

Ideas for 2009-2010 International Theme

by Marilyn Ross

...Share Our Passport to Adventure...

Thoughts and ideas for use with chapter and council activities;
programs, yearbooks, scrapbooks, secret sisters.

Following are words which come to mind that can be used in conjunction with the theme. Perhaps they will spark ideas on ways you can incorporate them in your chapter and/or council life. Remember, Sky is the Limit!

- Compass
- Trunks
- Nostalgic band boxes; hatboxes
- Post script scarves or tees (available in dept. stores, clothing stores, catalogues)
- Carte postale pillows (small pillows made to look like an old postcard)
- Antique postcards
- Adventures (you choose which ones)
- Baggage/Luggage/Suitcases
- Airport Terminal
- Customs
- Tourist
- Plane ticket stubs; bus tickets, train tickets, cruise ship stubs
- Baggage stubs, receipts
- Pass
- Reservations
- Declare: what you brought back from having visited a foreign country
- Orient Express
- Taxi
- World Maps
- Continents
- Islands
- Mountains
- Oceans/seas
- Rivers
- Natural lakes
- International Dateline
- Equator

- Luggage labels
- Log book
- Packing list
- Baggage Carriers
- World Explorers
- Wanderlust
- Dreams
- Arrivals
- Departures
- Ticketing
- Travel Journals; travel guides
- Camera
- Trip of a Lifetime
- Holiday or Vacation
- Around the World
- Getaway
- Scenic route
- On the road again
- Journey
- Hotel
- Discover
- Destination
- Expedition
- Trip, Travel
- Into the Wild
- The Great Outdoors
- Passport
- Voyage
- Port of Call
- Anchor
- Luxury
- Casino
- Sea Breeze
- Hot Tub
- Total Bliss
- Chocolate on Pillow (I like this one especially!)
- Deck Party
- Dancing Under The Stars
- Captain's Table
- Welcome Aboard
- Sail Away
- Bon Voyage
- Happy Hour
- Pampered
- Paradise
- Spa

- R & R
- Globes (used as centerpieces surrounded by yellow roses)
- Getting Spoiled
- Bingo, Shuffle Board, Martini Bar, Pool Games
- Itinerary

Idea for yearbooks:

- * Instead of Chapter Roster, try titling the roster as “The Adventurers” and so forth.
- * Use maps (or anything listed above) as divider pages - check the paper store near you. Some scrapbook pages already have maps, or vacation type papers ready to use.
- * Programs could be announced as part of the ‘media packing list’, i.e., reading materials.

Ideas for Programs:

- Swimwear is something we usually pack to go on various kinds of adventures. Trace the history of women’s bathing suits from the early 1900’s to the present.
- History of places you dream of going
- Synopsis of books you would, could, should read before you go on an adventure; titles of books you can take along for long rides, trips; sunny days by a pool; **stories/books to inspire you as you begin an adventure.**
- Your idea of total bliss would be? _____

Ideas for Secret Sisters:

- Use a quart sized zipper storage bag (as used by airlines) and fill it with all you can with things you know she likes; or, if you know she is headed on a journey, pack a cosmetic bag or zip lock with things you know she’ll need. How thoughtful would that be?!
- Present your SS with chocolate on a *small* pillow before you leave the meeting.
- Michaels craft store sell multi-colored passport covers (small) for \$1. Buy one for your special sister and put in it good wishes (like fortune cookie thoughts). Or, if you of a Preceptor degree wish, include thoughts of your SS’s virtue color.

Ideas for Socials:

- Host a Midnight Buffet!
- Dance Under the Stars
- Watch Broadway Style Shows (give each member passports, tickets, play money, etc)
- Enjoy martinis? Have a martini bar party & sample various recipes.
- Host a Happy Hour (couples party) Choose fun decor, games, or just visit.
- Enjoy a salad supper? The twist on this would be to ask each member to bring a new recipe she has always wanted to try and to date, hasn’t. It’s okay if there are 7 desserts, 1 salad and no main dishes! Socials are supposed to be fun!!
- Casino night

- Plan a social around the Orient Express.

Rituals:

- Why not, for this year, use travel candles when you give a ritual?

Ways and Means:

- Sell tickets for a Midnight Buffet and Bingo (or your game of choice) You set the price. Partial or all proceeds to go to your choice of charity, or something in your community that needs attention, might sell more tickets. Make it easy, appealing and something everyone would enjoy.
- Working with a local hotel or restaurant or spa, etc., sell tickets for an 'adventure' be it a weekend in a hotel, dinner at a restaurant, or a day at the spa.
- Or, dream big! Sell tickets for a pre-arranged trip to some exotic place that people would enjoy.

***PACKING LIST CATEGORIES:**

Clothing: shirts, pants/shorts, skirts, dresses, jeans jacket/coat, pajamas, undergarments, swimwear, socks/shoes, belts/accessories.

Medical: Prescriptions, antibiotic creams, adhesive bandages, bug repellent, pain reliever, cortisone cream, cotton swabs, anti-bacterial wipes, tweezers, etc

Media: Cell phone/charger, camera w/battery & charger, MP3 player/charger, DVD player w/DVD's, reading light & glasses, books, maps/travel guides, travel journal

Toiletries: comb/brush/hair supplies, hair accessories, toothbrush/paste/floss, lip balm, skin care/lotions, makeup kit, deodorant, disposable shavers, sunscreen, feminine products

Travel Needs: Itinerary, tickets/vouchers, cash/travelers checks, phone card, passport/visa, drivers license/ID, addresses for postcards, auto insurance card, business cards, copy of important docs, emergency numbers

Miscellaneous: sunglasses/hat/scarf, lint roller, binoculars, zipper storage bags, sports gear, travel alarm clock, travel candle, umbrella, add on your own ideas to each category.

***NOTE: The above list comes from a Packing List sheet off a tablet of them purchased at Michaels Craft Store.**

Thoughts from my personal journals...

- Live always, my friend, as if there is world enough and time. --Flavia
- Friendship fills up all those little ruts in life's road.
- There are two worlds:
 The world that we can measure with line and rule, and
 The world that we feel with our hearts and imagination.
--Leigh Hunt
- Think and act like the person you would like to be, and you will soon discover what a person you can be.
- Beta Sigma Phi is a whetstone for the mind, for it sharpens it, thereby making one more alert...more aware of the intriguing paths of learning, through which life is enriched.
Beta Sigma Phi is a stepping stone on a star-paved path; each year a milestone along the Highway of Happiness.
- The guiding Torch of Beta Sigma Phi should and will go onward and upward, and it is right that it should be passed from friend to friend.
- We cannot discover new oceans unless we have the courage to lose sight of the shore.
- Most of all let Love guide your life.
--Colossians 3:14
- To be successful, you have to keep moving. After all, no one stumbles on something sitting down.
- A true friend never gets in your way unless you happen to be going down.
- In some far off time in some far away place, surely we were together before, you and I, for kindred souls are we.
--Flavia
- Life is a journey of new beginnings. --Flavia
- Dreams carry us beyond the horizon of what is and into the realm of what might be.
- True success is not found in the destination but in the journey.

- The wisdom of my Sisterhood is like a beacon in the night, Illumes my purposes and leads me to the Light.
- Life is an adventure, dare it.
- Friendship, like a beacon of light, can lead you along the road of life.
- Stake out an island of calm serenity in the chaotic ocean of daily life.
- What can YOU do for your chapter? Give the best that is in you! Accept your challenges and enjoy your rewards. We all know that the ones who give the most are the ones who receive the most. And those who aren't doing anything aren't getting a free ride, they are missing the boat. Don't you miss the boat! YOU bought your ticket when you joined Beta Sigma Phi. Don't waste it. Use it! It is a beautiful way to go!
- **By seeing things differently, we can make all kinds of discoveries. We can replace old perceptions with new ones and combine old ideas in new ways, bringing into being something which didn't exist before.**

--Christopher News Notes

(Think about this in relationship to Beta Sigma Phi!)

- Because a Friend said, "Come with me," we too were privileged to share the circle. And because we shared, we learned. Many roads were opened to us--the roads to the Good, the True, the Beautiful.
- re: our sorority Jewels -- So many jewels must go into the fashioning of a life. Let's go into the vault of our minds and take a look at the personal jewelry we've been carrying along with us as we have lived our days. (The theme this year provides us with a profound opportunity to study our jewels and apply them to our lives, and take them with us on our adventures! Red-Courage, Yellow-Vision, Blue-Humility, Orange-Loyalty, Green-Fellowship, Violet-Service.)
- **Beta Sigma Phi's: those we discover whenever we reach out and look for them.**
- Sometimes we may find it necessary to fly as on the wings of an eagle.
- What wonderful things we imagine we would do off on an island somewhere where folks didn't bother so--but why not consider the whole earth an island--and perform our wonders right here and now.
- The Torch I carry sings a glad song of light and love--past, present and to be.

--Lynn Terry

- We all need friendship in our journey through life. We come into this world alone - we pass out alone, but we cannot live it alone. Make friends as you go along.
- Love doesn't make the world go around.
Love is what makes the ride worthwhile.
--F.P. Jones
- Nothing makes the earth seem so spacious as to have friends at a distance; they make the latitude and longitude.
--Thoreau
- We are all travelers in the wilderness of this world, and the best that we find in our travels is an honest friend.
--Robert Louis Stevenson
- My friend,
I depend on you during our journey in life!
- I am so glad you are here. It helps me realize how beautiful my world is.
--Rilke

Idea for favors...

Supplies: Roll of Lifesavers & a suitable length (6 to 7") of rope

Inspiration: "There is always a lifeline coiled and handy on the stern of any vessel, ready to be tossed to a passenger or crew member who has gone overboard.

If you have ever needed a lifeline, you know how welcome it is, how it feels to be hauled back on board to the waiting arms of a friend or rescuer.

On shore we are often in need of lifelines, too. Words can be lifelines; encouragement can be lifelines, too, as welcome and reassuring as a coil of rope."

- Tie rope around a roll of Lifesavers with a paper attached that reads:

"Here is a roll of LIFESAVERS for you to savor...along with a rope. They can serve as symbols of Friends and Lifelines.

Friends are "Lifesavers" and Lifelines, too, as welcome and reassuring as a coil of rope when you need it.

Let these symbols remind you of the many times others need your help and you need theirs."

Thoughts paraphrased from the mortal woman's dream (Pledge Ritual):

"...I **wandered** by night through the quiet streets of an ancient city.
I was not alone. Diotima, the Wise Woman of Mantinea, was with me.
Behold black night did enshroud the whole earth and I knew not where we
journeyed.

I saw a light, a light dimly gleaming in the darkness.

It was a torch, glowing and **moving** in the distance.

Diotima and I **followed** this torch.

What is the torch? Diotima said it is called Learning.

Why does it proceed as we **move toward** it? That we may **find our way** through
darkness.

Where is it **leading**? She answered not.

My steps faltered and I knew the great torch **led onward, ever onward**.

You **enter** the light...

Why don't others we meet in the streets **follow** the torch and seek the light
instead of **wandering** about in different ways?

Follow the light of learning... You are **guided** by it and are yourself a guide to others."

Thoughts paraphrased from the Ritual of the Badge:

"...Bearer of the torch lights your present **journey** of instruction.

Life will go on in any sort of vessel **but in the proper place** it becomes a work of art.

Learning may take place **anywhere**.

The Great Torch Bearer has gone **up and down the land** through the ages searching
for men with lamps in their hands and lighting their lamps from His Torch.

The important lamps are the smaller ones that each of us may light and **carry**.

Thoughts paraphrased from the Ritual of Jewels:

In **all places and in all climates**, friendship is of all things the most sought after.

Seek knowledge.

And though you **journey** to the end of earth, alone, without a sister near, with only the
inner eye to see, will you keep the torch burning bright and steady within
your heart?

TODAY IS AN ISLAND

Today is an island, a day set apart.
Forever to cherish, and keep in my heart.

Today is an island, for time now stands still
A new day is dawning, a new day to fill.

With love and bright laughter, with sunshine and song,
Drab life shall not touch me, dull care shall be gone.

Today is an island, a gem in the sea,
Of days that are past now, and days yet to be.

Another favor idea:

Cut two 3x9-inch strips of double-sided scrapbook paper.
Overlap in a cross shape,
Use glue stick to adhere overlapped centers.
Punch a hole in the corners of each strip.
Fold sides up.
Thread ribbon or rickrack through the holes to shape box together.
Fill with lightweight snacks or candies that won't slip through the open edges.
Add travel stickers on the sides, or theme stickers would work well, too.

A Magical Make-Up Kit

(to use when you are on any adventure)

Main Ingredient: Ideals of Beta Sigma Phi

This kit must be used each day to obtain the desired results. Use the following directions:

Lather yourself with GRACIOUSNESS using plenty of HOSPITALITY, which should flow like a crystal stream. Apply LOYALTY. Dust with CHARM which will captivate and enrapture anyone with whom you come in contact. Balance by POISE. Comb and brush vigorously with LEADERSHIP. Delicately but firmly touch with SELF-EXPRESSION. Look into the mirror which is APPRECIATION OF LIBERAL ARTS.

Result and Product: A Beta Sigma Phi!

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