

## Lambda State Program/Mixer of the Month December 2013

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## **Getting to Know You Mixer**

Especially with the holiday season, many chapters have luncheons or dinners planned and often invite friends and colleagues who may possibly become candidates for membership. Often it is a time that busy members who can't always attend a meeting--do. This is an excellent time to use this mixer.

- 1) Each member takes a few minutes to write 3 professional pieces of information about themselves on a post-it.
- 2) Next, they should record 2 personal pieces of information that may be unusual or that others probably do NOT already know about themselves, their family, or their interests.
- 3) Think about and be prepared to share how these items are connected to teaching and to each person's success in helping students learn.
- 4) Pair up the attendees with someone they don't know or perhaps don't know very well. Then take about 2-3 minutes each to share thoughts with the partners.
- 5) The partners should then introduce each other to the group with the new/unusual information!

## **Program Hint**

Did you know that Illinois has over 500 large and small museums across the state? Please consider hosting a chapter visit to one of these. There are certainly a variety and they are located from our largest cities to the smallest. Many house personal collections expanded over the years. Often they honor a person who has accomplished much as Presidents Lincoln, Grant, and Reagan, or poets as Carl Sandberg, and writers as Ernest Hemingway. Many add special holiday decorations emphasizing a time period or just to add color and lights to festivities of the season. They often host concerts performed by local artists or choruses from local schools and/or organizations.

Locating and holding a meeting at one of these would surely be informative and perhaps even a draw for future volunteer work or other participation or support. A meeting organized around a museum visit would certainly meet our Society's purposes:

- 6) To stimulate the personal and professional growth of members and to encourage their participation in appropriate programs of action, and
- 7) To inform the members of current economic, social, and educational issues so that they may participate effectively in a world society

A list is available on the internet at: <a href="http://www.ask.com/wiki/List\_of\_museums-in-Illinois">http://www.ask.com/wiki/List\_of\_museums-in-Illinois</a> This list can be sorted alphabetically in a number of ways from the names as it appears, to the city where they are

located among others. They range from the very large and well-known ones in Chicago, to small suburban and frequently family or business ones.

One example that my chapter recently visited is the Lizzardro Museum of Lapidary Art in Elmhurst, IL. It houses a gem collection acquired over many years by Joseph Lizzardro who was a founder and later board member of Meade Electric Company. Today, the museum houses one of the largest collections of jade art from all over the world.

Happy museum visiting and Happy Holidays to All!

