

Irene Laidley , ITC Parliamentarian Keynote Speaker

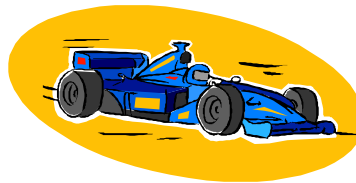
It's a Fast Track World

Would you agree that we set a pretty high standard for ITC members? I am referring to the Regional level especially. Do you sometimes feel that the more you do for ITC, the more there is to be done? We put some heavy burdens on ourselves because we know that others are evaluating our work. There is always more that we can do – whether it is in regard to recruiting members or sharing some important information. We can always do more.

Your President committed herself and your Sierra Pacific Board “to work for the clubs and councils and not the other way around.” She told you, “We want the clubs and councils to be the foundation on which to continue building a high degree of professionalism and leadership. As we move forward, it is with the assurance that the SPR Board will provide assistance to you – its members” I am sure that these Board members did as much as they possibly could to try to accomplish this.

Have you noticed that it is the long term members that are doing more and more in our organization? The newer members don't seem to have the time to pitch in the way we did when we were new members. In fact, many of those outside our realm of membership do not want the commitment of membership. They want to come, attend a few meetings, get their training and leave.

It's a fast track world.



There is no long term commitment, or very little of it. Our expectations of new members should change.

They may only want a small aspect of our training. I often hear, “I want to learn how to do presentations.” How do we handle these requests?

One suggestion is the *POWERtalk* Short Course. We tried it in my club, over a six month period. Six different workshops , one hour at each meeting, from September to December. We signed up three (3) members at the first session and have acquired another one since. It is worth a try.

Most people don't realize how much there is to learn to become a good presenter. The short course gives them an idea of what is involved.

Our dilemma is that there soon won't be enough long-term members left to do the training. The average membership is two years. At that rate, who will be left to mentor, assist, and train the newcomers?

The changes in the world today come faster than we are able to manage them. Information comes at us in such volumes that we cannot keep up with all of it. How many of you are on your second or third computer? Each one has a new program to learn. We no sooner learn one, become accustomed to working with it when we have to update with another one and learn that one.