



[www.aacfoundation.com](http://www.aacfoundation.com)

**Special points of interest:**

- \* Adopt A Class welcomes our newest Board member, Janice Leonetti. She and her husband, Wayne Abbott, founded our Portland, Oregon Chapter. Please visit the website to learn more about Janice and Wayne.
- \* The website is the place to find important information regarding school year activities, information on the program and useful links and tips.
- \* Adopt A Class is currently looking for *Business/Community Team Leaders*. Visit the website for more details. If you or someone you know is interested in becoming a *Business/Community Team Leader*, contact Bill Burwinkler at (513) 244-8075 or Janice Leonetti at (503)635-0203.

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# Fall Newsletter

## Harte-Hanks Makes a Difference

Melody Smith is an Account Supervisor with Harte-Hanks, a worldwide direct marketing company. Harte-Hanks has over 30 offices worldwide, including the Cincinnati office in Oakley/Norwood. They became involved in the Adopt A Class program in January of 2006 and in this short period of time have become a model adopter for the foundation.

"Once September rolled around, we couldn't wait to meet the Kindergarten children," says Melody. A small group of employees met with the students just after school began, presenting the students with a few supplies to get the school year started. As the year progressed, they took responsibility for tutoring a small group of students three times a week. Approximately 20 employees rotate as tutors each week. Other events with the students included a Thanksgiving feast at Harte-Hanks, a Christmas Party, a surprise Valentines Day visit and a spring outing. "There have been many best moments, but...the unwrapping of Christmas presents was very special. To see the excitement and joy on their faces was priceless."

When asked about advice to other adopters, Melody and Harte-Hanks had these three suggestions

1. Be creative with the amount and way you spend time with the students. More is BETTER!
2. Ask early on how your [organization] can best aid the class throughout the year.
3. Start fundraising early and be creative. Fundraising gives employees a chance to contribute even if they cannot participate in functions.



## GoodSearch®... It makes good "cents"

Raising money for Adopt A Class just got easier. Adopt a Class was recently added to [www.Goodsearch.com](http://www.Goodsearch.com), an internet search engine that donates money to non-profit organizations. For every search completed through Goodsearch, money will be donated to Adopt a Class.

It is easy to do. Just go to [www.Goodsearch.com](http://www.Goodsearch.com). In the "Enter your charity" box, type "Adopt A Class" and click verify. Then search just like you norm-

ally would. Goodsearch is powered by Yahoo, so your search results are just as accurate. For each search completed, Adopt A Class raises money. Last year, a charity raised 1.3 cents for every search done in its-name. More searches equal more money.

To make GoodSearch your homepage, navigate to [www.goodsearch.com](http://www.goodsearch.com) and open Internet Options from the tools menu. Under the Homepage section, just click Use Current. This sets GoodSearch as your

homepage. Now you can complete your internet search and raise money for Adopt A Class at the same time.

Ask your family and friends to search and donate to Adopt A Class. If 1,000 people search twice a day for a year, AAC earns \$7,300. It's that simple. Go to [www.Goodsearch.com](http://www.Goodsearch.com) for more details or check out our website at [www.aacfoundation.com](http://www.aacfoundation.com)

# Business/Community Team Leader Highlight: Five Questions for Cory Speece



1. Could you tell us a little about yourself?

*I am originally from Indiana, now living in Newport, KY. I am a Vice President at US Bank's International Banking Group. I help customers run more efficient import/export businesses. I am married to Lenaya Speece and we are both proud new parents to a 6-month old daughter.*

*benefit by having positive role models in their life that help them develop critical skills needed for future growth. I'm certain everyone reading this can reflect on a part of their childhood and identify several people that played an important role in their development, whether it was a parent, teacher, relative, coach, neighbor, etc. I think we can all appreciate how important something like this is to a young child.*

2. How did you get involved in AAC?

*Like most people that are part of AAC, I met with Bill in the professional world and he called me a few weeks later to chat about AAC. Since moving to and settling in the Cincinnati area, I've wanted to be more involved with the community. Adopt A Class was the perfect opportunity for me to be involved with the community and help make a difference.*

5. Is there anything you would like to say to the adopters/teachers at the beginning of the school year?

*There are many things I would like to say, but above all "THANK YOU!". Your time and generosity will echo throughout the entire life of your students. I look forward to making the 2007/2008 school season the best yet and welcome any advice or suggestions you may have.*

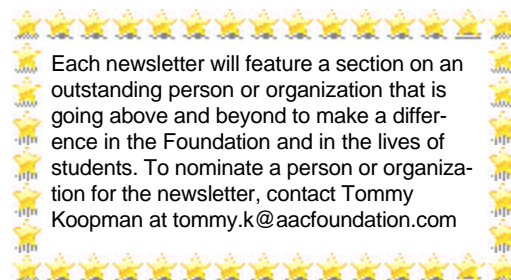
3. What does your role as Business/Community Team Leader entail?

*As a team leader, my top priorities are to ensure that each classroom in Winton Hills Academy is adopted and to keep each adopting company/group abreast of events/changes/news/etc. I work hand-in-hand with Joe Wilmer, School Coordinator for Winton Hills Academy, to make certain each company, teacher, and classroom is making full use of every opportunity available.*

\*Visit the web to learn more about Cory and other people involved in Adopt A Class\*

4. What positive changes do you see the ACC program making?

*As many people know, Cincinnati Public Schools have not had an easy time lately. Faced with budget cuts, many Cincinnati Public Schools were forced to let great educators (and in most cases exemplary role models) go. Classes continue to increase in size, and students receive less 1-on-1 attention. Companies that adopt a class with AAC help fill a void in the lives of their students during a crucial point in their lives. Students*



## Recruiting and Referrals

Do you know of any local organizations or businesses who may be interested in adopting classes? Adopt A Class is constantly looking for new adopters. Each year, more schools are added to the program and in order to serve these students, new adopters must be enlisted. Most of our new adopters are referred by people who are currently adopting classes. Please forward any potential adopters to Bill Burwinkel (Cincinnati) at (513) 244-8057 or [bill.b@aacfoundation.com](mailto:bill.b@aacfoundation.com) or Janice Leonetti (Portland) at (503) 635-0203 or [adoptaclass@comcast.net](mailto:adoptaclass@comcast.net)

## Did You Know?

- The Portland, Oregon Chapter of Adopt A Class began in 2006 and currently has 4 schools adopted.
- Adopt A Class serves 10 schools, 6 in Cincinnati, Ohio and 4 in Portland, Oregon
- This year marks the 5 year anniversary of the Adopt a Class Program.
- Participation in Adopt a Class does not require a contribution. If you would like to get involved, there are many needs and positions to be filled. Just ask!