



CLUB MATERIALS BULLETIN ON PROGRAMS

A PROGRAM FOR PAST PRESIDENTS DAY

Kiwanis club presidents have given much of their time and energy in providing leadership during the year they held that high office. In recognition of their unselfish contribution, it is suggested that once each year all clubs observe a Past Presidents Day.

This observance might be developed in one of two ways:

- As a special feature to be incorporated into the regularly scheduled program for the day.
- The entire program of the day to be built around the Past Presidents Day theme.

General Suggestions

- Consider selecting a date that would become the traditional time for observing the annual Past Presidents Day.
- Announce and publicize the day through the weekly club newsletter.
- Be certain every past president, whether or not he or she is still a member of the club, receives a special announcement concerning the observance. Follow up by individual contact.
- Invite the local media to cover the program.
- Honor the past presidents by seating them at the head table or at a special table.
- Present each past president with a special identification badge, a

boutonniere, or both.

- Highlight the addition of the nameplate of the immediate past president for those clubs using a past president roster plaque. (Plaque may be purchased from the official Kiwanis Family Store catalog.)
- Time the program carefully, and inform all participants in advance of the time schedule.

Program Possibilities

Clubs within a relatively short distance of a past or present district officer's residence or workplace could ask that officer to speak to the club on an appropriate topic, highlighting the service the club has rendered since its organization.

A member of the club or a local civic leader might be asked to present a similar type of speech.

For the program of the day, ask each past president to take one minute to complete the sentence: "For the good of Kiwanis, if I had it to do over again, I would...."

This is an opportune time to have a spouses/guests night and to recognize the past presidents' along with their spouses. Some of the achievements of the club could be reviewed along with plans for the future.

If any of the past presidents are deceased, it would be fitting to remember them with brief eulogies spoken by members who knew them personally, followed by a moment of silence. A humorous skit depicting the history of the club and covering the highlights of each past president's administration could be prepared. The song leader might work

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out a parody to some popular tune about each of the past presidents.

Another humorous idea is to project past presidents' baby pictures. Ask the members present to attempt to identify them individually. This should be planned with secrecy, for its effect will be greater if the surprise element is strong.

If small tables are available, a variation in seating arrangement would be to seat members at tables marked with the respective years they joined the club. The past presidents should be seated according to their respective years of leadership.

A group photograph of the past presidents, all holding a card bearing the year they held office, would make a fine memento for the club's history.

Don't forget to invite prospective members to attend!