



Leadership Link Newsletter

P.O. Box 85224 - Lincoln, NE 68501-5224

June 2002 Volume 6, Issue 11

Annual Awards Luncheon

Come one, Come ALL to the Annual Awards Luncheon on June 4th, 2002 at 11:45 a.m. to be held at the Governor's Mansion lower level, located at 1425 'H' St.



This meeting is where we announce our Manager of the Year Award, Distinguished Recognition Award, and Chapter President's Award winners. Is it possible you were nominated? Are you an Award winner? Do you know who your winner is? Mayor Don Wesely will join us to present the awards.

We are asking that you bring a food item to the meeting for the Lincoln Food Bank. Scott Young, Director of the Food Bank will be there to give us an overview of their organization that serves 16 counties in Southeast Nebraska. All items are welcome but the five most needed items are: canned fruits, macaroni & cheese, sugar, juices and coffee. For those of you who show your support by bringing food items to the meeting, there will be a chance at a surprise DOOR PRIZE!!!



Let's not forget the Installation of Officers for 2002-2003! Your officers for the upcoming year are: President - Colleen Floth; President-Elect - Cindy Lukan; Treasurer - Betty Surls; and Secretary - Joan Ray. There is a short Installation Ceremony - please help our new officers feel welcome in their new positions!

The cost of the luncheon is \$8.50. You may make a reservation by contacting Brenda Wolfe at 441-8051 or email bwolfe@ci.lincoln.ne.us.

Reservations must be received no later than 12 NOON on Friday, May 31, 2002.

Be sure to get your reservation in! Hope to see you at the meeting on June 4!



July Joint Meeting is being held on Thursday, July 11th, 2002, from 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at the Knoll's Restaurant, 2201 Old Cheney Road. The cost of the luncheon is \$11.00 per person. The exciting news is that the speaker for this event is Bill Johnston, Publisher of the Lincoln Journal Star. Contact Brenda Wolfe at 441-8051 or bwolfe@ci.lincoln.ne.us for reservation. The deadline is Tuesday, July 9th for reservations. All guests are welcome!

From The President

Don't Win A Darwin Award With Your Management Style

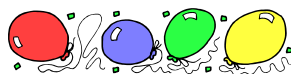
Darwin Awards can be found on line at www.darwinawards.com. They commemorate those who "improve our gene pool by removing themselves from it, in really stupid ways." Remember that Charles Darwin initiated the idea of "survival of the fittest" and that society is constantly weeding out the poor performers. The Darwin site has some grim reminders of the importance of common sense.

If you have a minute, you can review the Darwin Awards for 2002, and even past years. Here's a few of the sad tales about the importance of common sense, that I found:

- a. On January 1, 2002, Antonio and a friend, in Sao Paulo, Brazil, had been drinking. They decided to play Russian Roulette with live fireworks, and tried to see who had the most courage by keeping the live fireworks in their mouth for the longest period of time.
Unfortunately, Antonio won, but ended up dying through his foolish courage.
- b. On March 31, 2002, six robbers in Bangladesh thought they would trap an oncoming vehicle at midnight by closing off the road with their car. The oncoming vehicle was a truck carrying cows, that was unable to stop in time. The truck struck the car and killed the 5 robbers inside, critically wounding the 6th. The driver of the other vehicle was fine, although one cow also was killed in the accident.
- c. An 1863 Darwin Award goes to Clement Vallandingham. He was a lawyer after the Civil War, and represented a client on trial for murder. The accused man's defense was that the victim had drawn his own gun in such a way that caused it to fire, killing the victim by his own hand.
To prove this defense, Vallandingham demonstrated the victim's method of drawing with his own gun. Unfortunately, his loaded weapon went off, killing Vallandingham but proving his point. That's why we try never to recreate accidents!

Remember, good management should also use good common sense. Don't become a Darwin Award. statistic. Stay on track, be reasonable and prudent, and plan ahead. Stay in the gene pool and make it better!!

-Bill Kostner



Congratulations!



Way to go Cindy Lujan !! Cindy is the winner of the name tag drawing from the May 7th meeting!! Will you be the next winner of a free meal at a meeting? Attend the June meeting and find out ! All it takes is to attend the meeting and to put your name tag in the drawing.

Congratulations to Larry Williams!!! Larry won the \$30.00 Pot of Gold at the May 7th meeting! This means that the Pot of Gold returns to \$10.00 for the June meeting. You still have to be there to win that \$10.00 and all members names are in the drawing. Will you be the winner at the June Meeting?



April 17th, 2002
County/City Building, Room 106

Bill Kostner taking minutes for the absent Cindy Lujan.
In attendance, we had Betty Surls, Bill Kostner, Bob Lundberg, Colleen Floth, Jeff Hatcher, Mary Johnson, Steve Owen, Terry Storer & Tom Baumann.

1. I called the meeting to order
2. We discussed the ballot issue and agreed that if the slate is selected in time for the newsletter, to put that in the newsletter with a ballot. If not, we will bring this up at the next regular meeting. If there are other candidates named at that meeting, we will have a ballot at the regular meeting. If no one else is named, we will voice vote on the named slate.
3. I talked about the conference, new members and the joint meeting. we are working to have Bill Johnston, Publisher of the Lincoln Journal Star in July at the Knolls.
4. Colleen Floth said she is working with you on CEU's for an employment seminar they are planning.
5. Mary Johnson said she had only 3 nominations. We discussed the increased deadline to May 13th for Mgr of the Year & Distinguished Service nominations. Mary is to look for possible awards at Awards Unlimited.
6. Tom Baumann found a number of applications in the mailbox and we voted to accept EJ Cole, Loree Cook, Renee Savidge, Diane Gonzales, Randy Bohaty & Joan Ross - if they were not already members... Tom also provided checks of \$150 to Bill, Terri & Cindy for the conference.
7. Jeff Hatcher talked about a possible charity event before the end of the year. Jeff will look at this and get back to the board.
8. Betty Surls talked about all the new members she has talked to , to include Mandy Guo, Marsha Rodaway and Pam Gadenken.
9. Steve Owen said he projected the Ethics program for June, and the Meeting management at a later date. Steve has also been working with the state chapter as a coordinator for the CM classes.
10. Terri Storer talked about the NMA Nebraskaland Council Representatives. Cindy and Colleen are the only 2 representatives at present. Colleen will be handling with the next board.
11. Bob Lundberg had nothing further. Bill asked Bob if he would induct the new board in June. Bob said he thought he could do that and we will work with Bob as the time gets nearer.

-Bill Kostner

Welcome New Members

Please take the time to welcome all of our new members. These include the following:



Colleen Andrews

Service Coordinator
Aging Services

Peggy Apthorpe

Lifetime Health Program Mgr
Aging, LIFE

Welcome All !!

Suzanne's Simple Rules of

Management... Or
What I've Learned Having
Been Beaten Up By Years of

Experience!

For those of you who were unable to make it to the May monthly membership meeting, you missed an enjoyable speaker in Suzanne Mahel Tyrrell. She had a lot of energy as a speaker and as a person making her presentation very interesting and lively to listen to.! Here are her rules (without their full explanations):

- Hire for personality – train for skills.
- Hire good people - then give them the responsibility & the power to the do job.
- Don't kick yourself for a bad hiring choice
- Be a resource and problem solver - but not a micromanager
- Maximize the talents of your left-brained and right-brained people.
- Say "yes" more than "no"
- Absolutely NEVER shoot the messenger
- Be Switzerland . . . be neutral
- Don't cut off your nose to spite your face
- Keep your staff informed
- Be decisive . . .make decisions promptly
- Follow the "what's the worst that can happen" concept . . . don't be afraid to try something new
- Read . . . and have your staff read, too
- Keep educating yourself and your staff
- Buy everybody's favorite pen . . and keep plenty on hand
- Send flowers (or some kind of remembrance) on birthdays
- Don't hesitate to do some special short-term goals
- Review people annually
- Use positive discipline, when necessary
- Remember. . .everyone can be replaced (even you!)
- Avoid personal friendships within the office
- Cross-train
- Eat lunch
- Take vacations
- Make the work place fun
- Keep your cool and hold your anger . NEVER scream or yell
- Be a person of character ... be a good example
- Treat everyone as you would want to be treated.

Should you ever have a chance to hear Suzanne speak, I encourage you to take that chance.

Cindy Lujan

Trial Membership Program

Are you interested in becoming a Leadership Link member? There is still time to join under the Trial Membership Program! That's Correct! The Trial Membership Program is still in effect until the end of June with the dues starting to come out of your paycheck at the beginning of July.

Remember, there will be no initiation fee if you join under the Trial Membership Program, No Dues until the beginning of July and after that dues are only \$6.00 per month and you can set up dues to come out of your paycheck automatically.



Members – Give your chapter a hand! If you know anybody that would make a good member, get in touch with Betty Surls at 441-7459 for the paper work, and give that paper work to your friend to see if they might be interested in joining. Right now it costs them nothing! They can come to one monthly meeting for free just to see if they are interested.

Can You Lend a Hand?

We are beginning a new year at Leadership Link, changing Officers and Chairpersons, and looking for additional volunteers to work on the different Committees. Some of our volunteers will want to take a break so we will need to re-staff our Committees – can you lend a hand? The Committees are: Awards, Member Relations, Program Development, Professional Development, Public Relations, and Community Services.



Member Relations works on getting new members but also takes the reservations for the meetings and checks people in as they come to the meetings; Program Development is in charge of getting the speakers and works on where the meeting takes place; Professional Development sets up the workshops for the year - but it takes quite a bit of work; Public Relations is the newsletter and any other announcements that we are asked to help on and we may be getting a website; Community Services is the activities that individuals and the group participate in - like the Big Brothers Big Sisters Bowl-a-thon, Walk-a-Thons, and many other events that individual members do; Awards is helping with advertising and selecting the award winners.

So, if you are interested, please contact Bill Kostner at 441-6009 or Cindy Lukan at 441-7474 or clukan@ci.lincoln.ne.us

Calendar of Events

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| June 4 | 11:45 a.m. | Monthly Membership Meeting at Governor's Mansion – Annual Awards Meeting
Manager of Year Award; Distinguished Recognition Award; President's Award;
Installation of Officers for 2002-2003 |
| June 11 | 8:30 a.m. | Employee Workshop
More Than a Smile: Providing Exceptional Customer Service
Presented by: Continuum - Deb Buhro
at County Extension; To Enroll, Contact Melodie at 441-7505 or mmontiel@ci.lincoln.ne.us |
| June 19 | 11:30 a.m. | Leadership Link Executive Board Meeting, County/City Building, Room 106 |
| June 26 | 12:30 pm | Leadership Link & Doane College Presents a Workshop titled:
"Ethics in Public Service", @ Doane College, 303 N. 52 nd St.,
Registration & box lunch @ 11:30 am., RSVP indicate beef, ham or turkey for sandwich
RSVP to Steve Owen @ 441-7867 or sowen@ci.lincoln.ne.us
Cost is \$10.00 for Members and \$15.00 for Non-Members |
| July 11 | 11:30 a.m. | Joint Chapter Meeting at Knolls Restaurant, 2201 Old Cheney Road
Bill Johnston, Publisher, Lincoln Journal Star
Cost is \$11.00; RSVP to Brenda Wolfe @ 441-8051 or bwolfe@ci.lincoln.ne.us
By Tuesday, July 9, 2002 GUESTS ARE WELCOME !! |