

Strengthening Chapters

Communicating: DO YOU...

Remind all members of events and meetings?

Communicate with members in multiple ways? Texting, emails, snail mail?

Have a phone tree? For gathering and sharing information..

Send birthday greetings to members? Assign a committee to send cards for holidays and special events – be sure to include reserve members and those in nursing homes or assisted living

Spotlight members in the newsletter or at meetings? Set up tables and have an evening of sharing hobbies, quilts, cakes, travel– with samples and photos included.

Publicize your chapter through projects that receive newspaper coverage? Call the newspaper for an event large or small. Get your name out to the public and to other teachers.

Do you visit and speak to college classes about the benefits of membership? This is a completely new avenue that you should be exploring. Take DKG brochures and membership applications. Give them to the professors as well! Contact the Dean of Education.

Engaging all members: DO YOU...

Offer benefits and services that they can't find anywhere else? Where else can you go to share valuable knowledge and information with teachers from other schools?

Promote personal and professional learning opportunities at both the state and international levels, such as workshops and conventions?

Engage members to speak at meetings? We tend to look on the outside for speakers – find some from within.

Inform members about the benefits of membership? Scholarships, insurance discounts, travel, publications, networking, educational grants, and disaster relief.

ASK members how they would like to contribute to your chapter? They may have ideas that you have never thought of.

Nurturing Member Relationships: DO YOU...

Include a fellowship time that does not include a meal? Get members up and out of their seats and talking to everyone.

Plan for social events that do not include a meeting? A picnic or even a trip?

Encourage members to have an open mind to new ideas and new members?

Assign a group to reach out to members who have not attended for a while? They need to hear from you!

Provide extra support for new members? Like a mentor or a buddy?

Hold a meeting or event at an assisted living center or nursing home where some members live? Or just visit and play bingo with them.

**** Do you encourage members to develop relationships outside of their own group or comfort zone? ****

In summary: personal responsibility – each member is responsible for the success of the chapter, each member is responsible for developing personal relationships outside of their comfort zone, and the only way to keep your chapter going and growing is your own personal growth! Keep your life exciting and never stop learning!!

Jeanne Bennett, presentation on April 20