



MENTORING FOR PERSONAL LEADERSHIP EFFECTIVENESS AND SUCCESS



R.O.C.K.

“What does it mean to be a mentor? A mentor is **anyone who can share knowledge with a less-knowledgeable person** and further, more than just teaching, is someone who can provide the mentee with insights, counsel, and life lessons beyond just the technical tasks. Age is not necessarily a requirement. A younger person can be a mentor for an older individual as they share new experiences. This relationship must include several features that make one a good mentor and a good mentee.”¹

Has someone new come to work with you and the boss says, “Can you help Mary and show her the ropes and answer any questions?” You say sure, I’m happy to do that. Guess what? “Showing Mary the ropes and answering her questions” is mentoring. It’s that easy.

In the VFW Auxiliary you are doing the same thing. It is merely sharing what you know about the Auxiliary, our procedures, programs, etc. with someone else. You are sharing your knowledge to help that person become successful; and a successful member will want to continue to be a member.

No one knows everything and you are not expected to, but a good mentor shares the knowledge she/he does have with others. It’s that easy.

Think back to when you were a new member and attended your first Auxiliary meeting. Did you know what was going on? Chances are you probably didn’t. Was there someone sitting beside you that you felt you could actually ask what was going on? Again, chances are you probably didn’t.

Now, think back again to that first meeting, if a seasoned member had been asked to sit with you to explain and help you understand what was going on would you have felt better? Absolutely!!

This scenario applies to meetings, events or anywhere when one person can help another person understand what is happening. That’s MENTORING. **It is just sharing what you know!!** It’s that easy. Can you do it? Of course you can.

Through Mentoring we teach, motivate, inspire and empower. If we want a successful VFW Auxiliary, and we do, it is imperative that we lend a helping hand to mentor as many members as possible. Everyone can use mentoring of some kind, from the newly initiated member to the National President. Remember no one knows it all!

This year we are being asked to be someone’s **R.O.C.K.** Their strength and support, their trainer and coach, their motivation and inspiration giver. Who is your **R.O.C.K.**?

- **R**eliable
- **O**pen-Minded
- **C**onsistent-Communicator
- **K**nowledgeable

Whose **R.O.C.K.** solid mentor will you be?

¹ Cath Lab Digest, Clinical Editor’s Corner: Kern; Volume 23-Issue 4 – April 2018

We will be exploring many aspects of mentoring this year to help instill confidence, self-esteem and a feeling of confidence in our members. Every member is important to our Auxiliary and we must be able to assist them to be able to experience all we have to offer, to be successful as they can and to reach to succeed at whatever she/he wants to do.

We also want the members to share what they know with others both inside and outside of the Auxiliary Business. There is so very much available to learn and each member should be able to take advantage of training and research for everything she or he wants. Our mission is to care for our veterans, our military and their families, and our communities. With knowledgeable members we can accomplish our mission over and over again.

There will be mentorship training this year. Announcement of dates will be made as soon as we can. As we move forward during this year, you will be provided with the necessary tools and resources to carry out this training.

By becoming a member you began the *Climb to the Highest Peaks to Serve Our Veterans* and in doing so stepped up to the plate to become a member to help the VFW Auxiliary with our most important mission of caring for our veterans. By mentoring members you, *HONOR OUR MISSION TO SERVE VETERANS*, because each and every one of our members *is* a member of a veteran family.

I truly look forward to working with each of you this coming year and I encourage you to reach out and extend your hand to share your knowledge of our VFW Auxiliary with others. I hope you will attend our training sessions and participate to your fullest capacity.

I am here to answer any questions and to help you in every way I can because ...

I AM YOUR R.O.C.K!

Linda K. Meader, 2020-2021 Department Chairman
Mentoring for Leadership Program

