

American Legion Auxiliary Colorado Department – Leadership Mid-Year Report 2018-2019

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Leadership: Surround yourself with great people; delegate authority; get out of the way – Ronald Reagan

Leadership Goals – 2018-2019 Why be a good leader, when you can be a great one? We decided to use a few strategic keys throughout the year – specifically educate and inform, along with others spread throughout this report – we started with:

Kick off Leadership Training meeting on May 19, 2018 – Highlights were: Running an effective meeting and reading/understanding Dept. Financial statements.

Fall 2018 (14) District Meetings – President Laurie Kuntz handed out a folder with updated information/handouts on the Auxiliary – handing this info to all and not just the unit president in attendance was a chance for us to utilize a leadership quality of listening effectively to prior feedback regarding district meetings.

Next on our list was to revisit our Centennial Plan, Goal 3 – **Develop Leadership at All Levels** – we found a few good things to remember (see below list) and develop across our units – thus spreading leadership using key stakeholders (unit members) to support and contribute.

- Encourage new members to learn about our auxiliary
 - A good start is to memorize and understand the Preamble
- Urge new and old members to volunteer in assisting with unit activities
 - Educate your unit by discussing the Goodwill Ambassador Award – due March 31st
- Be a mentor or friend to a new member, make her feel right away that she is a vital part of the auxiliary
 - Set an example, be the positive role model.

Back to Basics is a guidebook we are updating, revamping and making relevant to our CO units – it is a work in progress and will be rolled out at our CO Convention June 2019.

Productive Instruction is the greatest medium we can use at our Midyear Conference – at our past Breakout Trainings we have had unit members move from committee table to table for interactive teaching; they all had a small craft project to complete or puzzle to do while listening to a committee member discuss particulars – last year presentations by speakers on different committee responsibilities and duties were given in 30 minutes increments.

This Midyear 2019 we are scheduled to have:

Lectures and PowerPoint presentations – including one on relating to Culture of Goodwill and another on Conflict Resolution Training with National Leadership Chairman, Trish Ward. We will end with four 30 minute rotation committee workshops in the afternoon.

The **Building Blocks newsletters** given to us by Melanie Martens, our Northwestern Division Leadership Chair, have provided us numerous avenues to update our CO Leadership webpage and invaluable ideas for units to engage with – we plan on presenting and promoting info starting this January in regards to: The ALA Academy Course, Parliamentary Training with our own, Donna Thompson, COPDP, Taking the Senior Auxiliary Basics quiz, and discussing 5 Common Leadership Mistakes –In our monthly newsletter we will suggest using the Paint Rocks idea as a TEAM building exercise and the importance of promoting the Goodwill Ambassador Award.

Laurie always ends her notes, emails and letters with “Thank you for your PASSION!” we are passionate about the role of leadership in our state and look forward to emulating such to our NW Division, CO Department, local Districts and units!

Happy 2019! *Janelle and Bettina*

2018-2019 Department of CO – Theme: *Veteran Passionate, Remember Everyone Deployed*