

EFFECTIVE LEADERSHIP

Adapted from Kevin Eikenberry's speech on leadership

“It is a fine thing to have ability, but the ability to discover ability in others is the true test.”

ACTIVE MEMBERSHIP IS THE KEY!

Active, involved and interested members will unlock the doors of success and grow your club.

Membership involves leadership in two ways:

- We must proactively recruit new members and help them become active.
- We must stimulate active participation on the part of existing members

IDEAS TO STIMULATE MEMBERSHIP

- Be inviting! Have an open program in your library or church.
- Keep programming topics fresh and interesting.
- Start a new projec.
- Invite club members to ride with you to club, district, and state meetings.
- Have a field trip to another club's flower show or fundraiser or a district meeting.
- Develop a website and keep it updated.
- Create a club information brochure.
- Distribute club brochure and/or membership information at flower shows, garden tours, and education programs.
- Work with a scout troop or at schools to establish youth garden clubs.
- Have plant workshops or sales at schools and libraries.
- Be creative with meeting times, for example, “after work” or evening meetings.
- Host an informal supper meeting for “couples.”
- Have a Flower Arranging Workshops or a start a basic design course.
- Hold a new members' installation ceremony.
- Publicize your successes.
- Have membership information available at the local Chamber of Commerce, newcomer groups, and Master Gardner programs.
- Use District, State and National publications and websites as information resources. Get a subscription for all your members.
 - “The Turmpet Vine” in *The Long Island Gardener* is a great way to get programming ideas form other clubs
 - Federated Garden Clubs of New York State, Central Atlantic Region of State Gardens Clubs, and National Garden Clubs publications (printed and on-line) always spotlight articles of interest for specific committee members (Youth Programs; Butterflies, Bugs and Bees; Environment; Garden Therapy; etc.).

SUCCESSFUL MEETING TIPS

- A positive attitude is highly contagious! Spread it generously!
- Always start and end meetings on time. Time is our most valuable commodity.
- Use a script to stay on track (Second District has a model script available upon request).
- Have Job Descriptions or Guidelines. Officers and committee chairmen must understand their responsibilities.
- Delegate authority, then truly expect that person to fulfill his job. This encourages responsibility for the club's success.
- Read and know your bylaws; update them carefully as needed.
- Share the information received from NGC, CAR, FGCNYS and Second District.
- Assign an email secretary, if email is not your strength.
- Pass along complete reports and documents to new administrations. Give each new administration a chance to get up and running and to succeed.
- Above all, remember that we are all volunteers, and that volunteers need encouragement. Lavishly give recognition to those who deserve it. Appoint an Awards Chairman.