

Relations Committee Tactics

The following suggestions are presented to the Board in an effort to improve channels of communication between the National organization and local Chapters.

1. Encourage Directors, representing Districts, as well as all other Directors, National Officers, and National Committee members to visit or make contact with local Chapters on a regular basis. Wes Ross has agreed to compile the reports from Directors, Officers and Committee members and to post this information to the Administrative Web Site(Not Password Protected) approximately 30 days before scheduled Conferences. He will work with National Staff to set-up an e-mail account for timely submission of the data. This material would give both members and Chapters an idea of just what activities are on-going as well as providing the visited Chapter an opportunity to discuss first-hand any concerns they have about National.
2. Set aside an hour or so at each Conference to allow Directors representing specific Districts to meet with the Chapter Representatives from their District. This would possibly improve communication for the local Chapters. We would suggest that the National Secretary or his designee check the list of in-person Directors and schedule one of the Global Directors or a National Officer to fill in for the absent Director from that District.
3. Request the National Office provide Directors representing specific Districts with as much information about the Chapter and its officers as there is on file. This would facilitate contact with local Chapters and would even help National complete their file on Chapter data. The data would include Chapter name, address, e-mail address, and all information about the Chapter Officers. This would make contact with Chapters and Officers much easier.
4. Request Directors representing specific Districts, "get to know" the Chapters and study the information contained in the Onboard Report in order to understand the dynamics of the Chapter and to determine if an early intervention, on their part, would help the Chapter maintain activity and involvement with National.
5. Encourage the exchange of newsletters between Chapters in an effort to provide ideas to Chapters as well as try to increase the solidarity between Chapters, particularly with a District. This can be accomplished by asking the help of Directors and by making it a topic of discussion at the Advisory Council Meeting.
6. Obtain e-mail address for as many members as possible. The Committee suggests the use of the dues form to collect the information and ask the Electronic Billing Contacts(EBC's) to assist in the process. Utilize Directors to assist in obtaining the addresses from Chapters who fail to provide the information.
7. The suggestion was made to have Districts develop a District Newsletter that could be sent out to Chapters via e-mail.

8. Discover new ways of encouraging Chapter members to participate in the National organization, such as serving on committees.
9. Explore ways to make photography a more unifying activity within Chapters and to relate this to National goals.