

Guidelines for Recognition at LARC Meetings

Purpose: Fining or “recognition” raises additional money to help fund club operations. It is also intended to build fellowship and better friendships. Fining is meant to be a humorous way for the Club to “recognize” significant events in people’s lives such as trips, anniversaries, birthdays, birth of a grandchild, etc. Many times **there are members who have something to share, so please ask for volunteers!** Some of the most enjoyable fining sessions have just been people sharing some of their best memories or experiences... recollection of “their favorite teacher” or their most memorable high school moment. The fine master may also choose other informative venues such as noteworthy achievements, holiday or sports trivia, or other “fun” venues. The purpose is to entertain the attending Club members while extracting a “fine” from a member for a particular occurrence.

Characteristics of Recognition Content: Rotary’s “Four Way Test”, 1) Is it the TRUTH, 2) Is it FAIR to all concerned, 3) Will it build GOOD WILL and BETTER FRIENDSHIPS, and 4) Will it be BENEFICIAL to all concerned, should always guide whatever avenue of “recognition” the fine master chooses for the day. **It should create a friendly and positive atmosphere of fellowship and facilitate members getting to know each other better.** It should be remembered that we often have visitors from other Rotary Clubs, as well as guests as prospective new members who are there to evaluate their possible membership into the Club. As such, the fine master should act in such a way as to put our Club and the members recognized in a favorable light in order to encourage outside attendance.

Organizing your time: When it is your week to be the fine master, Sandie Whipple will forward you the updated membership rooster at the beginning of the week. In it you will have all the names of the Club Members in both alphabetical order as well as by the amount each member has donated to date. Naturally it is best to “recognize” those members who have contributed the least. To do this most effectively **try to get to the meeting a bit early and stand near the greeters as people arrive in order to check off the people who are present and you want to fine.** This way you are certain that the people you want to recognize are in attendance, allowing you to maximize the time you have at the podium.

You need an Assistant!: This would be the **“duck-bucket” person. It is your duty to assign one.** Anyone can be your “duck-bucket” assistant, but it is important that they know in advance of the meeting of their duties and it is nice to also acknowledge them for their task. The cashier has on hand, “the bucket” which contains a form on it where he/she marks the name, amount of fine, and if it is paid in cash, check, or IOU. The duck-bucket person, after collecting from those who have been fined, delivers the money, checks and sheet back to the cashier who then confirms the receipts to what is in the bucket. This is what Sandie Whipple uses to update the fine list each week, so it is important to be thorough and accurate.

Be Prepared:

Fining List

Questions or Theme

Confirm who on your list is present

Assign your Duck Bucket assistant.