



## Technological Awakening – Part I

Ready or not we live in the information age. We can receive news almost before it happens IF we have up to date resources & gadgets. Recently my cousin was visiting and he was pecking away on his cell phone and the next thing I knew, he had pulled up a map and a picture of my house. The house was painted gray in September and the picture showed it yellow, but still that was pretty amazing considering what he was holding was no bigger than a graham cracker. Gadgets can be nice but sometimes we overlook what is most available too us...our computers with email & the internet.

When you go to a chapter meeting is it to hear the minutes being read or the balance of the treasurer's report? Or is it for the fellowship, friendship, to hear a story about a project, to plan a project, refreshments?

Meetings are important but there is some business that can be done ahead of time by using email:

- \*email your minutes ahead of time and dispense of reading them
- \*email the treasurer's report and then ask for approval and presentation of any bills @ the meeting
- \*email committee chairs if they have a report for a meeting; no need to call on someone if they don't have a report
- \*send a brief agenda so member's can prepare for discussion ahead of time

Email can be used to keep in touch between meetings:

- \*meeting invitations - this will be covered in a future edition
- \*send meeting reminders, dues reminders, and special project information
- \*update on a member in need
- \*or just to say HI, how are you doing?

Email is not for everyone and that is ok. If there are members in your chapter or district who don't have access, designate someone to notify them. We don't want anyone to feel left out or excluded.

\*Minutes & reports can be available at the meeting for members to review before it starts / or they can be sent ahead of time. Distribute at the social and they have a chance to be reviewed before the next meeting

\*Calling Tree – use this for members who don't receive email. One person from the email list can phone the first member and they take it from there notifying the rest.

We live in an information world. Take advantage of the resources available and use what works for you and your chapter. Don't let technology scare you.