

***THE PAST IS OUR HERITAGE
THE PRESENT IS OUR RESPONSIBILITY
THE FUTURE IS OUR CHALLENGE***

Our challenge for the future of Eastern Star is membership!

Montana Grand Chapter is concerned about the declining membership and consolidation of chapters in recent years.

This book is one item we know you will find extremely helpful. It contains suggestions for interesting meetings and ideas for entertaining programs. It is exciting and inspiring, helping to create meetings no member will want to miss.

Included are instructions and information on a large variety of topics, all designed to increase membership and give interest and strength to our beautiful Order.

Each subordinate chapter in Montana will be provided one copy of this booklet absolutely free! We know each line officer, as well as other members, will want to review this copy.

The future of the Order of the Eastern Star depends on all present members. Let us meet this future challenge and accept our present responsibility, creating a memorable past...a heritage we can all be proud of!

***IT'S TIME TO GET THERE!
START HERE!***

TOP 10 LIST OF THINGS WE NEED TO ACCOMPLISH

- 1). Encourage our Grand Chapter Leaders to make our Chapters more relevant to the thinking of the 21st Century.
- 2). Encourage our Grand Chapter Leaders to listen to our Members, hear what they are saying.
- 3). Shorten meetings and introductions.
- 4). Make our meetings more enjoyable to the members.
- 5). Embrace change and champion it. If we, as an Order, want to perpetuate our meaningful existence we must adapt to changing times. Forget the words, "that's the way we have always done it".
- 6). Set high expectations for your chapter. Don't be satisfied with the status quo. Aim high. You might be surprised at the outcome.
- 7). Be creative. If you aren't creative, enlist someone who is. Try something different. Make it fun. What do you have to lose?
- 8). Learn to be a facilitator. Help your Chapter's line officers and members self discover what it means to create a Vision for your chapter.
- 9). Build an open line of communication with your line officers and other members of your chapter. Network with the other Line officers inside your area and outside of your county. Communicate valuable information up, down, and across the state. Learn from each other. We are a TEAM and together everyone accomplishes more!
- 10). You must have a passion for our Order...Remember attitude is everything and enthusiasm is contagious.

^{Past}
Our Most Worthy Grand Patron has a saying,
"Our Principles and aims are cast in Stone, Our policies and procedures are written in caulk."

The Formula for the success of this conference is:

Use your Present Knowledge + the New Knowledge you will learn here,
Go back to your Chapters and apply it...

That equals = SUCCESS.

For any membership program
to succeed, you must

Plan your work ...

and then

...Work your plan

The Process of Planning

Define the problem

- What is our present situation?
- Who says it's a problem?
- What will happen if nothing is done?

Set the objective

- What do we want the situation to be in the future?
- How will I know when we have achieved it?

Choose strategies

- What are all the possible ways to solve the problem?
- What resources will be needed to do each alternative?
- Which alternatives are most feasible?

Prepare for implementation

- What arrangements need to be made with other organizations and people to carry out the plan?
- How will we get everything done on schedule?
- How will we get the needed resources?

Design the evaluation

- How will we know when we've reached our objectives?
- How well did the strategies and activities work out?
- How efficiently were the resources used?

And finally . . .

Initiate C-H-A-N-G-E!

- What is our Chapter's capacity for change?
- What problems will we face introducing our plan?
- How can we get the plan accepted?

Start

When your Chapter doesn't grow;
and attendance's getting low;
dues are coming awfully slow;
Start something!

Don't act like you're a dope;
don't lose every bit of hope;
don't just sit around and mope;
Start something!

Don't just open up and close;
there are young members- think of those;
things are slow enough, God knows;
Start something!

Find a subject for debate;
don't go home until its late;
start in visiting, fix a date;
Start something!

Start a sale or have a dance;
have a picnic, take a chance;
ask your sisters, friends and aunts;
Start something!

Start something that will take;
no matter if you lose or make;
but for thunderation sake –
Start something!

TEN BASIC INGREDIENTS FOR GROWTH

DESIRE - We have to want our Chapter to grow. It's not going to accidentally take place. We have to really believe in it and be willing to pay the price.

VISION - We need to be able to have a dream and goals to shoot at.

ATMOSPHERE - We must be mood makers. The life of our Chapter will be determined largely by the kind of mood we set. The spirit of friendliness and enthusiasm are crucial.

STRONG LEADERSHIP - We cannot build a great organization with weak leadership. Our organization's influence should broaden, year after year. There is a definite link between strong leadership and the growth in any organization.

ACTION ORIENTATION - People have to be involved. Diversities of talents make a healthy organization.

PLANNING and SETTING GOALS - We must be realistic, and we must start with the basics. With definite goals in mind, we then need to outline procedures to reach those goals. It is very easy to drift into discord, so we need to plan our work, and work our plan.

UNITY - Unity is absolutely essential. It is imperative to convince the Chapter that the need is there and we will be doing something about it.

DELEGATION - We multiply ourselves by delegating responsibility. No delegation = stagnation.

PRAISE - If someone has done a good job, praise will boost them to even greater service.

PERSISTENCE - We must stay on it without giving up!