

Calendar Party

This is a fun way to get *everyone in the association involved* getting your yearly calendar filled out! Plus it's a good team building exercise for the chapter. Here's what you do:

You'll Need: Three index cards for each member, a deck of regular playing cards that has been altered slightly (you'll see why/how below.) Three copies of the association roster, three calendars with the months shown and marked with usual association events.

First, as the members arrive:

Greet them and hand out three blank index cards to each person and let them select one playing card from a deck.

Second: Announce to the group

"Please take one minute to write down the name of a speaker or program topic or other meeting idea on a card, then hold up the card and I will collect it. This is an individual exercise, so please do not share with your neighbors."

Next: Announce to the group

"Please take one minute to write down a fund raising idea or the name of a new corporate partner. Again, please work alone." Have them hold up the card and those get collected.

Next: Announce to the group

"Ok, now take one minute to write down a community action project or safety program and hold it up for collection. This is your idea, please don't share yet."

Here's where the fun starts...

Announce: Pull out your playing card. Then split the room into three groups: by those who have picked face cards, those with 2,3,4,5 or 6,7,8,9. (In advance you'll need to count the cards and have the right number for those in attendance.) Those with Aces (you stack the deck with just three of these) are Chairman. Ace of Hearts is Community Service. Ace of Diamonds is Ways & Means and Ace of Spades is Program. The 10 card of Diamonds, Hearts or Spades is the co-chair (again – stack the deck with the diamond, heart and spade cards). Which group is which can be randomly selected or Chairs can decide among themselves. (You can pre-assign the Ace holders, if applicable, but swear them to secrecy.)

Each chairman is handed the stack of "idea cards" from the first part of the meeting, along with a calendar blocked out for dates that we need a program, fundraiser or community action project. They also get a current roster so that they can circle the names of the folks at the meeting that are now on their committee and scour the list for anybody who is not at the meeting that they can recruit. Each group fills in the calendar part that they are responsible for.

Share the finished calendar with the whole group.