



Leadership
East Palo Alto Unit 472
American Legion Auxiliary
Department of California

Lou Thompson, Chairman
December 2007



**Please take a few moments to answer the questions below.
Circle all the answers that best apply. ***

Why are you active?

- **I find the work rewarding because . . .** I know I'm helping those who might find it hard to help themselves, I'm dedicated to supporting veterans and their families because I know I could just as easily be among them, I want to honor the men and women in my life who have sacrificed for my freedoms, I just like the work.
- **The ALA provides skills I can use in my business or volunteer life . . .** the leadership skills I gain are amazing, being an officer prepares me to be a leader in other organizations, practicing integrity, developing myself.
- **I believe that working with the women of the ALA . . .** makes me stronger, encourages me to be a leader, allows me to expand my ability to give back to those who have given so much for me, increases my friendships, puts me in close proximity to powerful women who are making a difference in the world.
- **I am challenged by the work of the ALA because . . .** it enables me to experience teamwork, it's exciting to find new ways to support my community, sometimes I'm asked to be a little uncomfortable as I reach for a new level of commitment.

Why aren't you active?

- **Unit business is really boring . . .** yes, no.
- **I just can't make the meetings because . . .** I'm working, I'm watching television, I'm still at work, it's 10 PM where I live, I don't want to, I don't feel like I have a voice, the meetings move too slowly for me, the meetings move too quickly for me, I don't know how to access the Internet and the programs necessary to be active, I don't have an excuse.
- **It's not possible for me to write a report/bulletin because . . .** I don't know how, I really don't care, Sherry asked me to be a chairman and I said yes just to get her off my back, I don't want to take the time to learn about the program so I can teach others.
- **I don't financially support the Unit because . . .** I'm not able to at this time, I don't want to, I have better organizations to support, I just don't donate to any organizations.
- **I don't report the work I do on behalf of veterans and their families because . . .** I don't do any work for these folks, I don't want to report what I do (it's a big secret like a random act of kindness), I don't think veterans and their families need my support, I just don't know how to begin supporting veterans and families.
- **Being active is hard for me because . . .** I really need more guidance and leadership, I'm the type that needs one-on-one support, I'm just too busy with other activities, I only joined because my friend made me, I just want to pay my dues.

“Greatness comes from understanding limits.”

*George Will, a Pulitzer Prize-winning,
conservative American newspaper columnist,
journalist, and author.*

** If you want to respond, please send your answers, concerns, comments to the Leadership Chairman.*