

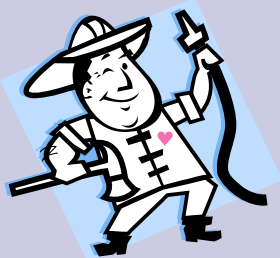
## Program of the Month

*Throughout the rest of our Five Year Renewal Program your Lodge will receive a Program of the Month. This Program is created for you to utilize in your Lodge.*

*If your lodge already has a program similar to the program that is contained in this brochure, by all means continue your efforts. If however, you are not conducting this type of program please utilize this procedure.*

*These programs are created to help your lodge retain your members and it is specifically tied to our Renewal Effort.*

*Be sure to let me know how this program worked out by calling me at 1-800-632-8764 or by emailing me at [renewal@gl-mi.org](mailto:renewal@gl-mi.org).*



If your lodge needs assistance in the preparation of this program. Please call Robert Conley at the number below.

### Grand Lodge of Michigan Renewal Programs

If you need assistance with this program,  
Please call:

Robert Conley  
Member Services Grand Lodge of Michigan  
800-632-8764  
[renewal@gl-mi.org](mailto:renewal@gl-mi.org)

Grand Lodge of  
Michigan

## Community Group Thank You Program



Grand Lodge of Michigan  
Renewal Programs

Tel: 800-632-8764

## Community Group Program

Some of our lodges are very active in the community, others are not. But all of us operate inside of the communities that contain our lodge and its about time we said Thank You to the groups in the community that make our towns, or local areas



### Say Thank You to your Community Volunteers!

the places to live that they are. This program is intended to have your lodge say thank you to the members of a group or groups in your local area. It might be the School Board, or the Township Board, Village Council or Salvation Army. Saying thank you to these people for all of the work they do is something that is long past due. It doesn't matter whether you agree with their politics or some decision that they may have made in the past. This is non political. We are simply asking the lodge to find a public service group in their area and have a night just for them. There are a great many of our members who serve in an awful lot of capacities in our communities so when we say thanks to the group we are also thanking our own membership. Allowing the School Board to meet your members and see your talents may result in all kinds of good things being brought forward. Opportunities for volunteering, assisting their group and many others. At the very least the next time their asked "where is the lodge" they should be able to answer, I KNOW!

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### How does it work?

This is a very easy program for you to plan and put into action. The first thing to do is identify a group of people in your local community that you think is deserving of Thanks and recognition. It could be the local School Board, or the Teachers in your elementary school, the local firefighters, or police officers, ambulance personnel, or public service workers such as water and sewer employees, public road commission drivers and workers, town councils, Salvation Army or Soup Kitchen Volunteers. The list is endless.

After you have made your selection, notify the group in person if possible, by phone otherwise and inform them of your intention to honor that group. Ask them when they might have a date open that they could attend your lodge for a honors night, with dinner. Ask them also, what time would be most convenient for them. Be sure to get some kind of number of people that will be attending on behalf of the group. Once you have this kind of information form a planning team to put the details together. Plan your dinner, we have included some ideas for you on your planning sheet. When you have your team together make sure they confirm the details of the event with the group that you are recognizing by sending written notice to them with all of the pertinent information. You might want to start by showing your guests around the lodge, and if you have a brother available who is knowledgeable about the history of your lodge have



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him present a short (no more than 10 minute) presentation about the lodges history. The Worshipful Master or Master of Ceremonies should have a prepared speech of (again no more than 10 minutes) welcoming your

honorees, explaining why they are present and thanking them for their dedication to the community. If the lodge is capable a presentation of some kind of award, whether it is a plaque or certificate (framed) could be made at this time. Another excellent token of gratitude could be a gift certificate at a local restaurant. The ladies might appreciate a certificate at a local day spa or some other business that caters to women.

After this portion of the meeting ask if their leader or supervisor would like to make any comments (if you do intend to have them make a speech, be sure to inform them in advance so they can be properly prepared). Following his or her remarks retire to the dining room for a meal, or appetizers, depending on what the lodge chooses. No matter whether you will be serving a dinner or appetizers please let the honorees know in advance what will be available so they can make the necessary arrangements.

It is important to remember that you are recognizing members of the community who have very little information about the craft. This is your chance to really shine! Do it up right, take the time to make the program work and work well. We guarantee that the honorees will long remember the efforts that the members of your lodge have gone to, in saying Thank You for making our community a better place to live!

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