

## **Recognize club members**

### **High creativity trumps high cost everyday!**

#### **GOALdfish**

Few people enjoy creating goals--but everyone likes goldfish. When you set the goals at the beginning of a term or project, consider awarding a GOALdfish to all of those who achieve all of their goals. This is an inexpensive and creative way to encourage students to reach their goals and for you to recognize them for their accomplishments!

#### **Un-Banquet**

Many times we strive to do so much recognition through the use of banquets that they become less and special occasions. If you are involved in planning too many banquets, make one an Unbanquet--and plan simple menus (make your own burgers or pizzas) along with special activities (team skits, a magician etc.) That are generally uncharacteristic of a banquet. Let people wear blue jeans, make them eat different courses by different people, do whatever it takes to shake things up!

#### **Hats off to . . .**

Cut top hats out of paper and award them to those who deserve a tip of the hat! This is a very inexpensive and creative way to share recognition!

#### **Hot Ticket Award**

Create an award that looks like a ticket, burn it around the edges, put it in a plastic sleeve--and you have that Hot Ticket Award--a perfect way to recognize those individuals or ideas that have burned bright!

#### **Stirring Things Up Award**

For those who have stirred things up in a positive way you may choose to recognize them by awarding them with a large wooden spoon. Attach a note or certificate to explain how they have mixed things up!

#### **12th Week Banquet**

Most banquets celebrate beginnings or endings. A very difficult time can be the middle of the semester. Plan a mid-semester banquet to chase away the blahs--and remind students that they are appreciated!

#### **Energizer Award**

Give an award of a battery to the individual who is doing the most during a week to energize the group or organization. You may use one battery mounted on a plaque to you may present each honoree with an individual battery.

#### **F.R.O.G.s**

Frogs (an acronym "For Recognition of Growth") may be awarded to those who are maturing and developing in their leadership positions. You may choose to give plastic frogs or perhaps you'll even decide to give tadpoles to these outstanding members.

#### **C.A.R.P. Award**

This award also utilizes goldfish in recognition of the fact that they are nothing but fancy little carp! C.A.R.P. is an acronym for Caring And Responsible Person, and a C.A.R.P. award should be made anytime one of your members has done something that is sensitive and supportive of others.

#### **Letter Bombs**

If someone is having a tough time, encourage all the members of the group to send him or her an encouraging note! Bombard them!

**Buttons**

Buttons can advertise a number of things. They can indicate membership, or they can indicate special recognition within your group. Use buttons as an inexpensive way of recognizing the efforts of others!

**Bright Ideas**

Give out a light bulb to those members of your organization who have had a bright idea!

**Hangers**

Give a plastic hanger to members of a group or organization that need encouragement to "hang in there" after a difficult meeting or week.

**Outlet Awards**

Give the award of a small outlet cover or plate to someone who has been an outlet for creative ideas or energy within your group or organization.

**Opportunity . . .**

Give packets of seeds to individuals at the beginning of a term or project. Tell them that the seeds are like opportunities--if treated with care, and given the right amount of nurture, they will flourish into something beautiful. Organizational tasks and individuals are the same . . . at the end of the term or project ask what members did with their seeds.

**Adjourn in Honor of . . .**

As simple recognition, adjourn your meeting in honor of an individual or organization that has excelled. This should appear in the minutes.

**Motivation Box**

Have every member of your group write down something that motivates them on a card. Place this card in a box and share the motivation box ideas with any groups or individuals that could use ideas on enhancing motivation.

**Coloring Book**

Create a coloring book based upon the individuals and projects that are representative of your group. Try selling it as a fundraiser or hand it out at a meeting for those who like a doodle.

**Carpeting Award**

Give small carpet samples to those students who are wearing out the carpet by visiting other students in an effort to encourage them.

**Brushing-Up Award**

Give an award of a paint brush to those members who are making efforts to improve their leadership skills and abilities by attending workshops, programs, and conferences. It's important to encourage this kind of activity.

**Link Award**

Provide those individuals, offices, and organizations that have assisted you in your efforts with a piece of chain (may be plastic, mounted, two links, etc.). This symbolizes their important role in providing an important link to you or your group accomplishing your goals. This is an inexpensive and catchy way to carry your message.

**Paper Clip Award**

Give awards of giant paper clips to those who are working to keep your organization organized or working together--sometimes we forget how impactful those simple tasks can be.

**Wanted Posters**

Utilize photos to create "Wanted for Good Behavior" posters to be placed throughout the office or hall!