

## You Don't Even Know...



The most effective leaders in our organization do for others. In other words, it is not about them. It must be said. True leadership is represented by someone doing something because it is in the best interest of the individual or club. Our organization's success is predicated on members connecting with each other. It is about having leaders that blaze a trail. Do you connect? Are you a trailblazer? These are not difficult things to do. It shows itself in greeting guests, encouraging newer members, prioritizing ongoing training and development, supporting the district initiatives and the like. Our most recent opportunity has come to us by way of the Pathways program. It is a paradigm shift for us no doubt. It can be challenging and cumbersome. Inherent in Pathways are the elements of change and transition which most people don't like so much. How do we leverage this opportunity? I'm glad you asked. Here is the leadership recipe as it relates to Pathways:

- *Be positive* – members are looking to you as an advanced member to get cues on how to handle the change.
- *Lead by example* – how can a club officer not have done the assessment and chosen a path? A new member knowing more about

the education program than a club officer is like driving the wrong way down the interstate – nothing good can come from it.

- Take some time – there are myriad resources available to expand on Pathways. This program is fantastic! Once you truly examine what is has to offer, you will be proud to move forward with this type of program to offer new members.
- Intervene when appropriate – if you have a member that is less than enthusiastic about Pathways, steer those conversations in the right direction. Have a conversation individually if need be.
- Understand your impact – your members are watching and listening to you. Whether you like it or not. Rise to the challenge.

You don't even know the influence you have on your members. Be in it for the right reasons. Appreciate the opportunity to impact others. If you're not careful, you may just grow too!