

Happy 2017. To paraphrase a Joan Walsh Anglund book, 2017 is a New Beginning. Her book, "Spring is a New Beginning," brings forth all the changes spring brings with it. As we begin this new year, Daughters of the Nile will experience changes as well.

Now is the time for each of us to be a Membership Committee of 1 and step up to the challenge of proposing a new member, being an officer, and offering to serve on a committee. So many times, it is easy to let somebody else do it, but our organization is only as strong as our membership is.

Life in the early 1900's was pretty simple and there were not so many outside organizations and activities with which to be involved. So, when our founding members met to form Daughters of the Nile, they were very dedicated. Going to the monthly Stated Sessions and church activities were about the only social events women attended. Now we have so many choices of things to do that attending Temple functions often takes a back seat.

Without even thinking about it, we can Wreck a Temple in 10 Easy Steps:

1. Don't go to Stated Sessions.
2. If you go, be sure to be late.
3. If the weather is bad, then don't even think about going.
4. When you do go to the Stated Sessions, be sure to find fault with the Queen and each of the other officers.
5. Never accept an office, that way you can be sure to be able to criticize those who hold office.
6. When you are appointed to a committee, do not go to the meetings.
7. When asked what your opinion is, reply that you have nothing to say.
8. Do nothing more than absolutely necessary but, when someone else comments about the lion's share that some have done, tell everyone that the Temple is run by a clique.
9. Don't worry about paying dues; wait until you have received 2 or 3 late notices.
10. Don't bother getting any new members, let the other members worry about those problems.

To paraphrase, Eldridge Cleaver, "Be part of the solution, and not part of the Problem" and help 2017 be "A New Beginning" for Daughters of the Nile.

Bobbie Balthazor, PQ
Qadesh Temple No. 35
Supreme Temple Membership and Public Relations Committee