




Leadership  
February 2025

Paving the way to build a stronger foundation and support for our Veterans, Military and their families!!!

Happy Chinese New Year!!!! The lunar New Year varies each year for 15 days and ends with a Lantern Festival. This year starts on Jan 29<sup>th</sup>, 2025 with feasts, dances, and fireworks. The animal on the Asian zodiac sign is the snake this year! If you were born in 1929, 1941, 1953, 1965, 1977, 1989, 2001, 2013, 2025 that is your sign. The snake is a creature of wisdom, mystery, good luck, rebirth, regality and transformation. The snake is a strategic thinker and a very observant person. As leadership skills you are resilient, you have a strong interpersonal skill. We all need to be diverse people celebrating many cultures because the United States is a melting pot and important to someone.

Set your goals, aim , take action. Those are the personalities that enjoy how they can improve the program from the ground up and take the rest of the group with them as they help the organization succeed in many ways. When you take on one of the officers positions or chairmanships at unit level, learn the basic requirements

and procedures, including the rules of the road (Constitution & By-Laws). Cover the 4 pillars of our Organization - Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation, National Security, Americanism, and Children and Youth. We have a lot of chairmanships that enhance the Legion's that we should help each other shine, and the other programs we should help support each other. The Sons of American Legion also have some strong support to the Legion Programs and they have some focuses of their own. We need our units and they rank like the branches of military. No matter what we are all green support the foundation and membership. Like the cliché "We are the boots on the ground." As we decide to move up the chain of command, we EVOLVE and we take the basic stones of our foundation. Still processing we make each year our own, built on the interpretation of the highest leader at state level. We have a second leader who also is the National mothership of our organization and we pay tribute to ideas in the highest. The seasoned leaders are our guides to the stars, but they are much more they're giving total support to the changes of the next generations to come. How interesting since each generation is different. The diversity is welcoming.

"Evolve" is the new word as we develop gradually. The needs go from simple to more complex as the years advance, yet time and ages increase automatically and we can not change that. We meet the needs of changes to better our establishment from a military generations stand point.

With that in mind, I highly recommend the following:

- Select your unit member of the year. Write great reviews of her actions with pictures that shows her

best moments. Send those shining stars to me no later than May 1<sup>st</sup>.

- When the leadership team comes to your area, we want you to get on the rocket. **We suggest those members between 20 years and brand new at the unit level to join us.** We will be aiding to answer questions, showing possibilities of growth in leadership and having fun. We then suggest that if you want more, then come to the 3 meetings that the District and Division have. The Department Convention puts together to show and display all of the accomplishments of units for that year. Please let me know if you would like to volunteer your space for each Division area. We can schedule a time March through June. 815-222-3983
- Keep being human with heart and help in the communities, our military and their families, and all of our Veterans with your programs. Keep watching the ALA academy.
- Last Impact reports are coming up, it is not just the Presidents job, it belongs to the whole membership on how your unit was involved. Be there to help and turn in your contribution and donations. It all matters.

See you soon, looking forward to seeing new faces. Get your reports to me at 140 E Russell St, Rockton, IL 61072 or email

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Sue Johnson