Culture and Manners Institute Improvements that last a Lifetime

Etiquette for the Management Minded: Etiquette is not about perfection, etiquette is about connection.



What is Etiquette?

- Making the people around us feel comfortable
- #1 rule of etiquette is to break any rule of etiquette to make people around us comfortable

Validate Others

- Compliment others:
 "You did a great job on that presentation."
 "Thank you for your help with that project."
- Exceptional manager hand writes notes to staff expressing praise, encouragement, gratitude

Practice Active Listening

- · The most skilled conversationalists are listeners
- Passive listening: listening, not saying anything
- Active listening: acknowledging what the other person is saying by paraphrasing it back

Example: "So you grew up in Keokuk, but now you live and work in Des Moines..."

Constructive Criticism: Sandwich Technique

- (Bread): Begin with positive
- (Filling): Offer constructive feedback
- (Bread): End with positive

Name Recall

- Repeat person's name back to him/her
- · Quiz yourself on names of people you have met
- Word association: rhymes, alliteration, word pictures

Post-event Review and Name Recall Practice

- Write down names you remembered, what the people looked like and what you talked about
- Review notes before future events
- Visualize people as you look at business cards
 LinkedIn: review photos and names of contacts

Meeting Etiquette

Seating

Meeting leader is in charge of assigning seats

- Highest rank executive or guests sit at ends of table
- Highest ranked executive sits facing the door (not with his/her back to the door)
- · Negotiation: sit next to the person, not opposite
- Put people who disagree on same side of table (harder to make eye contact, more calming)

Other Meeting Tips

- Start on time: respect time of those present
- Presenting: stand near the screen, not in back of room (like watching a tennis match)

Meetings Outside Your Organization

- Meeting begins at front door with security guards; be pleasant to anyone on way in or out
- Wait for meeting leader to tell you where to sit
- "Sit anywhere." Pick seat near middle of table

Follow Up After an Event

How you follow-up is a reflection of yourself and the organization you represent.

- Send a personal note: "It was a pleasure to speak with you at the Annual Meeting..."
- Email: more immediate "I enjoyed meeting you at the ISAC Golf Fundraiser. Here is a link to the article I told you about."
- <u>Hand-written</u>: fold-over notes linger longer
- <u>LinkedIn</u>: Don't send generic invite, write a message to remind person where you met
- Phone: "I enjoyed speaking to you at the Chamber event. May I make an appointment to visit with you further and learn more about your organization?"

Your Image

Professional Dress

- Dress out of respect for others
- · Represent your organization well
- Let your attire lead to where you aspire
- In management, kick it up a notch pressed clothing, collared shirts/blouses, dress slacks or dress skirts, suits or suit jackets for meetings
- Smile: best accessory, shows you are open to communication

Social Media

Image in virtual world as important as physical one

Rewards

- · Great way to reach more people, faster
- Share photos and videos of initiatives
- Exchange ideas with local and national orgs

Risks

- Blurred lines between personal and professional
- Whatever you put out there is public info: choose content carefully
- Loss of control over content: some things you post, you will not be able to take down

Strategy

- · Separate personal and professional
- Retain a little mystery; when you put everything you are thinking/doing/feeling on Facebook, your mystery is history
- Separate texting/Tweeting lingo from professional email

Cell Phones

- Use to collaborate, not to disengage
- In an emergency, let others in a meeting know you need to keep your cell phone on.