



Pearls of Wisdom

OPC Past President Linda Squarzolo

Council Histories (Part II)

Last month I wrote about why every council should record their history and this month I would like to offer some suggestions about what information should be included in the history book.

See the next page for the list of what to include!



Consider printing several copies of these history books and making them available to members. Many of them would appreciate having a copy. Those interested in having a copy can be charged a nominal amount to cover the printing costs.

If your council has never written a history book, begin with one or two decades. If a history book already exists, it should be updated roughly every ten years.

I look forward to hearing about the work you are doing in recording your council's history.



WHAT TO INCLUDE IN YOUR HISTORY BOOK!

- Prepare a list of the presidents and spiritual advisors who served the council and their term of office.
- Each president, at the end of her term, should write a summary of the highlights of her term. She may find it helpful to consult the minutes of meetings during her time in office. If possible, include a picture of the president and also of her executive.
- Make a list of the council's executive for each year or term. In years gone by, the term of office was for only one year. Another consideration may be that there were changes to the executive during the term, such as resignations and replacements.
- The council may have presented awards, such as the Maple Leaf Service Pin or the Bellelle Guerin Award. The names of the recipients, the date of presentation and their achievements should be included.
- Service pins presentations should also be recognized.
- For a diocesan council, the names of life members, the date of presentation and achievements of the recipients should be included.
- Councils host special events like retreat days, special collections for the needy, visits to nursing homes and other services to the community. Tell about them and include photographs.
- Diocesan councils should include summaries of their annual conventions, locations, guest speakers, theme and other important information. Include a few pictures, as well.