A note from Steve Bailey, NMA President

Greetings Nebraskaland Council Members!

From Dayton, OH, to our good friends in Nebraska and Iowa, surely SPRING is SOMEWHERE around the corner. It’s as if Mother Nature decided to throw both ends of the Midwest into turmoil in 2014 with extra snow, sleet, and other “surprises”. But NMA members are a hardy lot – we tough it out and live on to “lead another day”.

Congratulations to Sandy, Brad, and others for starting this Council newsletter. It’s a great idea and proof that just because we’ve had to hibernate this winter, the juices haven’t stopped flowing! I love the fact that the Nebraskaland Council is looking for new ways to share information, pass along best practices, and learn from each other.

When I look out over our chapters nationwide, I find that they operate best when they are COHESIVE – when they celebrate the bonds that link them to one another, individually, and the chapters, collectively. It’s about “engagement”, really – that big new buzzword for this decade.

Truly, though, when we all feel part of something larger, we are more inclined to participate and work harder to stay connected with one another. I am confident that this newsletter will foster that kind of environment.

The goals of your chapters are the same – to provide opportunities for personal and professional growth to your members. So why NOT find a new vehicle for identifying your successes and “stealing shamelessly” from one another when it comes to programming, community service, and educational activities. None of us is as smart of all of us, you know!

What you do as NMA leaders matters. We’re about ready to charter a new chapter in Denver and I recently asked the steering committee why they were forming an NMA chapter. One lady spoke right up and said, “Because we want to have more say in our own growth and personal development. The company may own our jobs, but we own our careers!” I couldn’t say it better myself.

So good luck to all of you and best wishes with this newsletter. And, take heart – Spring will be here before we know it.

NMA Mission Statement

NMA offers leadership development products and creates opportunities that maximize the potential of our members, sponsoring organizations, and communities.
Welcome to the inaugural issue of the NMA Nebraskaland Council Newsletter, WISE COUNCIL. A catchy name we can all hopefully make an applicable one. Brad Wilson was brave enough to co-edit the publication with me 😊 We hope you’ll share it with all your chapter members each quarter.

For those who don’t know me, I’m a member of Lennox Leadership Development Organization in Marshalltown, IA. I’ve been an NMA member 7 years, and have held several offices and served on almost all of the committees in our chapter since joining. I’ve been on the council for at least the past 4 years.

Our hope is this newsletter will bring cohesiveness to the council, be a tool for sharing information about our chapters, NMA, and a resource for building our organization into a stronger, closer, more effective organization.

The council focus this year is not only becoming a closer organization, but also increasing membership. Many factors contributed to the difficulties chapters have faced with declining memberships in recent years, but we still have a pool of potential members to draw from. Our hope is by combining the efforts of the chapters within our council, we can experience good, if not phenomenal growth in the coming year. Growth and increased participation by new and existing members.

Lofty goals I know, but well worth the effort if we can help people to utilize the tools NMA provides members to grow in their personal and professional lives.

So onward and upward gang! As president I crave your input on what we can do to make this a council that addresses the needs of our chapters. Please don’t hesitate to contribute ideas, suggestions, or to get involved!

Have a blessed day!

Sandra Holubar, Council President

David Hanson, NMA National Director

The Nebraskaland Council has been part of my routine for several years now. It started when I was my chapter’s Vice President elect. I drove from Marshalltown to Lincoln with several others in the company van to attend the Mini-LDC. I learned a lot, got excited about NMA and made friends.

I continued through my term as President. I was active with council activities, shared what Lennox LDO was doing, and I made friends with my fellow delegates.

With fear and trepidation I took on the role as National Director.

The role is more mentoring and helping but it is with friends. From manufacturing engineers, to correctional officers, to state revenue agents and librarians we meet, we learn, we share and we are the better for it.

In this first Nebraskaland Council newsletter I wish to say hello to my friends. It is an honor to be a part of this new newsletter and to be a part of the Nebraskaland Council.
Just Off The Podium

They have trained for hours, days, weeks, months, and years. The sacrifices have been made. The injuries have healed. The equipment has been perfected. The moment is finally here: The Olympics! For some it is the last time they will ever be on the Olympic stage and for others their career has just begun. Each athlete has one goal in mind …to win the gold medal and watch their country flag be raised while hearing their national anthem. But not everyone is a winner, for the 4th place finishers the heartache is deep and profound. They are just off the podium. They didn’t cross the finish line fast enough or get the highest score…so close to being on the podium and receiving that Bronze, Silver, or Gold medal. So incredibly close to being forever known as the Bronze, Silver or Gold medalist in their sport that they worked so hard in.

So what makes them a leader? They get back up. They brush off the dirt and try again. Bobsledder, Lolo Jones, did not get on the podium in Sochi but her teammates did. She cheered them on, took their picture and shouted U-S-A as they took the podium. In an interview she says, “The lesson in humbleness is definitely gold for sure.” Lolo is just one example of the leadership that has shined through in these Winter Olympics. For Nordic Combined athlete, Todd Lodwick, he says this, “It’s the Olympic rings, it’s the Olympic Games,” he said. "This being my sixth, I’ve really learned how to take it all in, what the five rings represent and what the American flag represents. Not only for myself, but for people back home, and the pride that they see every four years.”

So how can we as members of the National Management Association take the lessons learned in Sochi and become better leaders in our organization? We can realize that not everything will go as planned but we get back up and keep on going. We can continue to strive for the Gold medal: building membership, creating Professional Development opportunities that our members want, engaging in the community and cheering each other. The podium doesn’t have to be 4/1000 of a second away – it is in our reach, so go for it and don’t give up!

By using the NMA Leadership Model as a focal point, NMA provides many convenient ways to learn new skills through classroom and online participation, informally from the member network, or through leading chapter activities.
NYC firefighter tells 9/11 survival story to Lennox L.D.O.

When the South Tower collapsed on Sept. 11, 2001, New York City firefighter Joe Torrillo was buried under rubble. It was pitch black, he heard screaming from people and thought there was only a question of how, not if, he was going to die. "I was hoping I would suffocate before I burned to death," Torrillo said.

He eventually was rescued only to be buried again while on a rescue boat when the North Tower fell an hour later. He suffered multiple broken bones and other severe injuries, but was able to recover. He was wearing another firefighter’s uniform that day and wasn’t correctly identified for some time after being admitted to the hospital. Torrillo, who is now retired, told his story of survival, leadership and motivation to the Lennox Leadership Development Organization.

He was working as head of fire safety education on 9/11 and on his way to a press conference to announce the launch of a new toy based on an NYC firefighter, when he saw a plane hit the World Trade Towers. He rushed to the scene to help his former fellow firefighters and saw the second plane pass over head and hit the other tower. "I'm not a hero, I just did a job that day," Torrillo said

Torrillo now speaks throughout the country about his experience that day. He also plans to testify this fall for the prosecution of five terrorists involved in the 9/11 plot. Torrillo said one thing he is adamant against is the notion that 9/11 was a conspiracy planned by the U.S. government. "The terrorists absolutely orchestrated what they did," Torrillo said. His theory on why the planes hit the building so high is that Osama Bin Laden was an engineer, and he thought hitting a tall structure built with lots of steel for support high, would push it off balance causing it to fall forward. If the towers had fallen forward they would've wiped out a ½ mile of city, including the NY Stock Exchange. However the buildings collapsed down because of the materials used for construction. Torrillo knew this because he interned as an engineer at the twin towers when they were being built. He ran into the buildings that day knowing they’d collapse.

He said he feels building on the site of the World Trade Towers, with One World Trade Center, was the right thing to do, but fears it will also become a target in the future. "I think it would have been wrong to not have rebuilt the site," Torrillo said. "I think it's a symbol of our resiliency."

Excerpts from an article by Andrew Potter - Staff Writer Times-Republican Used by permission.
NMA Code of Ethics

- I will recognize that all individuals inherently desire to practice their occupations to the best of their ability
- I will assume that all individuals want to do their best
- I will maintain a broad and balanced outlook and will recognize value in the ideas and opinions of others
- I will be guided in all my activities by truth, accuracy, fair dealing and good taste
- I will keep informed on the latest developments in techniques, equipment, and processes
- I will recommend or initiate methods to increase productivity and efficiency
- I will support efforts to strengthen the management profession through training and education
- I will help my associates reach personal and professional fulfillment
- I will earn and carefully guard my reputation for good moral character and good citizenship
- I will promote the principles of our Free Enterprise System to others, by highlighting its accomplishments and displaying confidence in its future
- I will recognize that leadership is a call to service

Nebraska State Government - Lincoln, NE
Ken Jurek, President

On the blustery day of February 20, the Nebraska State Government Chapter of NMA and Leadership Link co-sponsored the annual NMA Speech contest at the Nebraska Governor’s Mansion in Lincoln, Nebraska. Judith Hudgins, State Chapter, was the person in charge of the contest.

There were five students who competed for the awards and all did a very credible job discussing various issues on the topic of Leadership. The judges and timers for the contest were volunteers, most of whom were members of the local Toastmasters Club.

After a great deal of deliberation the winners were selected. The first prize winner, Allegra Hardin from David City, was awarded a check for $300 and she will compete at the regional NMA Speech Contest in Houston and possibly at the national contest. The second and third place winners were both from Seward, Alexa Bruick and Will Helmer; and they received checks in the amount of $200 and $100 respectively. The other two contestants, Joshua Behlen and Emily Siebrandt, from Seward also gave good speeches.

Despite the dreary day, the contest was a great success.
Greetings from Beatrice!

The Southeast Nebraska Community Chapter, like the saying goes, will “ROAR” into March by meeting at the Beatrice Chamber of Commerce Offices to learn about Chamber and Gage County Tourism activities for the coming year. It is our annual visit to a local site of interest. The chamber offices happen to be the former Beatrice Public Library and a renovated Carnegie building!

The chapter grew by 3 members in December. During the next couple of months we will be working on our awards for 2014 and our slate of officers for 2014-2015!

We do not expect to go out like a “lamb” at the end of the month, but we all would appreciate warmer weather soon!

Over the next quarter or so Leadership Link will be holding lunch-time meetings in March and April, and new officers will be installed in June. The speaker for the March 20th meeting is Miki Esposito, Director of Public Works & Utilities for the City of Lincoln. The topic of the meeting is “Management: Best Practices.” Miki manages the largest of the City’s departments and she will be discussing how she has implemented change since she was appointed to the position by Mayor Beutler in 2010. The speaker and program for the April meeting has not been determined. (We alternate sponsoring meetings with the Nebraska State Government Chapter and March and April are our scheduled months.)

At the March meeting we also plan to present the Program Manager and the Teamwork Awards, which are open to all City and County employees, not just Leadership Link members. In April, officers and members who volunteer will assemble Easter treat cups to be distributed to approximately 70 underprivileged youth aged 3 to 5. (Several times a year we select community groups that we can contribute to in some small way.) In April, we will also host our Executive Advisors to discuss progress and plans for the chapter and ways to recruit and retain memberships. Of course we are recruiting all the time and providing incentives such as very favorable breaks ($5 for members versus $10 for nonmembers with the idea that that should encourage people to join and pay the monthly dues), providing free lunches to members who recruit a new member, waiving chapter initiation fees and paying the national NMA initiation fee, and we are exploring other incentives to bring in new members.

In June, we will install new officers at a meeting held at the Governor’s Mansion.

Leadership Link - Lincoln, NE,
Steve Frederick, Co-President
March is off to a cold start, but Lennox Leadership is hot and running. So far this month we’ve participated in the Marshalltown CAN-DO Competition project which is to benefit the Emergency Food Box of Marshall County in Marshalltown. The truck is made from food cans (900+), which are then donated to the food bank. March 11th we have our speech contest with four contestants. The book club is reviewing the book “Integrity- the courage to meet the
demands of reality”, by Henry Cloud. Our quest speaker for the March chapter meeting will be Kristin Bruchmann, speaking on Mentoring Future Leaders.

We are also involved in the Special Olympics, Bowling for Kids, and the Miller School Art Show by judging the art work and selecting art pieces to display here at Lennox for a year.
NMA Spousal Member Program

This is a special category of NMA membership open to spouses/partners/and significant others of current, dues-paying NMA members...whether they be Individual Members or belong to an NMA chapter. To be eligible for this category of membership, you must reside at the same physical location of the NMA member in good standing.

Spousal membership dues are $25/year and are paid directly to NMA...NOT to any existing chapter of the Association. There is no Registration Fee...it has been waived for Spousal Members. Chapters are free to develop their own programs for spouses if they so desire. This Program is a national membership in the national organization only. For more information visit www.nma1.org.

Foundations of Management Certificate Program

Foundations of Management (FoM) was created by ICPM specifically for entry level managers, supervisors and team leads. Its purpose is to establish a foundation in management practice to aid employees transitioning to management roles.

The FoM certificate program provides essential knowledge and tools for new managers, supervisors, and team leads. FoM's fundamental management concepts and practices can be put to use in the workplace right away to help employees to gain confidence in their new role. FoM is the product of a comprehensive Job Task Analysis study to identify the knowledge, skills, and abilities managers and supervisors need to perform competently on-the-job.

There are no eligibility requirements for the FoM program. Participants can register online at any time by registering for an account on the ICPM website and purchasing the FoM program materials through ICPM's online store.
9 Things Great Leaders Say Every Day

BY BILL MURPHY JR.

People judge you by what you do--and by what you say. Here are nine phrases that should roll off your lips every single day.

Your words are among your greatest tools. They're a window into your vision, your values and your abilities. So, whether you're running a giant organization or just trying to herd a group toward a certain outcome, there are messages you need to communicate constantly in order to lead effectively.

Start every day planning to say each of these things to at least one person, and watch the results:

1. This is the situation.
People want to know what's going on. Odds are, they'll find out anyway, or worse, fill in the gaps with conjecture. When you keep important things excessively close, you sap morale, rob yourself of your team's insights, and make people feel undervalued. Sound crazy to let them in on everything? Walmart founder Sam Walton did it for decades, and he did okay.

2. Here is the plan.
A leader is supposed to lead. People will offer great suggestions, especially if you're saying and doing everything else on this list, but you need to be able to make decisions and stand behind them. Your team needs to know where you're trying to take them, and how. Also, don't forget the crucial corollary: You need to be able to say "no," especially to moves that would be inconsistent with your plan.

3. What do you need?
This is crucial for two reasons. First, people need to know that you care about them on personal and professional levels, and that you want them to succeed. Second, if you've put together a great plan, you need to leverage every person's abilities to the maximum extent possible. If they are not able to give it their all, you want to know why.

4. Tell me more.
Let people know you're more interested in finding good answers than hearing yourself speak. Give others implicit permission to share their opinions--or heck, invite them explicitly, if you have to. Staying quiet is an invitation for others to offer ideas and insights.

5. Remember our values.
You can't possibly stare over the shoulder of every person making decisions that affect your organization, but you can remind them to make choices that the rest of their team will be proud of. Reminding people of your values requires, of course, that you can actually articulate shared values.

6. I trust you.
If you can't trust the people on your team, then they shouldn't be on your team. You need to trust their integrity, their judgment, their confidence and their passion--and you need to ensure that they understand how much you depend on them.

7. You can count on me.
The flip side of that last point is true as well. If your team can't trust you, they shouldn't do you the great honor of letting you lead them. So tell them you've got their back, and then work like hell to fulfill the promises you make.

8. We can do better.
One of the toughest, most crucial parts of leadership is to push your team to a higher standard than they might set for themselves. That means congratulating them when they do well, but also not coddling them when they don't live up to their potential. It also means admitting when you fail to live up to those standards, too.

9. Let's celebrate!
Don't create a culture in which the only reward for great work is more work. Instead, make it a practice to celebrate your wins, both large and small. This can mean big parties and bonuses, but it can be just as important to call people out for great work and congratulate them for their milestones--both professional and personal.

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