

Leadership Grand Strand
Names 2008 Ann DeBock Award
Winner



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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MYRTLE BEACH, S.C. – Leadership Grand Strand has presented its 2008 Ann DeBock Leadership Award to David L. Brittain, owner and operator of the Sea Captain's House who is also affiliated with numerous hospitality properties. Shannon Camp, chair, Leadership Grand Strand board of regents, presented the award during the Leadership Grand Strand Class XXVIII graduation ceremony on Thursday, May 15, at the Dunes Golf and Beach Club.

Members of Class XXVIII nominated Brittain, a graduate of Leadership Grand Strand Class IV of 1984. According to the nomination form, "David Brittain excels in all the criteria for this award. He is a leader in every aspect of his life—in the hotel business, in the restaurant business, in the community, in his church, in civic organizations and socially. Every graduate of Leadership Grand Strand should aspire to be such an effective leader."

The nomination further states that Brittain, a native of Myrtle Beach, graduated from Myrtle Beach High School and from Erskine College in Due West, S.C. From these hometown roots, he has kept Myrtle Beach's best interests at heart. Serving on the board of directors of United Way for 25 years, he has assisted in raising funds for the most important local charities and services and, in that capacity, has actively recruited others to become involved in United Way activities.

He has been an active member and supporter of the Myrtle Beach Area Chamber of Commerce, serving on a number of committees such as the Growth and Development Committee and Publications Committee and ultimately as chairman of the board of directors 2006-2007.

Other leadership roles include director of the Grand Strand Hospital, board of directors for the Myrtle Beach Area Hospitality Association and membership on several committees on education. He has been active in the Boy Scouts of America for more than 12 years and serves on the board of directors of the Dunes Golf and Beach Club. A member of the First United Methodist Church, he has served as the stewardship chairman for more than four years.

In his business life, Brittain oversees approximately 700 employees. The Sea Captain's House, one of the area's most popular seafood restaurants, has won awards year after year at the Taste of the Town. Due to his active involvement in his business interests and leadership skills, his businesses have thrived. He has been a leading innovator in using the Internet to market his properties. Realizing the Internet is the No. 1 tool to research and book vacations, he took smart risks in developing new marketing tools such as purchasing and selling inventory online. He tries new marketing tools, stays vigilant on upcoming trends and takes an active role in marketing his businesses.

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Throughout his decades of community service and business leadership, Brittain and his wife Ann have raised two children, Rand and Anna.

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 Diana Greene, Leadership Grand Strand executive director, at (843) 916-7222.

Editorial note: A digital image of Brittain is available upon request.

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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.