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From: "Catherine Tomlinson" <Ctomlin@ados.com>
To: <OESStar@yahoogroups.com>
Sent: Sunday, January 23, 2005 2:43 AM
Subject: [OESStar] Attn: Sis. Carole Mather - Valentine Ideas & Heroes

Dear Carole,

Valentines can be such a fun time, but people tend to think of it only as a couples day. The day celebrates LOVE, ALL kinds of love, so here's some ideas:

1) Have everyone bring one nice comment for each member and then at the meeting pair them off by drawing. Then the people can say what their comment about the person they drew is. At the end of the evening collect all the papers and consolidate them onto one page per person so each person can have a lasting reminder of what others love about them.

2) Play "match the cupid" with childhood photographs of married or dating members of your Chapter and their significant others. See how many can correctly match the little boy and little girl.

3) For the ladies, how about a "Love Is In The Hair" contest where they accessorize their do's with Valentine themes. Prizes for the zaniest, best theme, etc.

4) A "Have a Heart" drive would be great where each member brings a canned good or something to be donated to charity with a paper heart attached saying your Chapter's name and number. This can be really good PR.

5) Create a giant heart poster and have people write in their ideas to create a "map of the heart". What fills their hearts?

Now about heroes:

For those of you who think kids today are self-centered (and most definitely many are), here's my morning. My Beloved husband and I came across a car wash today; a constant summer fund raiser here that usually waits until warmer climes to begin. The weather was a chilly 40 odd but there was a pack of kids so we stopped to support whatever they needed money for this time. Two things were remarkable about this particular carwash, however: 1) The KIDS were actually doing the work, not the adults and 2) The KIDS had organized it, all of it. And was it for a school trip or a conference or a play to benefit them? Nope; these remarkable young folk had organized the event, signed up volunteers, got supplies and rounded up adult chaperones all to raise money for the victims of the Tsunami half a world away. In a day and age when sports figures are likely their heroes, they are mine. Have as wonderful a day as these young people made for others.

Star Love & Service,
 Catherine Tomlinson
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In St Helens, OR

~d

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