

At the Southern Zonal Forum, a concern was brought up by a Region about how to better perform the function of Outreach in rural NA communities. Some discussion took place and a solution was offered that has been beneficial in another Region within the zone. The solution that was offered has been described in the following summary and provided to all Regions within the zone as part of our minutes from the meeting.

Purpose:

To reach out to groups and encourage an exchange of ideas and experiences between groups within an area and a Region.

How can my Home-Group do this:

Each group is encouraged to get Home-Group members together and create a special banner that expresses the essential nature of their group. (The banner could be displayed at their meeting)

In order for another group to "Capture the Banner" at least 5 members of that Home-Group must attend another group's regularly scheduled meeting. At the end of the meeting, they are permitted as a group of 5, to capture the banner of the group that they have attended.

Special Note:

- 1) You are not allowed to capture another banner unless you have your own banner with you.
- 2) You are only permitted to capture the banner at the group your attending. Not any other banners.
- 3) Banners cannot be captured at special events, IE: Speaker Jams, Fundraiser, Conventions, etc.

Capturing the Banner:

If your banner has been captured, you must take 5 Home-Group members to the group that has Captured your banner and get it back. If you would like to Capture the banner of the group you are attending, and trying to get your banner Re=Captured, you must take an additional 5 members to get their banner. It takes 5 members to get one banner.

For smaller groups

For groups that have 10 members or less it takes 3 members instead of 5.

If you are trying to get your banner Re=Captured, you must take 3 Home-Group members to the group that has Captured your banner and get it back. You must take an additional 3 members to get their banner. It takes 3 members to get one banner.

Benefits:

In many other Regions, This has been a wonderful opportunity to give a tangible reason to be a Home-Group member. .. help us Re-Capture our banner. It has provided an excellent platform for introducing members to a home group business meeting and the activity of making the banner.

The benefits of the time spent together to try and get another banner or to get our banner back is of great benefit to the addicts within the Home-Group. A strong sense of Unity is formed through the use of this Outreach concept.

Home-Groups are encouraged to take their banner to these functions for display. Which at this time, you can "DARE" other groups to come Capture the group banner.

This is an excellent tool for reaching out to rural and also struggling groups.