

SUGGESTIONS FOR MAKING ROTARY MEETINGS MORE ENGAGING

These suggestions are based upon my prior Rotary experience in three clubs. They are intended to increase new member assimilation, to help all members get to know each other and to become Rotarians. In doing so, I believe they will make meetings more FUN!

- CLASSIFICATION TALKS: Have members give their own personal introductions when joining the club. Having anyone else give them does not allow for the club to know who they are introducing. Articles in the newsletter are good, but only after the members presentation at a meeting (for those who missed the meeting).
- NEW ORIENTATION CHECKLIST: Sample list, recently updated, is *attached*. This list applies to new members *and transfers* from other clubs. Each Club has its own structure. Upon completion, the new member will be off to a really good start and know where he/she wants to serve.
- VISITORS: Ask visitors to stand, and “invite” them to say a few words of introduction.
- GREETERS: Have two members assigned each for each meeting to welcome everyone to the Rotary Meeting. Another way members interact and get to know each other.
- SEATING LOTTERY: Each month have members draw from a bowl a table number to sit at, and thereby break up seating patterns and increase member interaction.
- PRAYER: The prayer should be said either at the podium, or with the mobile mic so all can hear. Be aware there may be a diverse mix of faiths. Strive for prayerful inclusion.
- “HAPPY DOLLARS”: After the guest speaker is done, allow members to “buy” the mic for 1 minute for \$1. Funds go into the Club charity fund (like 50/50). Members may share good news, or concerns. (Option: can be done early in the meetings.)
- SONG LEADER: Sing fun songs each meeting, songs from the Rotary Song Book. Or at least sing a variety of patriotic songs, and have a song leader to encourage hearty singing. Singing together creates a bond (*from the Rotary Song Book*).
- FOUNDATION: Have regular presentations on the work of The Rotary Foundation, use RI videos, the Rotarian magazine (that few read), and other sources online from RI. Include YTD giving to the Annual Fund and Polio Plus Fund, and motivate member giving.
- QUARTERLY BOARD REPORTS = CLUB ASSEMBLY (BUSINESS) MEETING: Each board director reports on their respective area of responsibility.
- CONNECTIONS REPORT: Have one member designated to report on those members who voluntarily share medical issues they are facing, or family concerns for which they would appreciate club member support and prayers.

Anonymous 8/28/2019