



MEET THE COMMITTEE

HOLIDAY SOCIAL



Katy Ruth Camp, LC'16

Director of Marketing & PR, MUST Ministries



Wes Smith, LC'22

Area executive, SouthState Bank

Favorite LC Memory: Many throughout the year, the behind-the-scenes access to both people and organizations will stay with me forever, but Fall Retreat was my favorite. Late nights, early mornings, and lots of new friends.

Advice for LC'25: Have fun, be genuine and open for new experiences. You will get more out of Leadership Cobb the more you put into it.



Kimberly Williamson, LC'22

Strategic Planning, Sr Director, Cox Automotive

Favorite LC Memory: Winning Fall Retreat skit! Go 80s!

Advice for LC'25: It's not a holiday party unless Uncle Eddie shows up.



Andrea Foard, LC'19

Director, Mobility and Urban Development, Cincar Consulting Group

Favorite LC Memory: Everything! Including the "Publishers Clearing House" moment when I found out that I was selected for LC19.

Advice for LC'25: Be present in every moment get to know all of your classmates. The class year goes by fast!



Anna Emerson, LC'17

Human Resources Specialist, Insperity

Favorite LC Memory: My favorite Leadership Cobb memory was getting to experience the health and medical side of Cobb County and getting to try my hand at stitching someone up!

Advice for LC'25: Lean into it and take the time to experience something new and out of your comfort zone. You never know where it will take you!



Fitz Johnson, LC'02

Public Service Commissioner, State of Georgia. ASID Group International

Favorite LC Memory: Chairing Leadership Cobb, LC10!

Advice for LC'25: Get your classmates cell number...all of them



Wayne McGary, LC'15

Vice President, Croy Engineering

Favorite LC Memory: The time spent with my group getting ready for the Fall retreat and getting to know everyone as we were working on putting our skit together. The bonds that were formed during that time have lasted since.

Advice for LC'25: Be present and be engaged. You will have many opportunities that present themselves through the year and Do not be afraid to say no to possibilities.



Lisa Hendley, LC'24

*Vice President / Commercial Relationship Manager,
SouthState Bank*

Favorite LC Memory: Every day that our class was together was special to me but riding in the BlackHawk was the highlight!

Advice for LC'25: Try and get to know as many of your classmates as possible. Engage in the program as the year will fly by for you.



Laura Higginbotham, LC'15

Attorney, Gregory, Doyle, Calhoun & Rogers

Favorite LC Memory: As I approach my 10 year reunion in LC, my favorite memory is really the aggregation of all the lunches and gatherings my class has regularly had over the last 10 years so that we remain super close and know that we always have each others' backs.

Advice for LC'25: Let down your guard and have fun with your 50 new besties!



Keith Mack, LC'24

Managing Principal, Gibraltar Capital Partners

Favorite LC Memory: Winning the Gold Medal at Spring Retreat

Advice for LC'25: Take time to really get to know your classmates. It's such a rewarding experience. Don't mail it in. Don't be afraid to make memories.



Allie Blessing, LC'22

Senior Manager of Growth & Development, Mauldin & Jenkins

Favorite LC Memory: Realizing after the fall retreat that this was going to make for an incredible year and lifelong friends (spoiler alert - it's true!)

Advice for LC'25: Sit by someone different every single bus ride/class day. Know that the time will go by super fast so go all in!



Ashley Irwin, LC'10

Senior Development Officer, KSU (Southern Polytechnic College of Engineering & Engineering Technology)

Favorite LC Memory: Meeting so many new friends that I still have relationships with today.

Advice for LC'25: Find a way each class day to get to know at least one new person in the class.

Becca Graham, LC'24

Director of Communication & Engagement, City of Kennesaw



Favorite LC Memory: My favorite memory from Leadership Cobb last year was being part of the 90s decade team and our success at the fall retreat (complete with a mullet)! The connections and camaraderie formed during the program truly made the experience unforgettable. Many of those friendships have grown outside the program and continue to reinforce the importance of community and collaboration.

Advice for LC'25: Engage fully in every session and event, and take the time to build connections with your classmates. Be open to stepping out of your comfort zone—you'll get the most out of the program by doing so!

Matthew Teague, LC'15

Director of New Development, Walton Communities



Favorite LC Memory: Co-Chairing LC'22 with the one and only Wendy Bunch! #notaclassafamily

Advice for LC'25: Embrace having no idea what's around the corner, sit next to someone new on the bus, wear a costume or two, and maybe steal (borrow) a golf cart at retreat!



Robin Bishop, LC'98

Chief Deputy Clerk, Cobb County State Court

MEMORIES



Steve Byrne, LC'05

Retired - Mauldin and Jenkins (retired after 42 years)

Favorite LC Memory: Leaving Fall Retreat and realizing something incredible had occurred.

Advice for LC'25: Lose your fences and walls early - and what your parents told you - 'Be yourself - your true self'



Debbie Ponder, LC'13

Sales Manager, Suddath

Favorite LC Memory: Retreat sharing your special item. It was very meaningful.

Advice for LC'25: Enjoy every minute. Time goes fast but friendships you make last forever.