

THE LEADERSHIP CHALLENGE

THE MOST TRUSTED SOURCE FOR BECOMING A BETTER LEADER

OCTOBER 2006 NEWSLETTER

October Events

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Make *Encouragement*
Part of Your Daily Routine

“Courage is something within all of us. We may not call on it very often, but it’s there when we need it.”

—From *A Leader’s Legacy*

Welcome to The Leadership Challenge Newsletter!

This monthly publication shares stories, examples, and information about the impact of The Leadership Challenge in all kinds of organizations. [As always, please let us know how we are doing](#); we may even contact you about featuring your ideas and stories in future editions of this newsletter.

Thoughts on the Model

The Leadership Challenge Newsletter Editor Lisa Shannon acquires a new appreciation for Small Wins after hearing a story about a man whose internet barbers turned one red paper clip into a house. [More](#)

Tips and Techniques

Author Mark Warner offers an exercise that encourages participants to take off their blinders so that they will be able to see the world in a different light. He has discovered that seeing a difference can be the first step towards making a difference. [More](#)

Ask an Expert

Validity? Normative database? Percentile Ranking? Important sounding words, but what do they really mean to my leaders? The [Leadership Challenge](#) and [A Leader's Legacy](#) co-author Barry Posner discusses the LPI as well as the data and research that back up this gold-standard assessment instrument. [More](#)

Rants and Raves (PDF)

See how agricultural lending giant Farm Credit Services of America (FCSAmerica) achieved breakthrough results after adopting The Leadership Challenge® Workshop. The Nebraska-based organization unleashed the talents and skills of employees, creating a highly engage workforce that supports a performance-driven culture of leadership. [More \(PDF\)](#)

What We're Reading

This month co-author of [The Leadership Challenge](#) and [A Leader's Legacy](#) Jim Kouzes began reading [Stumbling on Happiness](#) by Daniel Gilbert, a Harvard College Professor of Psychology, while riding on the BART train to San Francisco. "Somewhere around the Rockridge station I started to laugh out loud. I got strange looks from my fellow commuters, but kept on reading . . . and laughing. It's not too often—maybe never—that you read a research-rich psychology book that's funny, let alone one written by a Harvard professor! Gilbert tells us that 'Few people realize that psychologists also take a vow, promising that at some point in their professional lives they will publish a book, a chapter, or at least an article that contains the sentence: The human being is the only animal that . . .' **Stumbling on Happiness** is Gilbert's completion of The Sentence. And here is what he says: The human being is the only animal that thinks about the future. As someone who writes such lines as 'being forward-looking is the characteristic that distinguishes leaders from other credible people,' I was elated. I thought I was going to find the secret to how we can better think about the future. But my initial assumptions were shaken somewhat when I read, 'As impressive as it is, our ability to stimulate future selves and future circumstances is by no means perfect.' It turns out we don't so much march into our future, we more or less stumble into it; hence the title of the book. **Stumbling on Happiness** is entertaining, witty, and impressively annotated. It'll enrich your understanding of why we enjoy looking forward but don't often get the future we foresee."

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