**Teambuilding**

**Breaking the Ice**

*Icebreakers, figuratively, break the ice when a group just forms or reforms after a break. Icebreakers are an effective method to initiate a new member orientation. A few examples are:*

1. **Human scavenger hunt.**
   - Find someone who: is a graduate student owns cross-country skis has been to Europe wears contacts (make up your own...be creative!).

2. **Hometown.**
   - Members tell where they are from and information about their hometown.

3. **Name games.**
   - Why or how the member received his/her name. Share name and hobby; members try to memorize information.

4. **Knots.**
   - Form a circle by placing hands in the middle of the circle. Grab someone else's hands (not on either side of you), and without letting go, try to untangle the "knot."

**Establishing Quality Relationships**

- Create recreational events for your members outside of regular meeting times. This will allow your members to get to know each other in a more casual setting.
- Encourage your members to reward one another for either taking an active role in the club or for helping to organize an event. This reward system will not only help to encourage more participation in your organization’s events, but also provides an outlet for appreciation of members’ efforts.
- Encourage the sharing of personal stories and feelings among your members. This sharing of experiences will bring your organization together and helps to solidify budding friendships and relationships.

**Leadership Takeout**

**Ice breakers**
- Boundary breakers
  - Discussion of strengths, challenges, pet peeves, and values.
  - Self assessments of members to better facilitate relationships with others.

**Forced Choice.**
- Ask members to stand in the middle of the room and have them move to either side to indicate their choice.

**Are you:**
1. More like a Cadillac than a Volkswagen?
2. More of a saver than a spender?
3. More like New York than Colorado?
4. More yes than no?
5. More like a student than a teacher?
6. More here than there?
7. More religious than non-religious?
8. More like the present than the future?
9. More like a file cabinet than a liquor chest?
10. More intuitive than rational?
11. More like a tortoise than a hare?

**Dyads**
- Members form groups of two and find out information about each other.

**Possible questions to ask:**
1. Who do you think is the most important person who has lived in the past 100 years?
2. What is the best movie that you have seen recently?
3. What is the title of the last book that you have read?
4. If you could be any animal other than human, what would you be?
5. If you could travel to any place in the world, where would you go?
6. What is your favorite sport?
7. One adjective to describe me is...
8. The emotion I find most difficult to control is....