

IDEAS FOR SECURING CHAPTER OFFICERS

Catherine Wiandt, Alpha Theta Chapter, shared the following information on securing new chapter officers.

We were very successful in getting our slate of officers. We had great strategy. We started talking last year and had a couple of short programs educating and re-educating our member about their responsibilities to our chapter. A couple of months ago three members of our five- member committee (which included two past presidents of our chapter) met and brainstormed possible candidates and how to approach them. Prior to this get-together we had done an informal program at our December meeting. Two presidents talked about the individual responsibilities and all the past presidents shared the experience of being president and what they gained from it (That ended up being five or six individuals!). I think this was a good way to get members receptive to the possibility of being president.

What ended up happening is that we selected our ideal candidates, brainstormed their positive contributions and positive traits (compiling a list on the president and vice president). One of us approached the candidate for president (not pressuring her, but making her aware of why we thought she would be a good president). She said she would think about it. We also told her who we were considering as vice president (who also happened to be a good friend and fellow teacher from the same school district...just a coincidence). Meanwhile I called the vice presidential candidate went over her positive traits and told her who we were suggesting for president and thought that she would make a good team with her.... (Also we were thinking she might be able to step in as president in the future). To make a long story short, those two ladies got together and agreed to be our candidates! We were elated. Meanwhile another member had already agreed to be our recording secretary and our present corresponding secretary planned to keep her present position.

So what did we learn? A little planning goes a long way.... Keeping our members aware of their responsibilities in keeping a chapter viable, sharing the positives of serving as an officer, and letting members know that you appreciate their positive contributions and special talents.

Mary Heilman, Epsilon Chapter, gave one red rose to each member present at a meeting when they were discussing chapter officers. She explained that they were each unique and important to keeping their chapter of DKG alive and well. Members responded , and several officer positions were filled.