

Hello and Aloha Western Division Chairs!

1. Thank you for attending the 2nd Quarter Zoom session last week (for those that could not make it, I really appreciated you all letting me know!). As a recap:
 - We met the incoming HQ leadership representative Katie Vigil (replacing Kristin Hinshaw).
 - Junior Activities National Chair Barbara Washburn presented ways in which the Leadership team could support Junior Members. Her presentation notes are attached.
 - Leadership Committee member Dr Lisa Chaplin presented information about Unit Member of the Year—please be sure your Units submit some candidates to your Department! Your Department sets the process for selecting one winning candidate that must be sent electronically to National by June 1.
 - National Leadership Chair Linda Tome presented information about the Most Outstanding/Best Unit and Department Leadership Programs. Please encourage Units that you know that are doing a good job to submit a narrative! I would love to see one electronically submitted from every state for both of these awards—again due June 1!
 - We had a lively Western Division break-out room! I loved the enthusiasm everyone showed trying to improve their mission training.
 - Selecting and standardizing in-person trainers while trying to find ways to reach the membership outside of in-person sessions was a common theme.
 - Website updates, Facebook live, Zoom sessions, notes to Unit Presidents/Secretaries and promoting the ALA Academy were all mentioned. BTW-- If you want to see the results of promoting the ALA Academy—you can request a list of classes taken within your Department from Katie at HQ!
 - One final note—a couple of you mentioned that you were spending considerable time helping to resolve inter-Post-family issues. Attached is something I wrote up to help new Unit Officers understand how Units and Posts work together—please feel free to use it if you think it would be of some use.
2. February 20 is National Leadership Day—Attached is a fun “leadership style” questionnaire from National Chair Linda. It might be a fun item to pass along to your Units in February.
3. March is Women’s History Month—some wonderful leadership inspiration to research and share!
4. April 23rd is our 3rd Quarter Zoom (7:30 Eastern Time)
5. May 15 year-end reporting is due—from EVERY DEPARTMENT!!!

PHOTOS: We are looking for high quality photos to share at the National Convention. Send original photos as an attachment to an email to me or Linda. Note: photos that have been texted or downloaded from Facebook are too degraded to work on the BIG SCREEN. Let’s see the Western Division represented—especially given that National President Lisa is from the Western Division.

WESTERN DIVISION ZOOM SESSIONS: Those of you who responded to my query about meeting via Zoom said that did not seem warranted. Keep in mind that we can always add a session if it seems helpful. Maybe as we get closer to year end?

Keep up the great work and please feel free to contact me anytime!

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Marge Christianson
Western Division Leadership Chair