

Lifestyle Matters Supper Club

After you have a health seminar, it is important to keep newly made friendships alive, help people establish new habits on a long term basis and encourage attendance at future events.

A monthly Supper Club is a nice way to stay connected without overworking your team or demanding too much time from your health seminar participants. The concept of a Supper Club involves a monthly gathering of people who are interested in learning new health concepts and obtaining new information and support for positive Lifestyle changes.

A Supper Club can follow a variety of formats, but usually involve some or all of the following elements:

- Food tasting or light supper
- Cooking demonstration
- Information segment (health talk, video segment, power-point, handouts)
- Interactive discussion on the topic (it doesn't have to be about food)
- Visiting and social interaction
- Sale of materials (cookbooks, bulk foods, health books, inspirational, etc.)

The cookbook series, *Lifestyle Matters Guilt-free Gourmet*, is designed to assist you in putting together a monthly Supper Club event that is fun, easy and educational. In it you will find the following aids for creating your own supper club:

- Easy, helpful plant-based recipes
- Eight 10-minute talks on a variety of subjects
- Menu planning ideas for breakfast, lunch and supper
- Tips for packing lunches
- How to enjoy more raw food
- Cooked vegetable ideas

- Healthy Holiday tips
- Shopping list essentials
- Recipe variation ideas
- Helpful serving suggestions

Supper Club ideas:

- 1. Choose a health topic and have a local professional come and address the group on a topic of interest to the participants (heart health, osteoporosis, dental care, diabetes, etc.).
- 2. Have participants bring their favorite recipes and discuss how to improve them.
- 3. Have a theme based on meal types: breakfast ideas, Mexican cooking, eating healthfully away from home, special occasions, picnics, etc.
- 4. Have participants choose goals for the month and keep track of progress: walking so much a day; drinking more water; eating more vegetables, etc.
- 5. Present one of the health topics in the Guilt-free Gourmet and initiate discussion on practical ways to implement suggestions.
- 6. Have participants choose a recipe from the Guilt-free Gourmet cookbook or some other cookbook you recommend and make it to bring to the next Supper Club. Discuss results.
- 7. Present special nutrition and Lifestyle features focusing on fiber, healthful fats, or label-reading (encourage participants to bring food labels for discussion).
- 8. Organize an evening shopping trip to the local grocery or health food store to discover healthful and economical food choices.
- 9. Meet at a local restaurant that offers healthful menu options.
- 10. Discuss eating out options and traveling tips relating to food and exercise.