

## Leadership

By Linda Retherford



Have you ever heard of the saying, "He's a born leader?" We are born with many physical attributes and characteristics, but is leadership one of them? I think not. Good leadership skills must be developed. With the desire and will power, anyone can become a leader. Good leaders know that they never stop learning and developing. Leaders train, spend time on self-study, educate themselves, and take opportunities to gain experience to continually develop their weaknesses and enhance their strengths.

Leaders understand that it takes people to carry out the activities necessary to accomplish objectives, for without other people there is no reason to lead. Good leaders find competent people and develop them to perform at their best. With effective communication, the leader uses his beliefs, values, character, knowledge, and skills to carry out his plan. It might seem like you have to be all and know all, but that is not true. The people around you will compliment your strengths and augment any weaknesses, if you let them.

Simply put, you can be a leader, if you want to be. How you ask? There is a plethora of information that can be found on leadership. I believe in five simple things.

1. **Understand Yourself.** Know your beliefs and values and do not compromise them in your daily decisions. If you don't feel good about a decision, it might be because it conflicts with your values.
2. **Improve Yourself.** Set goals for yourself and follow up to accomplish them. Never stop learning. Seek self-improvement, spiritual growth, and technical knowledge. Take NMA classes; attend the meetings, and lunch learning sessions, read, research the Web, find seminars, attend college courses, listen to self-improvement CDs, and read more often.
3. **Gain Experience.**
  - a. Find a mentor. Identify a person that can help you build your strengths. Open yourself up to take criticism and use it to your advantage.

- b. Find opportunities for leadership roles. Charity and professional organizational committees, such as NMA, are excellent opportunities to gain experience.
4. **Take Responsibility.** Take responsibility for your own actions. Admit when you are wrong, care about others, set the example, and make decisions. Change your attitude. If you only look at the bad things that happen in life, you've overlooked success. Strike "It's not my job!" from your vocabulary, and make it your job!
5. **Communicate effectively.** There is always room for improvement in this area. Communicate the vision, direction, priorities, and feedback.

It takes time to develop leadership traits. Be patient. Above all, remember that position and authority only come with being a boss. Those two things aren't necessary to truly lead others. ↪

## Operation Shoe Box Donations

Bastion Employees,

Thank you for your significant contributions for Operation Shoebox. It was an overwhelming sight to see all the snacks, toiletries, books, games, and personal items that you all contributed. At the packing party, boxes and bags of items filled the conference room tables, chairs, and floor. There was so much that it was difficult at first for the volunteers to pack boxes. I am so proud of the teamwork toward this cause, and it could not have been done without your enormous efforts in collecting and contributing items. With your help, we were able to send off 83 large boxes to Iraq, all to be received by all troops before the holidays.

Thanks for supporting your troops once again.  
*Jorge Hernandez* ↪

## Inside This Issue

<i>Spotlight on Amy Spenrath</i>	2
<i>2008-2009 Officers &amp; Directors</i>	2
<i>Answer to Summer 2008 Puzzle</i>	2
<i>2008 Pictorial Review</i>	3
<i>New Chapter Website</i>	4
<i>Editorial Staff</i>	5
<i>Winter 2008 Puzzle</i>	5

## Spotlight on Amy Spenrath: Returning Professional Development Director

By Darlene Riley

BELA welcomes Amy Spenrath to the helm of its 2008/2009 Professional Development Committee! Not new to this position, Amy was the director in 2003/2004 and was happy to return when nominated this year.



"When I was notified of my nomination to chair this year, I was honored to be asked to contribute to the organization again," said Amy.

Amy is a true believer in continuing education. Her vision for this year's committee is to provide a plethora of high quality professional development courses to enhance the skills of all BELA members and to increase the chance of building membership. All of the courses scheduled for this year will be offered at various times to afford each member the opportunity to sharpen his/her skills to help pave the road to professional growth.

Amy knows the road to professional growth well. She is a great example of how to advance within the ranks of the same company. Amy started with Hernandez Engineering Inc. (HEI) in June 2000 after moving from Arizona. She began as a Book Manager (BM) for the ISS Display Standards document and provided meeting support for the International Partner panel, which governs that document. In 2002, her group transitioned to Bastion Technologies, Inc. (with HEI as a subcontractor).

Amy continued in her role as BM but with more advancement opportunities. Since the transition, she has picked up two additional documents and provides meeting support to three other boards. In doing so, Amy has increased her responsibilities, her visibility with the company, and positioned herself for further advancement.

Amy currently works on site in the Flight Director's Office and remains in constant contact with her customers. She enjoys her role in the aerospace industry and has a clear vision of what she wants to accomplish. Her goal is to help BELA members realize their professional goals.

Amy said, "I understand it is difficult for people to give their time with all the commitments we have today. But, I believe BELA is a worthwhile organization, and I hope the membership numbers and participation increase over this next year.

Continued learning is imperative in remaining a productive and valuable employee. BELA is a great way to take courses, network with people, develop camaraderie, and have some fun!"

## 2008-2009 Officers & Directors

President	<a href="#">Fawn Nolen</a>	281.280.6829
Vice President, TGCC Secretary	<a href="#">Patricia Vergil</a>	281.282.4880
Treasurer	<a href="#">Connie Ischy</a>	281.280.6776
Secretary	<a href="#">Sandra Culpepper</a>	281.280.6791
Member Relations	<a href="#">Kirby Pitts</a>	281.280.6795
Programs	<a href="#">Debra Dallas</a>	281.280.6745
Professional Development	<a href="#">Amy Spenrath</a>	281.483.5725
American Enterprise/ Community Relations	<a href="#">Lori Broussard</a>	281.280.6739
Public Relations, Associate National Director	<a href="#">Barb Wagner</a>	281.280.6786

## Answer to Summer 2008 Puzzle

		V	A	C	A	T	I	O	N
	B	O	A	T	I	N	G		
N	A	T	N	U	S				H
	R						S		C
	B		R	E	T	A	W		A
E	E	S	E		R		I		E
N	Q	U	M		E		M		B
I	U	N	M		C		M	C	
H	E	B	U		N		I		G
S		U	S		O	N	N		N
N		R			C		G		I
U		N		I					I
S			P						K
					Y	D	N	A	S

2  
0  
0  
8



Programs



Fun!



Community Service



## New Chapter Website


Visit our new BELA Website for forms, flyers, events, programs, professional development, calendar, pictures, membership info, newsletters, contact names and phone numbers, links, and more!

<http://bela.bastiontechnologies.net>


Bastion Employee Leadership Association (BELA) Bastion Technologies | TGCC | NMA National

[Membership Forms](#) | [Pictures](#) | [Flyers](#) | [Calendar](#) | [Classes](#) | [Meetings](#)


Home / Site Map




**NMA**  
The Leadership Development Organization  
**BELA**  
Bastion Employee Leadership Association




**Personal and Professional Growth**



**Team Building**



**Socializing**



**Community Service**  
Operation Shoebox

<a href="#">Calendar of Events</a>	<b>Mission Statement</b>
<a href="#">Announcements</a>	The mission of the NMA is to provide management and leadership development opportunities and related chapter activities which meet the needs of members and contribute to the effectiveness of sponsoring organizations.
<a href="#">Membership Information</a>	<b>Vision Statement</b>
<a href="#">Officers and Boosters</a>	NMA is the recognized worldwide partnership of people and businesses inspiring outstanding leadership, and cultivating highly productive workplaces.
<a href="#">Bylaws &amp; Constitution</a>	
<a href="#">Member Relations</a>	
<a href="#">Programs</a>	
<a href="#">American Enterprise</a>	
<a href="#">Community Service</a>	
<a href="#">Professional Development</a>	
<a href="#">Public Relations</a>	
<a href="#">Newsletters</a>	
<a href="#">Forms</a>	
<a href="#">Awards</a>	
<a href="#">Code of Ethics</a>	
<a href="#">Statement of Principles</a>	

RDM: Fawn Nolen | Curator: Barb Wagner | Site Map | Contact Us | Last Updated: 12/01/2008 0:17 AM | ©2008 BELA



*Have a Safe and  
Healthy New Year!*

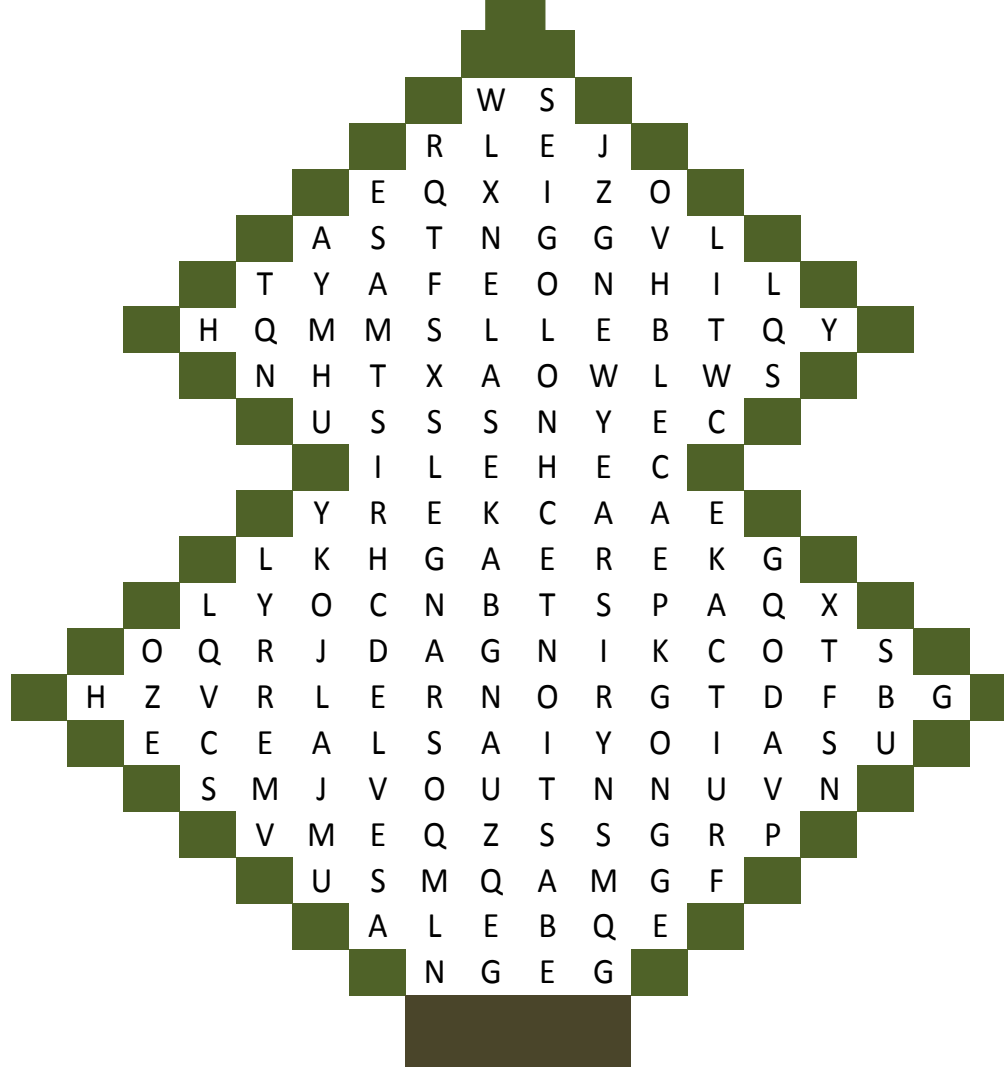
Editorial Staff:

Barb Wagner, Editor in Chief  
Connie Riley, Editor/Reporter  
Darlene Riley, Reporter  
Kirby Pitts, Reporter  
Nancy Bearden, Reporter

For questions or comments regarding this newsletter, or to contribute an article, please contact Barb Wagner, at 281.280.6786, or [Barb.Wagner@usa-spaceops.com](mailto:Barb.Wagner@usa-spaceops.com).

Check out our new website: <http://bela.bastiontechnologies.net>

Winter 2008 Puzzle



Words can be found horizontally, vertically, backwards, forwards, and diagonally.

The answer will be announced in the next newsletter. **Good Luck!**

WORD LIST

- Angels
- Bake Sale
- Bastion Technologies
- BELA
- Bells
- Candles
- Christmas
- Egg Nog
- Elves
- Fruitcake
- Holly
- Jesus
- Jolly
- Lights
- Merry
- New Years
- NMA
- Noel
- Peace
- Star
- Stocking
- USA
- Wreath