

Chapter Programs...Best of the Best!

Bragging Points...Shared on June 12, 2010

Pink Cards

Field Trips/Tours

Pearl S. Buck House National Historic Landmark
 Doris Duke Estate (not currently open)
 Russian Church
 King Tut Exhibit Art Museum
 One Room Schoolhouse Tours
 Grounds for Sculpture/Rat's Restaurant

Rutgers Cooperative (Rutgers New Jersey Agricultural Experiment Station)

Master Gardner Cascading-Culinary Gardens Demonstration

Women's Prison Project (Reading to children/grandchildren of prisoners on tape)

Successful Book Discussions

Three Cups of Tea Greg Mortenson (Planning - Pennies for Peace Project)

House Rules Jodi Piccoult (Meeting TOPIC – Asperger's Syndrome/Autism)

The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time Mark Haddon (Meeting TOPIC-Autism)

Nineteen Minutes by Jodi Piccoult (Meeting TOPIC – BULLYING... Invited superintendent to discuss the issue in the district/programs used in schools)

- **SETTING (LITERARY ELEMENT)** Books that are set in a particular country...hold the book discussion in restaurant reflecting that country...

Combined Chapter Programs

Women of Valor (Honoring Women in the Military Active and Retired/Gold Star Mothers/Blue Star Organization)

Voices of Volunteers (CASA Court Appointed Special Advocates/ Habitat ReStore -Habitat for Humanity/CONTACT Crisis Helpline /Literacy Volunteers/Cooperative Ministries)

Elmwood Park Industries Workplace for People with Developmental Disabilities

ARC Adult Resource Center (*Betty Hoehne contact) Serving Individuals with Disabilities

Nature Themes

Bees
 Butterflies
 Attracting Wild Birds
 Master Gardeners

Migratory Workers

Hands-on Craft Projects

Jewelry-making
Scrapbooking

Honoring Women/Person of Distinction (Fundraising Endeavor)

Empowering Women Programs

Leadership Development Day (Georgian Court University (Grace Cirocco)

Democracy...How to become active...

Financial Planning/ Legal Issues

Long-Term Health Care
Wills
Trusts
Identity Theft

Health and Fitness

Nutrition
Medical Issues

Supporting Women in the Military

Correspondence/Care Packages

Travel Adventures/Logs/ Members Share

Japan/China/Africa/Antarctica/Galapagos Islands

Writing/Publishing Books for Children

Children's Authors

Kathleen Stevens (Underground Railroad)
Pat Brisson (Author Presentation - How to write a picture book)

Project: Books for Babies

SIKH Community Services... Prejudice and discrimination since 9/11 Right to Serve)
Sikh - included in curriculum in Texas as of 5/21/10

Presentation by University Professor

Emotional Intelligence

History

Washington Crossing Historic Park /Mike Rothstein
National Constitution Center in Philadelphia/ City Tavern Restaurant 138 S. 2nd Street Phila. PA 19106
Holocaust Programs/Maud Dahme
Women in Aviation/Teterboro Aviation Museum

Visual & Performing Arts

Musical Performances (Harpist/Singer Guitarist/School Choral Groups

Art Shows (Work of Members)

Traveling Mercies International Group /Helps underdeveloped countries to establish wells

Successful Meeting Topics

Herbs

Collectibles

Feng Shui

Founder's Day Perspective on Ideals

Socializing & Fellowship

Sharing personal experiences...

Women's Self Defense

Chapter Ideas...Opportunities for Improvement

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Blue Cards

Workshop participants were asked to share opportunities for program improvement at the chapter level. The following is the fruit of combined experience, honesty and effort.

Mentor, Mentor, Mentor EVERYONE! Mentor new members and officers!

Utilize expertise and talents of members and activate new members immediately by getting them involved in programs

Keep meeting costs down

The outgoing executive officers of the chapter could have prospective program ideas in place similar to the program manual for the new/incoming officers

Former and/or current chapter officers should make a manual of the responsibilities with a timeline to pass on to new officers...

Conduct a needs assessment/survey members about topics of interest for programs/be inclusive and not exclusive/elicit responses from all members

Update and keep programs current

"Give stuff away!" (Quoting Roxanne)

Eliminate TBD's for programs in record book...date and place is better TBD but programs should be in place

Make sure to look at the 7 purposes of our society when selecting and planning programs

Balance is essential come up with a program to mentor new teachers

Hand's on programs are popular among members based on the data collected

Provide more Educational Programs for Professional Educators

Provide more Legislative Programs

Check budget to provide more money for chapter programs

Work to increase the number of attendees at chapter meetings (carpool bring guests)

Market the state/regional/international convention to "hook" new members

Increase involvement by recommending members to present for other chapters

Provide more panel discussions on educational issues to keep members current of curriculum and education for the 21st century

Invite credible speakers from various fields (medical, legal, finance, etc.)

Shorten the length of the business meeting so more focus can be placed on the program

Make calls and personal connections with members to attend meetings...tell them they are missed and valued...too much electronic communication may be impersonal at the chapter level...

Make sure members know that their recommendations are essential in planning the programs

Encourage the members to share their interests and travels, books, ideas at each meeting to drive the program proposals for upcoming years for chapter/state programs

Vary the programs...issue-oriented with relevance to purposes of the society/direct correlation

Share the "GOOD NEWS" from chapter to chapter...work together to establish motivation for membership...diversity membership...active teachers/administrators/university professors...
Think about connecting with other chapters to host combined meetings and share the talents
HAVE FUN! Make sure members laugh a lot!
Think about stipends/Revisit budget for programs of value
Serve refreshments
Limit formal chapter program presentations to 30 – 45 minutes to allow time for fellowship
Contact local universities in chapter areas to promote networking, market our organization and utilize resources
Invite university/college faculty members to membership
Review credentials for presenters/speakers and get involved with creation of speakers' bureau
Review Lyon's list of survey questions from growing chapters/key points
Mention attendees at meetings on chapter webpage and in printed material...recognize their commitment to the society/chapter...
Publicize location of NE Regional HERSHEY, PA next summer (2011) and INTERNATIONAL in 2012 in NY City...plan to attend and be enthusiastic...invite members who have attended in the past to share stories...invite them to your chapter to talk about the experience
FINANCIAL CHALLENGES...Chapters helping chapters to find locations for meetings for chapters who cannot afford insurance...
Professional development for practicing teachers
Book Talks to encourage professional reading
Take chapter field trips
Highlight members...share professional experiences and charity and/or community work such as Literacy Volunteers, Community Food Pantry, and Pennies for Peace, etc.