



**DETROIT-AREA STUDENTS** rubbed shoulders with their new governor during a recent field trip co-sponsored by DESC and the Lear Corporation.

## DESC opens memorable doors

When the state's top official addressed the Detroit Economic Club earlier this year, local young people were part of the experience, thanks to the Detroit Executive Service Corps' Focused Field Trip Program.

Co-sponsored by the Lear Corporation, the Feb. 10 event brought together students from Taft Middle School and Henry Ford High School, along with their respective principals, Earl Bryant and Cassandra Allen.

On arrival at Cobo Hall, field trip participants were greeted by DESC Development Director Bill Grier and former board member Charles

MacGregor. Along with the students from other tri-county school districts, they were collectively introduced to the day's keynote speaker, Michigan Governor Jennifer Granholm.

The Governor talked to her young audience about the importance of being well educated in our society. She encouraged pursuit of higher levels of education and support for U.S. troops abroad.

The students were then introduced to Jameson L. Teamor, DESC Vice President of Education Programs, who joined the group for lunch as they listened to the Governor's speech, "The Current State Budget."

## Thanks!

The Fifth Annual DESC Volunteer Recognition Luncheon welcomed the event's first female keynote speaker May 16. For Shirley Stancato, it was another in a long list of such notable achievements. The President and CEO of New Detroit Coalition told the gathering of DESC supporters that their efforts are making a real difference in the metropolitan Detroit area.

Singled out for special recognition as Corporate Sponsor of the Year was State Farm Insurance.

A financial supporter from 1984 to 1992, State Farm again became interested in DESC programs in 2000. The renewed commitment had impressive results: By the close of 2002, 41 State Farm employees had attended Round Table Dialogues, mentored a principal, participated on the DESC Partnership Facilitation Board or attended a DESC strategic planning meeting.

Three individual volunteers were also recognized at the luncheon for outstanding contributions in 2002. Their names have been added to a permanent plaque commemorating the honor.

The Robert McGill Leadership Award went to current DESC Chairman Bill Adams. A Corps

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# Endowment Fund receives first major contribution

Leave a legacy! The opportunity now exists for making a charitable gift or bequest to the Detroit Executive Service Corps Endowment Fund. These gifts will remain in **perpetuity** and the income from them will be used for Corps operations.

There are many ways individuals can experience the rewards of making such gifts, which are often offered over and above their normal annual support.

An Endowment Committee has been working steadily to develop the Fund, which has already been approved by the Board of Directors.

Helen Hart, who has been the Endowment Committee Chair, recently made the first sizeable contribution as evidence of her personal support and enthusiasm for the endowment project.

Why an Endowment Fund? Primarily, this financial base is established to fill the gaps in annual funding and contribute to the long-term viability of an organization. It also provides a monetary underpinning for future program growth.

But the benefits are by no means one-sided. In addition to the satisfac-

tion of personally helping to foster a better future, donors are eligible for a variety of tax advantages.

Most important is the feeling of providing long-term support for the Corps' many valuable community services. (The fund is so constructed that the management of DESC cannot invade the principal.)

The Endowment Committee has the primary responsibility of recruiting and supporting all those participating in contacting potential donors. Anyone who wishes to become involved or learn more about this worthwhile

cause should feel free to come forward. Harriett Rivers will be able to make the necessary arrangements to respond to your inquiry.

As you contemplate the most effective way to leave your mark on a brighter tomorrow, remember: The effects of DESC services are multiplied many times over. All of the agencies and individuals we help in turn help others in our community. The ripple effect of your drop in the legacy bucket now will impact the Detroit area far into the future.

## In Memoriam

*The following contributions to DESC honoring Robert Magill's memory were received by May 5. Those still wishing to make such a memorial gift may mail to DESC at 16250 Northland Dr., Suite 390, Southfield, MI 48075. Please include all pertinent information so that we can inform the family of your thoughtfulness.*

Bill Adams  
Jim & Joan Crabb  
Edward Czapor  
Bill Grier  
James Johnston  
Charlie MacGregor  
Valerie McCammon  
Mr. & Mrs. F. James McDonald  
Deanna McGraw  
Frances Merker  
Jerome Mills  
John Norris  
Mr. & Mrs. Richard Pickering  
Fred Secrest  
Alvie Smith  
Frank & Caroline Smith  
Robert Smith  
Robert Stempel

Collaborative Management Consult.  
Magill & Atkinson LLP

## Corps mourns the loss of a legend

A pivotal figure in the creation and development of the Detroit Executive Service Corps, Robert F. Magill died April 9, 2003, of complications from a stroke. He was 85.

In addition to his distinguished service as a naval officer in World War II, Mr. Magill had an outstanding business career, culminating as Vice President in charge of Industry Government Relations for General Motors Corporation.

A dedicated community leader, he assisted many organizations in the Detroit area.

Mr. Magill was the first chairman and co-founder of the Detroit Executive Service Corps (DESC). General Motors was the leading force in starting the organization, and recruited Mr. Magill on his retirement from GM to head-up the DESC. He served as chairman from 1982 until 1988.

He continued to be actively involved with the Corps until his recent illness.

In May 2002, he was honored at a luncheon when the Robert F. Magill Leadership Award was established to recognize outstanding individuals serving the Corps.

"We consider Bob to be the heart and soul of our orga-



**DESC CO-FOUNDER ROBERT F. MAGILL** addressed old friends at the Corps' 2002 Volunteer Recognition Luncheon.

nization," DESC President Deanna McGraw noted. "Many of the contributions the DESC has made in the greater Detroit community were because of him."

# Reception unites DESC advisors and directors

In spite of an unexpected four inches of snow, turnout was excellent for the Detroit Executive Service Corps Advisory Board Reception.

Among the Advisory Board members attending the April 7 event were Dickenson Wright Chairman Dennis Archer, Daimler-Chrysler Senior Vice President Frank Fountain, Focus HOPE Executive Director Eleanor Josaitis, *Crain's Detroit Business* Associate Publisher and Editor Mary Kramer, Marygrove College President Dr. Glenda Price, Dykema Gossett Chairman Lloyd Semple, and Channel 7 News Editorial Director Chuck Stokes.

Representing the DESC Board of Directors were Karen Roth, Bill Adams, Ken Holloway, Jameson Teamor, Harvey Tull, Hank Whiting and Peter Wong. DESC President Deanna McGraw and office manager Jackie Redmond completed the group.



**TRADING THOUGHTS** with Focus HOPE Executive Director Eleanor Josaitis (right) are (from left) DESC board members Ken Holloway and Hank Whiting.

The directors were invited so that the Advisory Board's role of giving advice and counsel on how to improve and expand DESC services to the community could take place on a one-on-one basis.

The arrangement also allowed directors to collectively encourage Advisory Board members in promoting the Corps with corporations, foun-

dations and individuals to obtain financial support and enlist potential volunteers and clients.

Directors were encouraged to continue support of the Detroit Public School system, with an educated populace viewed as vital to the area's success.

The Advisory Board has been asked for suggestions on implementing DESC's new Strategic Plan and has received a roadmap to assist in quickly grasping its es-

sence. They counseled that the community needs a better definition of how the consulting and educational arms of DESC work together.

One interesting idea involved partnering with schools of higher learning to identify ways in which students can work to aid nonprofits. It was noted that members of the Advisory Board could be brokers in such an experiment.

## "Spring training" hones skills of Corps consultants

Spring is a time of growth, and each year DESC volunteers are offered many such opportunities. In fact, growth through training is a vital and basic component of the Corps' consulting program.

While the benefits are many, the reason is simple, according to new Director of Management Services Neil Hitz. "It is important that DESC representatives present a common consulting approach, flavored by individual experience and client circumstances," he explains.

"Many new consultants have joined the Corps during the past twelve months and are anxious to be trained so that they can begin the DESC mission of assisting nonprofit organizations," he added.

New consultant orientation took place in March and a strategic planning session was held in April. DESC volunteer Ed Olsen hosted the orientation, while Suzanne Dibble and Jerry Knoppow led the training and idea-sharing for the Strategic Planning Workshop. Members of the Flint Executive Service Corps also attended this session.

The focus for training in May and June is on Grant Writing and Board Development.

### STEPPING UP TO THE PLATE

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| ❖ James Davis<br>Omron Automotive<br>Electronics Corp. | ❖ David Livingston<br>M-Care                       |
| ❖ Casilda de Benito<br>TRW                             | ❖ Jay Nowak<br>Lear Corporation                    |
| ❖ Jody Ferguson<br>Ford Motor Co.                      | ❖ John O'Reilly<br>Place Sports &<br>Entertainment |
| ❖ Arthur Fitzgerald<br>Ford Motor Co.                  | ❖ David Padilla<br>Kaufmann Corp.                  |
| ❖ Donna Healy<br>ABN AMRO Mortgage                     | ❖ Ken Pragner<br>Parish Publishing                 |
| ❖ David Hennessy<br>Cadillac Products                  | ❖ Rubin Rivetna<br>DESC Consultant                 |
| ❖ Michael Kelly<br>National City Bank                  | ❖ Amanda Schneider<br>Idea Integration             |
| ❖ Scott Kline<br>Herman Miller, Inc.                   | ❖ Lillian Streck<br>Ford Motor Co.                 |
| ❖ Harry Lassen<br>Ford Motor Co.                       | ❖ Michael Tranquilla<br>Unisys Corp.               |
| ❖ Mary Lou Lee<br>ABN AMRO Mortgage                    | ❖ Richard Turner<br>WCC College                    |

# Thanks!

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volunteer for more than a decade, he has been instrumental in leading training programs, financial management services and strategic planning initiatives.

Four-year DESC volunteer Harvey Tull earned Consultant of the Year honors. He has served as consultant, project facilitator and most recently, as coordinator for the Financial Knowledge and Skills Program.

Judith McNeely was named Outstanding Volunteer in a School Program. She has been a member of the Facilitation Partnership Board and a Round Table Dialoguer since 2000. As Director of Marketing and Public Relations for NEXT Energy, she has actively recruited volunteer professionals for DESC activities.

## Corporate partnerships thriving

When times are tough, successful businesses look for ways to ensure that their community contributions have a real impact. With a proven track record in enhancing the effectiveness of nonprofit and governmental agencies and schools, DESC provides that important assurance.

Perhaps that's why, despite the current financial climate, corporations across metropolitan Detroit are actually increasing their support of the DESC mission. One way is through recruitment of working and retired employees to volunteer their time and talents in Corps programs.



**STRATEGIZING WITH DESC** officer Charles MacGregor are Marshall Fields Human Resources managers Karen Kelly (left) and Louanna Gallagher.

One example of how such an alliance works is the Corps' long-standing partnership with Marshall Fields, a 20-year bond recently renewed in a meeting with key human resources personnel.

"Karen Kelly and Louanna Gallagher are committed to involving Marshall Fields

employees in addressing the educational needs of youth in the Detroit area," DESC Development Director Bill Grier said.

More than 20 companies are now involved in this type of partnership with DESC.

"Over the next year, they plan to promote DESC volunteer opportunities within their organization to meet that goal."

## Hitz heads up Corps consulting program

A new position – Director of Management Services – has been created at DESC.

The focus of the new post will be the oversight and coordination of volunteer consultants and DESC clients. A significant increase in the numbers of both, coupled with the launch of several new programs, prompted the addition.

DESC President Deanna McGraw will now concen-

trate on long-term growth issues, with more time for evaluating the needs of the Detroit-area non-profits served by DESC.

Neil Hitz has moved from the rank of DESC volunteer to fill the part-time consulting spot. Since February, he has been working with volunteers, consultant training programs, Leaders Circles, and client recruitment.

As a four-year DESC volunteer, Hitz has worked on

strategic planning projects, organizational assessments, mentoring and marketing workshops.

Prior to joining DESC as a volunteer, Hitz was President of Dawson Industry, President of Computerized Security Systems and General Manager at American Motors Corp. He has degrees from Notre Dame and University of Detroit, and attended the Harvard Business School Advanced Management Program.

### DESC COMMUNICATOR

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