



Upcoming Events: FEBRUARY 2011

**FOR THIS MONTH'S ACTIVITIES,
SEE OUR CALENDAR INSERT**

*More information is contained on our
web site: www.seminolechamber.net*

Chamber "Power Luncheon" Thursday, Feb. 17, 2011 11:30 a.m.

Banquet Masters, 8100 Park Blvd. N.



Robin Lavitch,
MA, CPC

PROGRAM:

Business Personality Profiling:

"How to determine in the
first minute you meet a
prospective Client what is
important to them & why"

Cost is \$15 per person. Call the
Chamber at 392-3245

Valentine's Day is Feb. 14

For a gift, or gift certificate, *shop first* with
a Seminole Chamber member!

Upcoming Projects:

Shred-a-thon, Sat., March 19, 9 a.m. to noon
Seminole Stampede 5k, 1 mile run & Easter
Outing, Saturday, April 16, 7:30 a.m.

Chamber Office Info

Address: 8400 113th St. N.
Seminole, FL 33772

Phone: 392-3245 **Fax:** 397-7753

web site: www.seminolechamber.net

Jimmy Johnson:

jimmyj@myseminolechamber.com

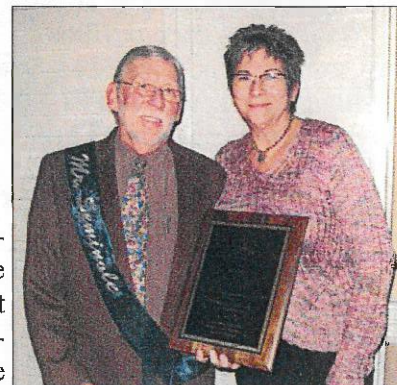
Gretchen Cain Wells:

gretchenc@myseminolechamber.com

Notary Services Available

Harold Vardy, CPA, Named 'Mr. Seminole' 2011

At the 47th annual banquet, Harold Vardy, CPA (shown with wife Liz Vardy) was named Mr. Seminole 2011. This is the Seminole Chamber of Commerce's most prestigious award given and was witnessed by 130 members & guests at the Wine Cellar Restaurant Jan. 22.



Harold was honored for numerous political, civic and professional activities in the Seminole area during the past 35 years that include a term as Seminole Chamber President 1995-96 and the title of Boss of the Year in 1991. Harold has voluntarily audited the Chamber's books over the years, helping to keep the Chamber in compliance. Additionally, Harold was Gold Honor Club President of the West St. Petersburg Sertoma, 1975-1976; St. Petersburg Young Republican Club President 1972 & 1976; American Cancer Society - Jail & Bail Outstanding Fund Raiser, 1994; and American Cancer Society Heart Walk Seminole Area Chairman 1994, to name a few of his leadership roles.

Seminole Chamber Awards:

Boss of the Year: Dr. David Tollon, Oakhurst Veterinary Hospital

Business of the Year: Yoga4 All, Ms. Martha Maddox

Merit Award: Jacob Valintine, Unique Dream Promotions

President's awards for leadership of Chamber projects were presented to Jean Campbell, Tribute to Teachers; Dr. Stephen Nickse, Kids Appreciation Day; Jacob Valintine, Bright Before Your Eyes holiday parade; and "Doc" Kinsey for the Seminole Stampede and Golf Tournament.

More photos inside newsletter and online www.seminolechamber.net

Business Connections & Education Workshops

Feature "Branding" Specialist & Motivational Speaker

Join us on the second and fourth Wednesday of the month, 7:30 a.m. at St.



Petersburg College, Seminole Campus, TLC Building, Room 108. All are invited to the *free* Seminole Chamber-sponsored Business Connections and Education Workshops.

Next workshop is Feb. 9: Dale W. Hutchings on "Branding"; Feb. 23:

Lynda McDermott, "Staying in the

Dale W. Hutchings Game." Motivational speaker Jill **Lynda McDermott** Haseltine, "Deliberate Decisions"



will be back with us March 9, and March 23 Business Coach Kathy Perry will present "Stepping Stones for Success." Don't forget your business cards. There is plenty of time to network before and after the program. For more information, call the Chamber at 392-3245.

SEMINOLE CHAMBER CHATTER

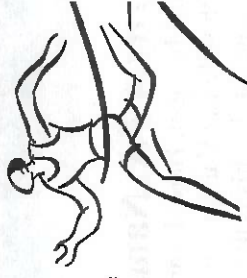
Register Now for "Stampede" & Save!

Pre-registration is available online at www.active.com

Or at the Seminole Chamber Office for the 18th Annual Seminole Stampede on Saturday, April 16, beginning at 7:30 a.m. at Walsingham Park, pavilion 8.

Once again, there will be a 5k and 1 mile run, as well as a Family Easter Outing sponsored by Seminole First Baptist Church.

5k: \$20; before March 28; \$25 regular price and 1 mile: \$10 before March 28; \$15 regular price



Directors:

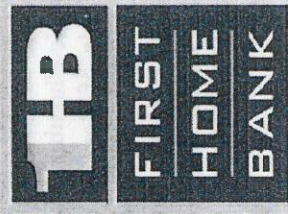
Billie A. Barger
George C. Donovan
Robert G. Castles
Jeffery H. Forbes
Dennis R. DeLoach
Claude D. McMullen

Officers:

Jeffery H. Forbes, CEO
Larry C. Cunningham, Pres./COO
Charlene Jasmin, SVP/CFO

Member FDIC. Equal Opportunity Lender.

9190 Seminole Blvd. Call: 394-2265



Lewis W. Mohn

Funeral Home & Cremation Service

Superior Facilities
And Service

Directors
Serving the
Greater Seminole Area
Since 1958

Family Owned & Operated

393-3481

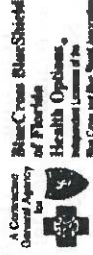
9700 Seminole Boulevard

Jack W. Sonnenberg L.U.T.C.F.

Managing General Agent

Sonnenberg Insurance Services, Inc.

2410 West Bay Drive
Bellair Bluffs / Largo, Florida 33770
Tel: 727-582-9151
Fax: 727-582-9051



Seminole Chamber of Commerce
Announces fund-raising event

SHRED-A-THON
Saturday, March 19
from 9 a.m. to noon

LOSE THOSE POUNDS ... OF PAPER
Time for Spring Cleaning - It's easy
We will turn your piles from files into smiles

ProShred Security mobile shredding trucks will be parked on the lot next to the Seminole Chamber office at 8400 113th St. N.

A \$5 minimum donation is requested, per box, or bag, of paper

Chamber Chatter newsletter!

The best way to advertise your business
Service or product Call us at 393-3245

\$50: inserts - you provide
350 camera-ready copies

Vardy & Company CPA'S, P.A.

Harold C. Vardy, CPA
8600 113th Street N., Seminole, FL 33772
Office: 393-8755 Fax: 393-0467

- TAX PLANNING & PREPARATION
Individual * Estate & Trust * Business
- FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
Audited * Reviewed * Compiled
- BUSINESS ACCOUNTING
& BOOKKEEPING
- BUSINESS VALUATIONS
- MANAGEMENT CONSULTING
- OTHER FINANCIAL SERVICES
- INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY SERVICES
- QUICKBOOKS PROFESSIONAL

Visit our Web Site: WWW.VARDY-CPA.COM

SEMINOLE CHAMBER CHATTER



Vice Mayor Leslie Waters with
Boss of the Year: Dr. David Tolon,
Oakhurst Veterinary Hospital



Business of the Year: Yoga4 All,
Ms. Martha Maddox



Gavels were exchanged by President
Jackie Tatsak and incoming President Mike
McQuilkin



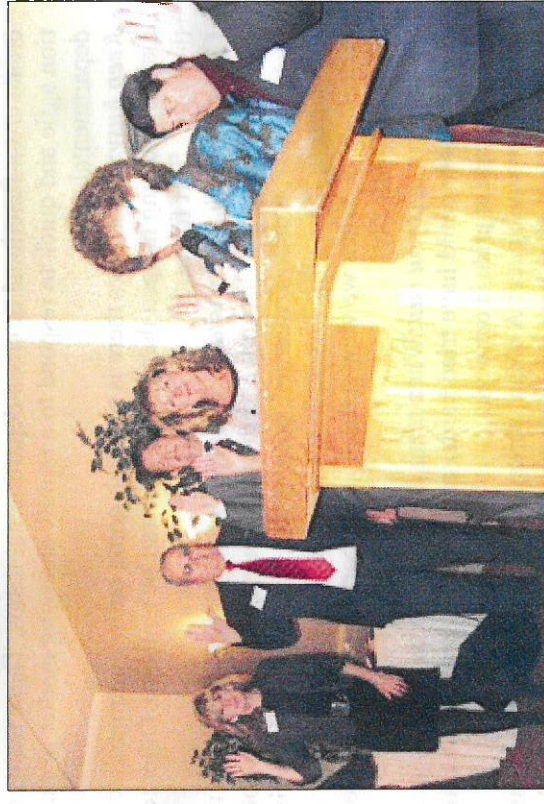
Merit Award: Jacob Valintine,
Unique Dream Promotions



Among guests attending were Marilyn & Gene Mohny. Gene was Mr. Seminole 1996-97. Note the beautiful table decorations by Vickii Walters, Gold Productions, and Pat Matthews, Seminole Garden Florists



Seminole Vice Mayor Leslie Waters served as Master of Ceremonies and inducted the 2011 Seminole Chamber Board: President Mike McQuilkin, Wrights' Health Care & Rehabilitation; Immediate Past President Jackie Tatsak; Treasurer Dr. Jim Olliver, St. Petersburg College; Secretary Nancy Giles, PARC; President-elect Gary Scarsbrook, Central Business Telephone Systems;



Taking the oath are, from left, Sandy Liberatore, Pinellas County Education Foundation; Dan Berard; Jacob Valintine, Unique Dream Promotions; Laverne Welch, Sonnenberg Insurance; Victor Adamo, Realty Executives/Adamo & Associates; Ron Frassetto, SunTrust Bank; and Jamie Giammona, Lake Seminole Square Retirement Community.



Greater Seminole Area
Chamber of Commerce
8400 113th St. N.
Seminole, FL 33772

PRSR STD
U.S. Postage
PAID
ST. PETERSBURG,
FL 337309998
Permit No. 8014

Or Current Resident

FEBRUARY 2011

VOLUME 2 ISSUE 4

Breaking Down Organizational Silos With Cross-Departmental Teams

By Jeff Shimer, Vice President of Training for Dale Carnegie Institute

Team work and communication are vital in today's fast-paced business world. It is more important than ever to have your entire organization aligned with the vision and goals of your organization. One way to foster communication and alignment is to create cross-functional or cross-departmental teams. These teams can help open communication that will make your organization agile and quick to respond to a rapidly changing market place. Here are some ways to build and nurture a cross-departmental team.

Keep busy: Sometimes there is so much going on in a team project that we don't know where to start. It's better to dive in and make something happen than it is to wait and be tentative. Other team members appreciate colleagues who get busy and move the team effort forward.

Cooperate with the inevitable: Everyone has worked with a team member who overreacted to every crisis, no matter how small. Not only is it disruptive to the team, but it accomplishes nothing. Every organization has inherent, inevitable challenges like production delays, weather, sales cycles, shipping and receiving errors, staffing challenges, and so on. Deal with it.

Try to profit from your losses: Every team challenge offers an opportunity to create better organizational skills, processes, or relationships. When we view setbacks as opportunities to improve and grow, our attitudes and our chances for success improve dramatically.

Do the very best you can: When team efforts fail to turn out as planned, we feel stressed and worried. It's even worse when we know that we could have tried harder and done better. When we apply this principle, we guarantee that we will always be able to feel a sense of pride in our work.

Clear your workspace: A clean workspace clears our mind, just as a cluttered, disorganized workspace confuses us and slows us down. Most of us have common workspaces that we share with others. We help the entire team by keeping those spaces organized and cleaning up after ourselves.

Prioritize: Being a member of a work team often means being in the center of shifting priorities. One of our most important challenges is to sort out those priorities and act on them as quickly as possible. This might mean negotiating conflicting priorities within the team. Other members of the team respect and understand shifting priorities when we explain them thoughtfully and honestly.

Solve problems then and there: Procrastination undermines effective teamwork. As team members, we feel anxious and stressed when responsibilities pile up. Other team members appreciate in us an ability to get things done and move on.