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A Call to Serve with a

Serving of Gratitude

by Kevin Leavey

or my final Chair Corner, I am calling on our membership to actively participate and improve the lives of your fellow actuaries. If you would like to help but aren't sure how, here's how:

- 1. Recruit! You have already shown yourself to be dedicated to the importance of business skills to complement our technical skills. Recruit others to stand up and be counted.
- 2. Write a book review of a business book that helped you.
- 3. Contribute your management tips in an article for The Stepping Stone.
- 4. Develop or participate in a session for a SOA meeting.
- 5. Volunteer for the section council when the time comes next June.

Moving onto the section council is the largest time commitment you can make, and this may feel daunting to some, but the benefits of such a move could be many. During one of the first sessions I attended as a council member, we were presented with the following graphic describing the benefits of section leadership.

The graphic above was designed by former M&PD chairperson, Paula Hodges. I think Paula did an amazing job capturing all the benefits of serving on a section council.

As I contemplated the best way to deliver my final Chair Corner, I could not escape the feeling of overwhelming gratitude I have for this opportunity to serve on the M&PD Section Council. I have benefited greatly from this experience and I can only hope that my efforts to give have surpassed what I've received.

In addition to the benefits shown above, I have been able to meet and work with dozens of SOA members. I have had the pleasure of working with

Benefits of Leadership in SOA Time Management Participate

Recruit

Delegate

Leam

Practice

Leadership Skills **Build Your Professional Network** Recruiting Experience Communication Skills Negotiation Skills Management and delegation skills

Shaping the profession

Experience organizational culture outside your corporation

wonderfully dedicated fellow council members as well as the chairpersons of other sections.

Most of all, in parting I have some huge "Thank You's" to give. Thank you to Meg Weber and Jill Leprich of the SOA staff. You both educated me about the hard work and tireless support given by SOA staff members and taught me more about how the SOA works than anyone. My final thank you is for John West Hadley, our newsletter editor. Obviously, this could not be done without you. Your patience and guidance have been nothing short of exemplary.

To our members, please get involved. We will all benefit from your knowledge, and you may just get out of it more than you expected.

Warm Regards.



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