

Bill Pritchard Named 2010 Ann DeBock Leadership Award Recipient



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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MYRTLE BEACH, S.C. – Leadership Grand Strand is presenting its 2010 Ann DeBock Leadership Award to William F. Pritchard during the Leadership Grand Strand Class 30 graduation ceremony May 7 at Pine Lakes Country Club. The two other award nominees are Randy Wallace, broker in charge, company founder and president, CANA Corporation, and Shannon Camp, systems and information analyst, The Jackson Companies.

Thirty years ago, Pritchard founded the Leadership Grand Strand program in an effort to develop a group of informed, qualified and committed individuals capable of providing dynamic leadership to the Grand Strand area. After attending Leadership South Carolina, Pritchard led the effort to create a local leadership program.

Pritchard served as the Myrtle Beach Area Chamber of Commerce board chairman 1983-1984. "Bill led the board with both passion and professionalism," said Brad Dean, MBACC president and CEO. "His leadership then and now was admired by many inside and outside the organization. I feel confident that Ann herself would suggest that no one could be more deserving of this prestigious award in the 30th year of LGS than the individual who helped create the program."

A Burroughs & Chapin Company Inc. executive for more than 30 years, Pritchard started his career with the company in 1977 and has served several roles, including executive vice president of development and interim president and CEO before Jim Apple was hired.

Pritchard helped select and guide the company's architectural firms through the designs of the Marina Inn at Grande Dunes, Grande Dunes Resort Clubhouse, Members Club Clubhouse, Ocean Club, Vista Del Mar Luxury Condominiums and Villa Firenze Condominiums.

He also played a major role in the expansion, layout and selection of many of the Pavilion amusement rides. Pritchard traveled extensively nationally and internationally to meet with amusement ride manufacturers to select and purchase the latest rides.

Dedicated to community service, Pritchard has been involved in volunteer work throughout his life. Some of his most notable roles were past president, United Way of Horry County (1995); co-founder and president, Grand Strand Soccer League (1983-1984); and first chairman of the board, Community Appearance Board of Myrtle Beach (1981, multiple years).

"Bill shares the same qualities of grace, determination and quiet leadership for which Ann was known," said Myrtle Beach City Manager Tom Leath. "He has never sought the limelight or the credit for anything that he worked for, and in many cases did

not receive it." In his nomination letter, Leath asked the Leadership Grand Strand class to give every consideration to a man whose recognition is long overdue.

Pritchard was born in upstate New York and moved to North Carolina as a child. He received a bachelor's of architecture degree with honors from North Carolina State University. Pritchard served in the U.S. Army as a first lieutenant 1964-1967 and was awarded two Bronze Stars for his heroism and meritorious achievement in the Vietnam War. He and his wife Lineta have been married 41 years and have two children and two grandchildren.

Each year, the Leadership Grand Strand class honors an alum who has exhibited outstanding leadership and service. The Ann DeBock Leadership Award was commissioned and started by Class XIX in memory of Ann DeBock, the executive director of Leadership Grand Strand from its inception in 1979 until her death in 1998. To receive this award, the recipient must volunteer in service or civic roles, serve on appointed boards or commissions and exhibit an overall demonstration of effective leadership skills.

For more information, visit LeadershipGrandStrand.com or call (843) 916-7222.

Editorial note: A digital image of Pritchard is available by request.

The goal of **Leadership Grand Strand**, a program of the Myrtle Beach Area Chamber of Commerce, is to develop a corps of informed, committed and qualified individuals capable of providing dynamic leadership for the Grand Strand. Over the years, Leadership Grand Strand has created a cadre of leaders who guide the direction of change throughout the Grand Strand.

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