

**2024**  
**Mid-Winter**  
**LEADERSHIP Conference**  
American Legion Auxiliary Department of New York



**Be A**  
**Beacon of Light!**

**Linda Tome**

# Are You Growing Your Leadership?

**Linda S. Tome**  
**2024 Mid-Winter Leadership Conference**

# Agenda

- What is the key to good leadership?
- What are the qualities of a good leader?
- Where do you find good leaders?
- Once you find them, then what?
- How do YOU step back?
- What are your next steps?

# Key to Good Leadership

## What do **you** think is key to good leadership?

Based on the National ALA's definition, the key to good leadership is to:

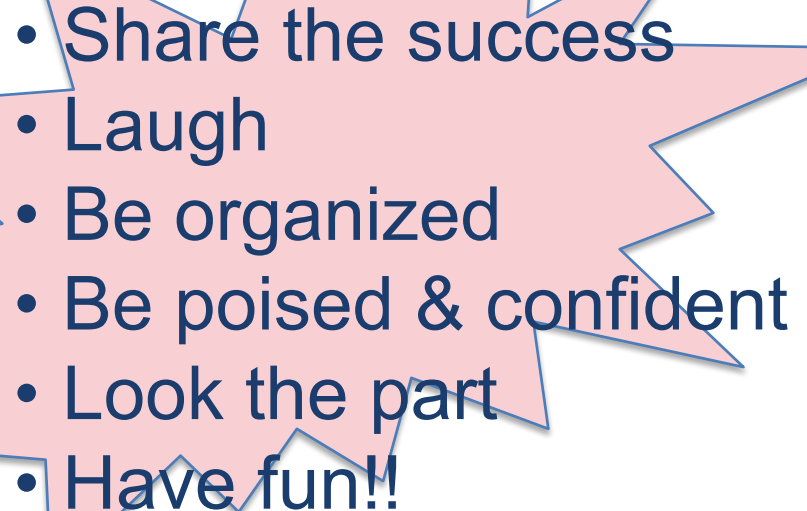
- build confidence in those you lead
- treat all members with dignity and respect
- be a good listener.

No matter the experience, education, or technical skills, anyone can be trained to be a leader if they are willing to make a commitment, devote their time and energy to listen, learn, and communicate.

# Qualities of a Good Leader

What do **you** think are some qualities/abilities of a good leader?

- Knowledgeable
- Good Imagination
- Sound thinking
- Hard working
- Desire
- Positive attitude

- 
- Share the success
  - Laugh
  - Be organized
  - Be poised & confident
  - Look the part
  - Have fun!!

# Where Do You Find Good Leaders

- Look within your own organization

## PROGRAM FOCUSED (examples):

- ALA EGS
- Juniors
- VA&R
- Children & Youth

## MEMBER SUPPORT COMMITTEES (examples):

- Constitution & Bylaws
- Leadership
- Membership
- Public Relations
- ALA Foundation

- Mission Outreach - Look at other organizations with the same interests
  - VFW
  - Blue Star Families
  - Gold Star Mothers
  - VAMC Volunteers

# But Wait . . .

## Let's face the facts!

- You can't do it all
- Avoid a domineering leadership style
- Make it a priority to work well WITH your group
- We are all volunteers
- Involve every member of your group
- Encourage, teach and develop the leadership potential in each member
- Believe in yourself



# Once you find them, then what?

- Don't scare or overwhelm them!
- Start mentoring
- Prepare a notebook w/expectations
- Request that you sit with your successor
- Encourage to attend County, District and Department meetings
- Encourage to view the ALA Academy courses
- Encourage to attend Mission Training

# How Do You Step Back?

- Don't just leave!
- Continue to provide support / mentoring if requested
- Continue to provide support – on the QT if necessary
- Be involved but don't continue to say “when I was President, Secretary . . .”
- Encourage new ideas
- Continue to provide resources
- Encourage members to support new leadership

# What Are Your Next Steps?

## FOR YOU – PERSONALLY

If interested in planning for a leadership position for yourself

- Create your personal leadership development plan to develop skills that will help you become a positive influence on others to serve the ALA mission.

- Areas for self-improvement
- Ways you can practice your new skills
- A list of people whom you can ask for help
- Ways to hold yourself accountable for improving
- Target dates for evaluating your progress

# What Are Your Next Steps?

## FOR THE ORGANIZATION

Have you thought about working on a Succession Plan?

- People are the most important asset for mission success
  - ✓ People will inevitably leave
  - ✓ Need to minimize leadership gaps
  - ✓ Identify potential leaders to mentor
  - ✓ Develop leaders for smooth transition



## **REMEMBER:**

**A leader can lead only as far as they have traveled themselves!**



 AMERICAN  
**LEGION**  
AUXILIARY



**YOUR FEEDBACK MATTERS!**

**LEADERSHIP IS ABOUT BEING  
THE LIGHT THAT OTHERS  
LOOK TO WHEN IN DISTRESS.**



**SCAN ME**

*Scan the code above or use the paper provided to complete an evaluation after each session or complete multiple evaluations at once at the end!*



**2024**  
**Mid-Winter**  
**LEADERSHIP Conference**  
American Legion Auxiliary Department of New York



**PS I LOVE YOU  
DAY!**

**Jaimie and Brooke  
DiPalma**

BE THE ONE

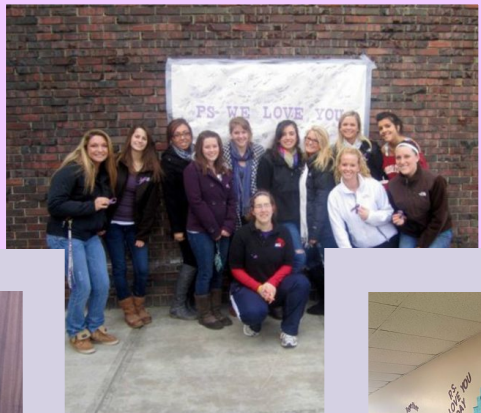
P.S. I LOVE YOU DAY

NYALA LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE



# JAIMIE DIPALMA

CO-FOUNDER OF P.S. I LOVE YOU DAY



# BROOKE DIPALMA

CO-FOUNDER OF P.S. I LOVE YOU DAY



GOING PUBLIC



CAVA SHARES JUMP FROM \$22 PRICING IN NYSE IPO



DOWNLOAD THE APP TODAY



# WHAT IS P.S. I LOVE YOU DAY?



# OUR FAMILY



P.S. I LOVE  
YOU DAY

# WHAT IS P.S. I LOVE YOU DAY?

- **LOSING** A LOVED ONE
- FINDING **RESILIENCE**
- TAKING ACTION TO **MAKE A CHANGE**



# NEARLY 600 COMMUNITIES LATER..





# P.S. I LOVE YOU DAY THROUGH THE YEARS

2011: P.S. I LOVE YOU

2012: P.S. I LOVE YOU

2013: SAVE A LIFE WITH LOVE

2014: LET THE LOVE IN

2015: LOVE THE LIFE YOU LIVE

2016: LOVE IS ENDLESS

2017: LOVE IS UNIVERSAL

2018: GO THE EXTRA MILE

2019: BE PROUD OF WHO YOU  
ARE

2020: YOUR STORY IS WORTH  
TELLING

2021: TOGETHER WE WILL RISE

2022: ONE STEP AT A TIME

2023: LOVE ALL YOUR  
CHAPTERS



2024 SLOGAN:  
LOVE IS MEANT TO BE GIVEN.

We encourage you to realize the importance of giving love to  
yourself, others and the world.

When you treat yourself with care and love, you will see and  
feel the world around you change.



P.S. I LOVE  
YOU DAY

# LET'S TALK!



What was a time where you felt that you could overcome anything?

Write down one coping mechanism that you used to help you during a difficult time.

Reflect on a time where you leaned on someone special on your life to help you.



# MEDITATION



# HOW CAN YOU JOIN US?

- always know you can share how you are feeling with others.
- SPREAD KINDNESS.
- WEAR PURPLE EVERY SECOND FRIDAY OF FEBRUARY.



# AFFIRMATION HEARTS



# ACTIVITY TO TAKE BACK TO YOUR UNITS

## LOVE TO SELF:

- WRITE A POSITIVE MESSAGE FOR YOURSELF.
- WHEN YOU NEED AN UPLIFTING MESSAGE, POSITIVE SELF-TALK OR AFFIRMATION. FOLD THE NOTE INTO AN ORIGAMI HEART AND KEEP WITH YOU.
- OPEN UP WHENEVER YOU NEED A BOOST.



 AMERICAN  
**LEGION**  
AUXILIARY



**YOUR FEEDBACK MATTERS!**

**BE ENTHUSIASTIC AS A LEADER.  
YOU CAN'T LIGHT A FIRE WITH A  
WET MATCH.**



**SCAN ME**

*Scan the code above or use the paper provided to complete an evaluation after each session or complete multiple evaluations at once at the end!*



**2024**  
**Mid-Winter**  
**LEADERSHIP Conference**  
American Legion Auxiliary Department of New York



**PS I LOVE YOU  
DAY!**

**Jaimie and Brooke  
DiPalma**

A decorative border of purple hearts with black outlines surrounds a central purple rectangle. The hearts are scattered across a white background.

BE THE ONE

P.S. I LOVE YOU DAY

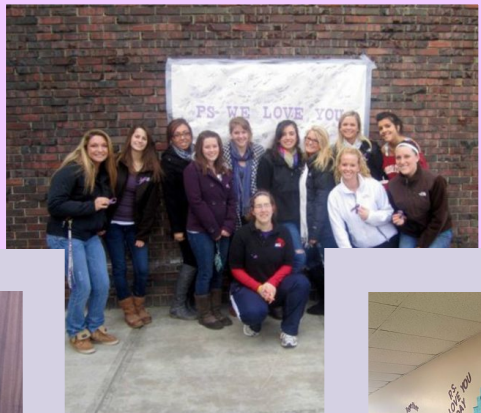
NYALA LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE

A logo consisting of two interlocking hearts, one slightly larger than the other, forming a continuous shape.

P.S. I LOVE  
YOU DAY

# JAIMIE DIPALMA

CO-FOUNDER OF P.S. I LOVE YOU DAY



# BROOKE DIPALMA

CO-FOUNDER OF P.S. I LOVE YOU DAY



GOING PUBLIC

**yahoo!**  
finance

CAVA SHARES JUMP FROM  
\$22 PRICING IN NYSE IPO



DOWNLOAD  
THE APP TODAY



PS. I LOVE  
YOU DAY

# WHAT IS P.S. I LOVE YOU DAY?



# OUR FAMILY



P.S. I LOVE  
YOU DAY

# WHAT IS P.S. I LOVE YOU DAY?

- **LOSING** A LOVED ONE
- FINDING **RESILIENCE**
- TAKING ACTION TO **MAKE A CHANGE**



# NEARLY 600 COMMUNITIES LATER..





# P.S. I LOVE YOU DAY THROUGH THE YEARS

2011: P.S. I LOVE YOU

2012: P.S. I LOVE YOU

2013: SAVE A LIFE WITH LOVE

2014: LET THE LOVE IN

2015: LOVE THE LIFE YOU LIVE

2016: LOVE IS ENDLESS

2017: LOVE IS UNIVERSAL

2018: GO THE EXTRA MILE

2019: BE PROUD OF WHO YOU  
ARE

2020: YOUR STORY IS WORTH  
TELLING

2021: TOGETHER WE WILL RISE

2022: ONE STEP AT A TIME

2023: LOVE ALL YOUR  
CHAPTERS



2024 SLOGAN:  
LOVE IS MEANT TO BE GIVEN.

We encourage you to realize the importance of giving love to  
yourself, others and the world.

When you treat yourself with care and love, you will see and  
feel the world around you change.



# LET'S TALK!



What was a time where you felt that you could overcome anything?

Write down one coping mechanism that you used to help you during a difficult time.

Reflect on a time where you leaned on someone special on your life to help you.



# MEDITATION



P.S. I LOVE  
YOU DAY

# HOW CAN YOU JOIN US?

- always know you can share how you are feeling with others.
- SPREAD KINDNESS.
- WEAR PURPLE EVERY SECOND FRIDAY OF FEBRUARY.



# AFFIRMATION HEARTS



# ACTIVITY TO TAKE BACK TO YOUR UNITS

## LOVE TO SELF:

- WRITE A POSITIVE MESSAGE FOR YOURSELF.
- WHEN YOU NEED AN UPLIFTING MESSAGE, POSITIVE SELF-TALK OR AFFIRMATION. FOLD THE NOTE INTO AN ORIGAMI HEART AND KEEP WITH YOU.
- OPEN UP WHENEVER YOU NEED A BOOST.



 AMERICAN  
**LEGION**  
AUXILIARY



**YOUR FEEDBACK MATTERS!**

**BE ENTHUSIASTIC AS A LEADER.  
YOU CAN'T LIGHT A FIRE WITH A  
WET MATCH.**



**SCAN ME**

*Scan the code above or use the paper provided to complete an evaluation after each session or complete multiple evaluations at once at the end!*



**2024**  
**Mid-Winter**  
**LEADERSHIP Conference**  
American Legion Auxiliary Department of New York



**PS I LOVE YOU  
DAY!**

**Jaimie and Brooke  
DiPalma**

BE THE ONE

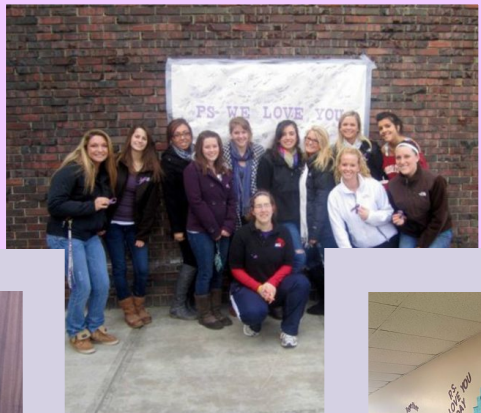
P.S. I LOVE YOU DAY

NYALA LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE



# JAIMIE DIPALMA

CO-FOUNDER OF P.S. I LOVE YOU DAY



# BROOKE DIPALMA

CO-FOUNDER OF P.S. I LOVE YOU DAY



GOING PUBLIC

**yahoo!**  
finance

CAVA SHARES JUMP FROM  
\$22 PRICING IN NYSE IPO

**yahoo!**

DOWNLOAD  
THE APP TODAY

  
PS. I LOVE  
YOU DAY

# WHAT IS P.S. I LOVE YOU DAY?



# OUR FAMILY



P.S. I LOVE  
YOU DAY

# WHAT IS P.S. I LOVE YOU DAY?

- **LOSING** A LOVED ONE
- FINDING **RESILIENCE**
- TAKING ACTION TO **MAKE A CHANGE**



# NEARLY 600 COMMUNITIES LATER..





# P.S. I LOVE YOU DAY THROUGH THE YEARS

2011: P.S. I LOVE YOU

2012: P.S. I LOVE YOU

2013: SAVE A LIFE WITH LOVE

2014: LET THE LOVE IN

2015: LOVE THE LIFE YOU LIVE

2016: LOVE IS ENDLESS

2017: LOVE IS UNIVERSAL

2018: GO THE EXTRA MILE

2019: BE PROUD OF WHO YOU  
ARE

2020: YOUR STORY IS WORTH  
TELLING

2021: TOGETHER WE WILL RISE

2022: ONE STEP AT A TIME

2023: LOVE ALL YOUR  
CHAPTERS



2024 SLOGAN:  
LOVE IS MEANT TO BE GIVEN.

We encourage you to realize the importance of giving love to  
yourself, others and the world.

When you treat yourself with care and love, you will see and  
feel the world around you change.



# LET'S TALK!



What was a time where you felt that you could overcome anything?

Write down one coping mechanism that you used to help you during a difficult time.

Reflect on a time where you leaned on someone special on your life to help you.



# MEDITATION



P.S. I LOVE  
YOU DAY

# HOW CAN YOU JOIN US?

- always know you can share how you are feeling with others.
- SPREAD KINDNESS.
- WEAR PURPLE EVERY SECOND FRIDAY OF FEBRUARY.



# AFFIRMATION HEARTS



# ACTIVITY TO TAKE BACK TO YOUR UNITS

## LOVE TO SELF:

- WRITE A POSITIVE MESSAGE FOR YOURSELF.
- WHEN YOU NEED AN UPLIFTING MESSAGE, POSITIVE SELF-TALK OR AFFIRMATION. FOLD THE NOTE INTO AN ORIGAMI HEART AND KEEP WITH YOU.
- OPEN UP WHENEVER YOU NEED A BOOST.



 AMERICAN  
**LEGION**  
AUXILIARY



**YOUR FEEDBACK MATTERS!**

**BE ENTHUSIASTIC AS A LEADER.  
YOU CAN'T LIGHT A FIRE WITH A  
WET MATCH.**



**SCAN ME**

*Scan the code above or use the paper provided to complete an evaluation after each session or complete multiple evaluations at once at the end!*