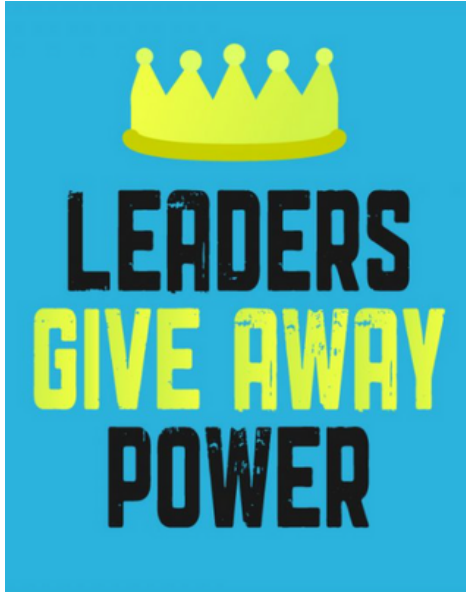


ALA NATIONAL LEADERSHIP MONTHLY NEWSLETTER



IS THIS HAPPENING IN YOUR UNIT?

- How many times do you see the same people in the same leadership roles year after year after year?
- Are you getting members who want to be leaders?
- Do you even “see” or recognize them?
- Is there a reason why nobody is stepping up to be a leader?

I hope that you are in a unit that has members raising their hand to be considered for a leadership role every year at election time and throughout the year! Wait!! You don't? There may be lots of reasons why members don't volunteer . . . “I have no time ~ just too busy”, “I have other organizations I volunteer with”, “I get micro-managed when I plan an event”, “I have family commitments”, “it's so hard to get others to volunteer to help so I have to do it all by myself”. I could go on and on and on! You know!!

Your unit is only as strong as its leadership! It is therefore important to recognize and develop leaders in your organization. Do they have to know everything about ALL of our ALA programs? NO! Do they need to know the Constitution, Bylaws and Standing Rules of the Unit, Department and National Organization? No, but it would obviously be a plus in both situations!! As leaders in the American Legion Auxiliary, we must continue to move forward for a stronger organization filled with potential future leaders at the Senior level as well as at the Junior level!

As the leader in your unit, you don't have to do everything! If you do, nobody ever learns exactly what you do. They may perceive you as spending all your time working on ALA “stuff” and they know that they don't have that kind of time or bandwidth to ever take on that kind of position.

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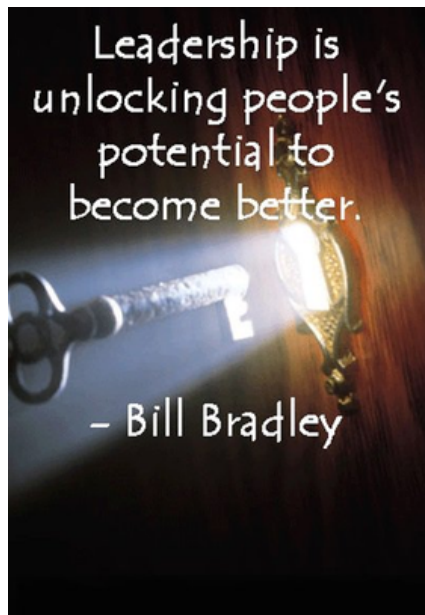
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So what do you do? There are a few things that you can think about and/or do! But first . . . are you a **fun leader**? If you don't have fun, who will want to volunteer with or for you? Do YOU portray a **positive attitude** at all times? Do you know the programs you are working on, the purpose and policies or are you at least willing to learn? Be sincere and enthusiastic -- that's being **passionate**!! If you aren't, then you should not be in this position to begin with - how can you have engaged members if you aren't passionate about what you are doing? Do you exhibit **integrity and good ethics**? Are you trustworthy and honest with others? As a leader are you **open-minded**? Are you able to accept the ideas of others or at least discuss and adapt without conflict? Can you **make decisions** by collaborating and compromising with others? Are you a **good listener** and are you able to **communicate** appropriately and effectively to others? Can you be counted on to see projects through to completion ~ are you

committed? And are you **loyal** and true to the cause of the ALA and do you portray yourself and represent yourself in a **professional business-like manner** as a member of the ALA.

Develop a plan to continually foster new leadership within your Unit. What are your members passionate about? Do they have something that they are good at? As members are selected to chair committees, mentor them. Offer help when needed. Be prepared to provide support and/or tools when asked or assign another mentor for support.

Provide training sessions! Consider asking seasoned Unit members that are capable and available to help with the training. Or how about showing one of the ALA Academy courses at your next Unit meeting? The ALA Academy courses are designed to help members learn online at no cost! Then encourage members to watch more of the on-line courses at their leisure! Another resource to consider would be to send a member or two to attend a Mission Training event! Upon their return, ask them to share and educate your members on what they learned. This would be a great start at showing off their leadership skills!

Leaders have a passion for the causes they believe in. Encourage your Unit leadership to look for these passionate members. And in all of this, don't overlook Junior members who will soon become Senior members. In addition, ALA Girls State citizens learn many leadership skills. They are not too young to be helpful and to take on projects at many levels.

A true leader recognizes when they are a good leader ~ they let others on their team shine! They don't have to be the one who always speaks, authors newsletters or runs a meeting. I know it's hard to give all that "power" up; however, where will your Unit be in 10 years if you don't start now! Good leaders give away power. Good leaders are the ones who have done such a good job doing just that and mentoring their members that each Unit member feels enabled! The leader of that Unit should then feel proud enough to kind of sit back and listen and provide input where needed. Mission Accomplished!!

*Happy
holidays!!*

Linda

NOVEMBER 10, 2023

SECOND QUARTER NATIONAL LEADERSHIP TEAM MEETING

Be sure to mark your calendar for our next Quarterly meeting! **Tuesday, January 23, 2024 at 7:30PM EST / 6:30PM Central / 5:30PM Mountain / 4:30PM Pacific!**

All Leadership Department Chairmen will be invited to attend!

Our 1st quarter meeting in October went so well, we are going to do it again!! We will have our breakout chat rooms by Division, but we may change things up a bit this time around! Stay tuned and be sure to register when the link is sent out in January!!



[ALA Leadership Program](#)

2024 Dates & Locations

Western: 1/27/2024

Las Vegas, NV*
Tuscany Suites & Casino

Northwestern: 2/3/24

Lincoln, NE
Marriott Lincoln Cornhusker

Southern: 2/3/2024

Nashville, TN*
Hilton Nashville Airport

MISSION Training

These are the remaining Mission Training dates and locations! Even if you aren't from these Divisions, you are more than welcome to attend any of these Mission Training events! Don't delay! Sign up today!!

*Your National Leadership Chairman will be part of the presentation team!!

WHAT ARE YOU DOING TO GET JUNIOR MEMBERS READY FOR LEADERSHIP ROLES?



It's the holidays! Are you involving your Juniors in coordinating events for holiday celebrations at the Post?

As you all know, our Juniors are our future! What a better time than the holidays to let them show their skills by coordinating an event for others (with a little mentoring from you). Too late for a Christmas event? How about an early New Year's Eve celebration?

Have them invite not only their Junior members and family but also the community and their parents! What a great way to show the community what our Junior leaders can do! Who knows, you might event get new members to join your organization!!