



**2006-2007  
BOARD MEMBERS**

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**President:**  
Dr. Krista Mooney

**Vice President:**  
Ashley Anderson

**Treasurer:**  
Stephanie Cater

**Secretary:**  
April Brown

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**Membership:**  
Jason Johnston

**Public Relations:**  
Allie Merzer

**Scholarships & Smiles:**  
Adria Cavany  
Heather Shrum

**Webmaster:**  
Adeena Alam

**External Committee Leaders**

**Community Events:**  
Erica Bryan  
Earl Shrum

**Sports, Leisure, and Kids:**  
Jason White

**Tutoring & Mentoring:**  
Kayla Hobbs  
Kerry McCombs

For individual contact information, please visit the "Contact Us" link at:  
<http://www.Tallahassee25.org>

**DRIVING THE FUTURE**

**Leon County School Board**

Florida Department of Education Commissioner John Winn gleamed with pride to have local folk from his neck of the woods on stage with him in Daytona, FL at the 19<sup>th</sup> Annual Commissioner's Business Recognition Awards Ceremony. Shaking hands with 2 of Tallahassee 25's past presidents, he thanked them for their dedication to both Florida, and Leon County's kids. Unlike the other businesses listed on the roster, Tallahassee 25 was unique - we hold to our roots as a true non-profit, as a volunteer group, and with our focus on nothing more than deserving children.

Hearing so much about Tallahassee 25, Leon County Commissioner Bill Montford decided to check in on our group. After two years of examination, he placed a nomination for Tallahassee 25 to be awarded as the Top Business Partner of the Year for Florida schools. When speaking to Sean Singleton and

Kayla Hobbs regarding the nomination, he sang praises of Tallahassee 25. He shared how impressed he was with our creative events, community involvement, amazing website, consistency from year to year, and our commitment to the community and its future leaders. Choosing from over 600 businesses in the county, Tallahassee 25 stood out above the others.

Betsy McCaully, Bill's right hand lady, was a tremendous help to Tallahassee 25. Back in 1998 when we were ready to begin our own Mentoring program at RAA middle school, Betsy was the lady who got us in gear. She helped with our nomination and our paperwork in the beginning, she arranged for our photo shoot (which will be featured on Leon's education magazine cover), and she stayed by our side through the awards ceremony itself. At the ceremony she brought so much fun to the Leon County table. Betsy

became more than a friend to Tallahassee 25.

Along with Leon County Parks & Recreation, which, by the way, they are the #1 parks & recreations in the Nation, Tallahassee 25 were the winners from Leon County. At the awards ceremony, Commissioner Winn addressed the county winners for their great work with the school system, and presented the top award for the state to Mel Martinez, whose efforts have raised an extreme amount of funding for Florida schools. Though Tallahassee 25 did not win for the state, the recognition we received and the nomination that was written about us was more than ample gratitude from our community.



Kayla Hobbs, Betsy McCaully, and Sean Singleton at the Commissioner's Business Recognition Awards Ceremony

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## FROM THE PRESIDENT



Welcome to a brand new year of Tallahassee 25! I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of you, our wonderful volunteers, for everything you do for this organization!

You are its heart and soul, and we simply could not enjoy the success we do without your dedication, drive, and determination.

Incredible opportunities lie ahead for us, and the board has already started things off with a bang! We hope to find many ways to promote the accomplishments of the organization, so those who aren't as personally involved with the organization can really begin to understand the impact that our efforts have on the lives of children and our community. For many years, our founders have been imparting on us the importance of keeping our focus on the kids, and this year's board plans to do just that! We, as leaders and young professionals, can provide inspiration and encouragement that many of the kids we work with might not have the chance to experience

elsewhere. But, shhhhh! Don't tell them... it's usually even more fun for those of us doing the volunteering!

We also believe we have found ways to allow us to strike that perfect balance between keeping our minds geared toward the kids, while still providing entertaining occasions for our members! Keep your eyes peeled – we have great things in store! Once upon a time, the primary commitment we asked of our members was to do their best to give 25 hours per year. We hope you'll consider doing the same this year. Trust me... they will be the easiest and most rewarding hours you'll ever give. Our kids are great – and they want to meet you!

On a personal note, I would very much like to express my gratitude to you for choosing me to serve as your President. I am honored by the trust you have placed in me, and I will do everything in my power to make you proud. I would

also like to thank the spectacular individuals who have stepped up to join our Board of Directors. We all take our jobs very seriously, and I have the utmost confidence that they will make this year one of the best! I cannot adequately express in words my gratitude to each of them for choosing to not only support me in this effort, but also give their time to this very worthy organization. Please know that we have an open-door policy, and we more than welcome any suggestions or comments you may have. On behalf of the 2006-07 Board of Directors, thank you, and we look forward to another amazing year for the Tallahassee 25! It's going to be a great ride! We'd love for you to come along!!

Dr. Krista Mooney  
2006-07 President

## Past Presidents' Social!!!

Friday, June 23rd

6pm–9pm

Po' Boys Downtown

*Come out and celebrate with the past president's of Tallahassee 25!*

Admission:

Members: ALWAYS FREE!

Non-Members: Free with a piece of new or gently used sporting equipment

Contact Jason Johnston: [Jason\\_m@johnston.org](mailto:Jason_m@johnston.org) or April Brown: [aprilb@fcu.com](mailto:aprilb@fcu.com)

SPOTLIGHT ON...GIRLS AND BOYS TOWN

Seeking a way to aid neglected, “at-risk” boys from lives of crime, poverty, and abuse, Father Edward J. Flanagan established Father Flanagan’s Boys’ Home in 1917. Providing young boys of Omaha, Nebraska who did not have any other resources a place to live and learn, Father Flanagan’s Boys’ Home paved the way for the modern Girls and Boys Town to reach out to and assist the youth of America.

Girls and Boys Town of North Florida was formed in 1983 and is home to many of the amazing youth of Tallahassee and surrounding areas. Thirty young teens reside on the Girls and Boys Town campus composed of six large group homes. Each home is lead by a married couple

known as house teachers who, with the help of designated assistants, make sure the kids get to school, have nutritious meals, complete homework, and stay happy and healthy. The Girls and Boys Town office, located off of Hartsfield Road, searches for and provides foster families for numerous other teens in North Florida. With the leadership of Kenneth Bender and Dena Strickland, Girls and Boys Town of North Florida has helped over 200 children and families in the past year.

Tallahassee 25 plays a role in Girls and Boys Town by offering a break from the teens’ everyday routine. Tutoring and Mentoring’s “Dinner and a Movie” and famous “T25 Trivia” allow the kids to cut loose with a funny flick or a little Jeopardy inspired com-

petition. SLaK’s yearly “Back to School Barbecue” is always a success. Featuring a giant inflatable waterslide and perfectly grilled hamburgers and hotdogs, this fantastic event is a flawless way to have the kids looking forward to the new school year.

This month’s guest speaker plays a vital role in the success of Girls and Boys Town of North Florida. As you listen to some information about this wonderful organization, please remember how caring and truly gracious the young teens of Girls and Boys Town are. Their smiles and polite, heartfelt “thank you’s” are why we in Tallahassee 25 volunteer and are so thankful to have the staff of Girls and Boys Town in our community.



SLaK’s Back to School BBQ is always a blast!

Grill-Master Sean Singleton cooks up some tasty burgers and hot dogs!



Good pals Ashley Anderson and Jen Holmes volunteer at the food line!

**SLaK Pool Party!!!**

Saturday, June 17th

5pm—7pm

Levy Park (off Tharpe Street)

*Make splashes with the kids from Girls & Boys Town and CCYS!*

Contact Jason White: [buffalopoboy@gmail.com](mailto:buffalopoboy@gmail.com) or Shawn Martin: [spmartin82@gmail.com](mailto:spmartin82@gmail.com)

## MYSTERY MEMBER MARATHON

Over the next few months, we will feature a Mystery Member Marathon! Chock full of obscure facts about T25 volunteers, the Mystery Member game allows you to guess which fellow T25er the clues are referring to and win FABULOUS prizes!

All entries must be submitted via email to [T25news@gmail.com](mailto:T25news@gmail.com) by the last day of each month. Correct submissions will be placed in a hat and one winner will be drawn randomly. The suspect for this issue (may be you...):

- **Has an Eastern European alias.**
- **Relaxes after a hard day at work by playing the trombone.**
- **Has the Florida Bar No. 111295**



lending kids  
a helping hand

<http://www.Tallahassee25.org>

Contact Stephanie Cater [stephc1@earthlink.net](mailto:stephc1@earthlink.net) to sponsor next months issue!

For \$50 a month, your logo could be posted here! Sponsor our monthly newsletter and spread the word about your business or events!

### JUNE CALENDAR

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				1	2	3 Kids Fest @ North Florida Fairgrounds
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12 Board Meeting @ 4th Quarter: 7pm	13	14 General Meeting @ Paradigm: 6:30 pm	15	16	17 SLaK Pool Party @ Levy Pool: 5-7pm
18	19 Preschool Playtime @ Childcare Network: 10:30 am	20	21	22	23 Past Presidents' Social @ Po' Boys: 6-9pm	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

#### UPCOMING IN JULY

**Tuesday, July 4**  
**Happy Independence Day!!!**

**Wednesday, July 12**  
**General Meeting**  
@ Paradigm  
6:30 PM

**Monday, July 17**  
**Preschool Playtime**  
@ Childcare Network  
10:30 AM

*See our website for  
additional details:  
[www.Tallahassee25.org](http://www.Tallahassee25.org)*