

Location, Location- Best Practices

1. Have meetings at a variety of locations to maintain interest

- a. Hotel
- b. Restaurant
- c. Country Club
- d. Conference Center
- e. Destination spot- i.e. sporting event/ ballpark, aquarium, botanical gardens, lake, theme park, horse track, dinner cruise on lake
- f. A sponsor credit union location- i.e. training room of a credit union (Free location)
- g. Location with connections to a large SEG for a credit union- i.e. UT Club, Minute Maid park

2. Have meetings at a variety of locations around to town for fairness in accessibility

- a. North, South, East, West
- b. Downtown/ Central
- c. A spot that is Central, convenient and economical is always great!

3. Have surveys at meetings in order to gather feedbackfrom attendees

- a. Offer incentive to fill out the survey by giving one free raffle ticket for a completed survey
- b. Surveys will gather information like: Did you like the location?, Did you like the speaker?, Did you like the food?, What suggestions do you have for the future? Etc...

4. Hold a variety of types of Chapter meetings in order to maintain interest, change up attendance numbers, change up clientele of attendees

- a. Dinner
 - i. Location- Hotel, Country Club, Restaurant, Conference Center
- b. Lunch
 - i. Location- Hotel, Conference Center or Restaurant
- c. Social Mixers- at a fun location/restaurant, play get to know you games, mix & mingle
 - Location- Popular Restaurant, Gaming Restaurant, sporting event, theme park
- d. Family Mixer- fun event
 - i. Location- Sporting event, ball park, recreational park, outdoors
- e. Vendor Expo
 - i. Location- Hotel or convention center or destination spot
- f. CEO Meetings- request to attend quarterly CEO meeting to gather their feedback
 - i. Location- Sponsor credit union (Free)
- g. Training Events- morning session, lunch, then afternoon session

- i. Location- Hotel or sponsor credit union (Free)
- h. Roundtables- i.e. Marketing, Lending, etc...
 - i. Location- Hotel or sponsor credit union (Free)

5. For some Chapters, a consistent, reliable location works perfectly for all!

- a. Gulf Coast Chapter- Location is a banquet center, Joes BBQ caters, @ \$9.00 per person!
- b. Big Springs Chapter- Location at the Steakhouse works great for everyone!
- c. Greater Oklahoma Chapter- Location is at the Credit Union House in Oklahoma City!

Overcoming Challenges

1. Challenge getting smaller credit unions to attend because of cost

a. Overcome by either the chapter or larger credit union take turns sponsoring a smaller credit union each month or quarter

2. Challenge getting remote credit unions to attend because location is too far

- a. Overcome by rotating the location to various towns to accommodate everyone
- b. Overcome by introducing web or audio conferencing for them to attend remotely
 - i. Instead of charging them, have them use the money to order pizza as they listen in or watch through webcasting

3. Challenge of the weather being either good or bad

a. Hard to overcome

4. Challenge having attendees wait until the last minute to register for the meeting

- a. Overcome by offering discount pricing for advance registration
- b. Overcome by up-charging the pricing after a particular date

5. Challenge getting a good location or venue that isn't too expense

- a. Overcome by communicating rates offered at other locations and try and bargain/ negotiate with venue for a group rate
- b. Overcome by maybe just having one meeting at this location per year and save money at less expensive spots throughout the year

6. Challenge of location only offering a cash bar and not accepting credit cards

- a. Overcome by changing locations ?
- b. Overcome by having a vendor sponsor the drinks at this event and being prepared to have cash on hand

7. Challenge of credit unions in the Chapter being so spread out

- a. Overcome by alternating locations between towns
- b. Overcome by having it at an exciting location and/or destination spot from time to time