18 to come have fun helping others. This event will be tracked as part of the "Best Class Ever" award, so make sure you and your fellow classmates volunteer. You can sign up as an individual or a team on our website [www.servewv.com](http://www.servewv.com) and pick your favorite type of project work. In early May volunteers will be matched with non-profit organizations in their area that fit their interests. Know of a non-profit organization in your area that could use our help? Please have them visit [www.servewv.com](http://www.servewv.com) to register for LWV Alumni to complete their project. 🍷

# Congratulations to the class of 2015 for earning the title of **Best Class Ever!**

Look for information  
about this year's  
competition soon.

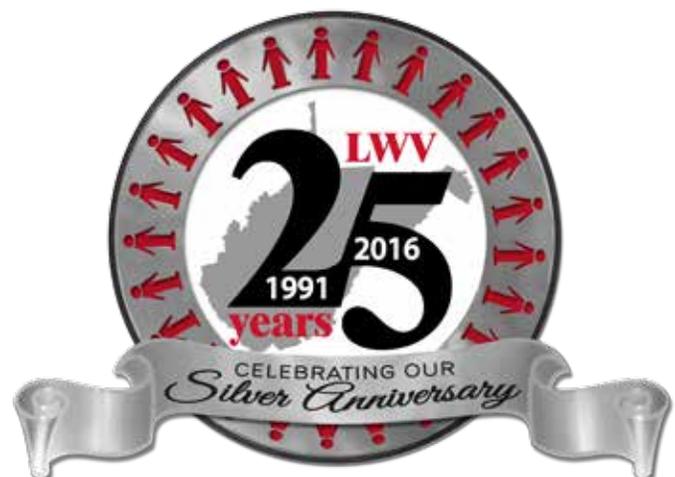


**2015**  
**Distinguished**  
**Alumnus**  
**Award Winner!**

Congratulations to  
**Congressman Evan Jenkins**  
Class of 1993.

The Distinguished Alumnus Award recognizes a graduate of the program whose continued leadership activities have demonstrated the highest standards of LWV and sets an example for aspiring leaders.

## Appalachian Power Hosts LWV Silver Anniversary



The year 2016 marks 25 years of the LWV Program. This year we will be celebrating the accomplishments of our alumni. Look for more information about anniversary events soon!

## Leadership West Virginia

c/o Pam Farris, Executive Director  
1624 Kanawha Blvd., East  
Charleston, West Virginia 25311

Address Correction Requested



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Kensie Hamilton - Page 7

**Save  
THE DATE**

# ATTENTION ALUMNI!



**ResourceU: Moving WV Forward - Friday, April 22, 2016 - Berkley Springs**

**Serve West Virginia Day - Friday, May 20, 2016 - Statewide**

**LWV Regional Event - Thursday, June 2, 2016 - Canaan Valley**

**10th Annual Alumni Reception and Dinner during the West Virginia Chamber Business Summit - Thursday, September 1, 2016 - The Greenbrier**

**25th Anniversary Celebration and 2016 LWV Graduation - Thursday & Friday, November 17 & 18, 2016 - Charleston**