

Lighting The Fire Membership Retention

Aloha! I'm Joellen Webb, PQ, from Egyptian Temple No. 33 and the beautiful paradise of Hawaii.

So much of our time, energy and resources are spent recruiting new members. Let's not forget about working to keep the members we already have worked so hard to gain. Here are some ideas to help you keep your current members excited, enthusiastic and reconnected with our beautiful Order.

- Create a short and informative email newsletter "blast" to notify your members of Temple news, illness, and deaths. Hold a contest to name the email blast newsletter and award a prize to the winner during your Session. Our Temple's email newsletter "blast" is called **Nile Notes**.
- Mentor an officer who may be having difficulty memorizing her Ritual charges. Your efforts will be rewarded when you see her confidence level soar and her ritual work gets better and better.
- Establish a monthly or quarterly Nile Super Star Award to recognize a member who goes above and beyond to assist the Queen and your Temple officers. Present the certificate under Good of the Order during the Session. Take a photo of the award presentation and include it in your next Temple newsletter.
- Send birthday, get well or thinking of you cards to your members. They will be so pleased that you remembered them!
- Visit older members who can no longer attend Sessions. Take them a plant or small gift to cheer them up. Tell them how much they are missed and how much you appreciate their membership.
- Ask members to volunteer to work on a committee. Most members join an organization because they want to contribute in some way and feel needed. This will give them a reason to attend activities and Sessions.
- Compliment and encourage all Officers and Ladies of the Household. Thank them for being a valued member of your Temple.
- Schedule a social hour to include a light dinner before the Session begins. This is especially welcome if your Temple meets in the evening and members arrive immediately following work.
- Last but not least, share lots of hugs, good wishes and smiles with all of your members and make them feel valued and appreciated. The return will be HUGE in so many ways you cannot begin to imagine!!!! It is an investment in your Temple that does not cost any money.