



DEVELOPING LEADERS

October 2008

Session 1
Issue 1

Community Leadership Program Attends the Opening Retreat

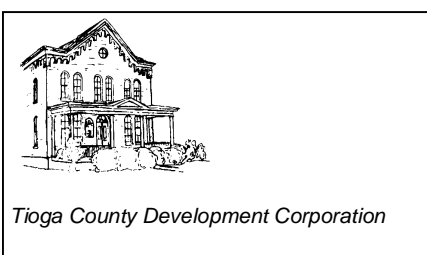


Front Row L to R: Mary Beth Kollar, Dennis Snell, Wendy Swingle, Katie Metarko, Lisa Banik, Deb Wivell, Jane Palmer, Michelle Zelinski;
Back Row L to R: Alan Zellner, Cody Bowen, SueAnne Carson, Nicole Smith, Nancy Stamilio

The 2009 *Community Leadership Program* kicked off on Thursday, October 2nd, 2008 at beautiful *HIS* Thousand Hills outside of Wellsboro. This year's 13 participants were introduced to the program by Bob Blair. The participants spent some time with introductions and activities led by Deb Sawyer to get to know each other. Make sure to watch this year's newsletters for more introductions to each of our participants!

Before a wonderful dinner catered by His Thousand Hills, Christie Blackwell and co-chairs Brett Kennedy and Joey Heckler gave an overview of the program, including the schedule, attendance requirements, and introductions to each session and class assignments.

The objective for this session was to explore teamwork dynamics, concepts and principles, to gain an understanding of the *Community Leadership Program* goals and expectations and finally, to initiate the development of personal mission statements and objectives. The remainder of this fun and busy retreat was spent participating in some thought provoking, challenging, and fun activities designed to meet this objective.





After dinner, we were introduced to team projects. Projects include Steps to Healthier PA, Second Chance Animal Sanctuaries, and **Leadership Tioga County**.

Next, Jim Weaver, Tioga County Planner, talked with the group about the Consensus Process. This is a group process through which people explore an issue and come to an agreement on what is important with this issue. It involves the group sitting in a circle with a facilitator who guides the group. The process involves 3 steps or questions to be explored. Each person around the circle answers the 3 questions, and others listen using the ground rules in place that basically say listen with respect and don't interrupt.

The group gave the process a try, by using the topic of sustainability. It was an interesting process, and hopefully can be utilized again throughout the next few months. After a warm bonfire on a cold, wet evening, the group retired for the night.

Day 2 provided the group with some tough challenges. The first, after breakfast, was a 3 minute book presentation. Three minutes is a long time, but the group was up to the challenge and gave some information on some good books read over the summer on Leadership.

Deb Sawyer spent some time after the presentations talking about a personal mission statement. The participants spent some time alone with some questions to answer and think about to begin developing their own personal mission statement.

The rest of the day, before and after lunch, was spent with Paul Burhans of HIS Thousand Hills, who talked to the group about ACTS The group played some difficult and challenging team building exercises, learning to communicate, work as a team, and trust. These were great activities to prepare the group to work together for the next several months.



Time is neutral and does not change things. With courage and initiative, leaders change things.

Jesse Jackson

Community Leadership Program Alumni



The Alumni Focus this month is on Gale Hall. Gale was a participant in the first *Community Leadership Program* in 2003. Gale lives in Mansfield with her husband Marvin and their eight year old daughter Ashley Jo. Gale is employed as an Energy Sales Representative for UGI Central Penn Gas, formerly PPL Gas Utilities.

When asked what the fondest memory from her *Community Leadership Program* experience was, Gale responded "Nobody would ever believe it, but it was the overnight at His Thousand Hills. I fought hard not to go, but in the end, I had a great time and made new friendships."

Gale revealed that the most comical memory she had from her *Community Leadership Program* journey was that she was giving a presentation and Linda Williams came up and took her hands and put them behind her back and she instantly stopped talking. She said she didn't realize she used her hands that much to talk. That experience has certainly helped Gale to be a better speaker and be more conscious to keep her hands under control.

The knowledge Gale has gained through her *Community Leadership* experience that has been most helpful in her career or life path, is her public speaking skills. She said it isn't that she really likes it now, but she is more comfortable after going through the Program.

Gale feels her participation in the *Community Leadership Program* has helped her to become a better leader by making her aware of how important it is to become involved in organizations and to be more proactive in her community. She said that she had to do a paper on "Issues to be Addressed in Tioga County," and one thing she discussed was the empty store fronts in our county. For her community, at some point, she would like to change that.

Gale would encourage others to participate in the *Community Leadership Program* just so they are more aware of the businesses that are housed within Tioga County. It gives them an opportunity to get out there and see what is in their county.

Gale likes riding bike, boating, reading, baking and cooking. All of this, of course, is when she has spare time.

When asked what her greatest joy in life was, Gale was quick to respond with "my daughter!" "She is the reason that I get up every day. I want to make this area grow so she and her family can live in Tioga County and thrive!!!!



CLP Class of 2009 Profile



The Session #1 *Community Leadership Program* spotlight shines on Katie Metarko. Katie is a resident of Wellsboro, PA and is a graduate of North Penn High School and Bloomsburg University. Katie is employed by Citizens & Northern Bank in Wellsboro, where she holds the position of Loan Compliance Project Specialist. This position entails reviewing loans for compliance and developing training on lending compliance.

Katie enjoys other activities such as making crafts and baking. The current *Community Leadership Program* class is hoping that Katie will share her baking talents at an upcoming session. Katie also enjoys taking walks in the beautiful Tioga County scenery, which she says is one of her favorite things about Tioga County.

Katie is excited about being a participant in this year's *Community Leadership Program*, she says, "I hope to learn more about what's available in Tioga County. I've lived here all of my life and feel that I sometimes take for granted what it has to offer." Katie is also looking forward to gaining a more in-depth knowledge of leadership qualities through the *Community Leadership Program* and expanding on her definition of leadership, "being able to motivate and encourage others to accomplish personal or group goals."

Pumpkin Chili

"Ground beef and kidney beans are joined by pumpkin and pumpkin pie spice in this fall twist on chili."

INGREDIENTS:

2 lbs ground beef	1 (28 ounce) can peeled and diced tomatoes with juice
1 large onion, diced	1 large can pumpkin puree
1 green bell pepper, diced	1 tablespoon pumpkin pie spice
2 (15 ounce) cans kidney beans, drained	1 tablespoon chili powder
1 (46 fluid ounce) can tomato Juice	1/4 cup white sugar



DIRECTIONS:

In a large pot over medium heat, cook beef until brown; drain. Stir in onion and bell pepper and cook 5 minutes. Stir in beans, tomato juice, diced tomatoes and pumpkin puree. Season with pumpkin pie spice, chili powder and sugar. Simmer 1 hour.

2009 Youth Leadership Program

Diversity was the topic for the *Tioga County Development Corporation* Leadership *Tioga County Youth Leadership Program* Class of 2009. The class participated in Session 1 **Living in a Diverse Community** on October 8, 2008 at Mansfield University. The Session was sponsored by Mansfield University.



Pictured from left to right: Ashley Jean, Miranda Wattles, Casey Patrick, Evangeline Krajewski and Sophie Weaver giving their presentation on "How Diverse is Tioga County?"

BoltingGinkoSpiderchicz was the team assigned to Session 1. Team Members are Ashley Jean, Cowanesque Valley High School; Evangeline Krajewski, Liberty High School; Casey Patrick, Wellsboro High School; Miranda Wattles, Cowanesque Valley High School and Sophie Weaver, Wellsboro High School. The team did a presentation on "How Diverse is Tioga County?" Members of the Mansfield University International Students Organization (MISO) and the Mansfield University Leadership Institute did presentations for the group. The class of 2009 did Family Tree presentations on their family heritage.

Session 2 **Healthy Communities** will be held at Soldiers & Sailors Memorial Hospital in Wellsboro on November 5, 2008.

CLP Class of 2009 Profile



The second spotlight for Session #1 of the *Community Leadership Program* shines on Cody Bowen. Cody and his wife and daughter reside in Wellsboro, PA, where Cody has lived his entire life. He is a Class of 2001 graduate of Wellsboro High School where he enjoyed playing football and baseball. Cody also received a Bachelors of Science degree in Human Resource Management from Mansfield University in 2005. During his education at Mansfield University, Cody participated in an internship with Citizens & Northern Bank in the Human Resources Department. He has remained with Citizens & Northern Bank for the past 3 ½ years and is now employed as a Compensation & Benefit Administrator within the Human Resources Department.

Cody has been involved with Little League baseball for the past three years, volunteering as a coach and umpire. Cody states, "I have enjoyed the opportunity to work as a volunteer with the Wellsboro Little League. It's always fun to work with today's youth and watch them develop their teamwork and leadership skills through organized sports." Cody also enjoys other activities such as hiking, mountain biking, fishing, and hunting and says, "There is an abundance of opportunities within Tioga County to do all of the outdoor activities that I love, Tioga County truly is an outdoor enthusiasts paradise."

Cody is looking forward to the opportunity to participate in this year's edition of the *Community Leadership Program*. Cody states, "I have heard lots of good things about this program from alumni, and it seems as though everyone has had a lot of fun and learned a lot. I look forward to seeing the different opportunities available in Tioga County and get a better sense of what this beautiful county has in store."

Tioga County was formed on March 26, 1804 from parts of Lycoming County. The name, derived from an Indian word meaning "the forks of a stream", honors the Tioga River.

2008-09 Community Leadership Program

The names and words contained in this puzzle are chairpeople, presenters and participants of this year's CLP. It also contains words to describe the events that took place at the opening retreat.

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ACTS
Bonfire
Cody Bowen
Deb Sawyer
Fun
Jim Weaver
Laughing
Michelle Zelinski
Paul Burhans
Retreat
Socializing
Team Building

Alan Zellner
Brett Kennedy
Community Leadership Program
Deb Wivell
His Thousand Hills
Joey Heckler
Lisa Bank
Nancy Stamillo
Personal Mission Statement
Sharing
SueAnn Carson
Tioga County

Bob Blair
Christie Blackwell
Consensus Circle
Dennis Snell
Jane Palmer
Katie Metarko
Mary Beth Kollar
Nicole Smith
Projects
Snoring
Synopsis
Wendy Swingle



Tioga County "Fun Fact"

Pine Creek Gorge, commonly referred to as the Grand Canyon of Pennsylvania is surrounded by approximately 165,000 acres of the Tioga State Forest. The Canyon begins south of Ansonia along US Route 6 and continues for approximately 47 miles. The maximum depth of the canyon is 1,450 feet at Waterville, near the southern end. At Leonard Harrison and Colton Point State Parks, the depth is more than 800 feet. These overlooks offer the most spectacular views. Pine Creek Gorge received national acclaim in 1968 when the National Park Service designated a 12-mile section as a National Natural Landmark.

Information courtesy of: <http://www.visittiogapa.com/canyon.html>