

Toastie Tatts Tittle Tattle

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Letter from the Editor,

Welcoming everyone back to begin the new year feeling revitalised and refreshed. This describes the vibe of our first meeting of the year of 2008, the speech-a-thon. This month will be a busy month with two contests happening. There are always numerous roles to be filled on our contest nights. Please register your interest in participating. Any suggestions, questions and contributions welcome and only an email away:

vppr@citytattersallstm.org.au Julia Sztaba

Evaluation and International Contests 2008



Contests & Awards

Our Club Evaluation Contest will be held: 12th February 2008.
Our Club International Contest will be held 26th February 2008.

This is your chance to strive in becoming an international success in designing the all nations winning speech. A speech that speaks for many cultures of what is important to us all. Touching our hearts and more... To enter the International Contest you must have completed six speeches from your Competent Communicator Manual. A great guide to refer to would be Speech No.10

The Evaluations Contest will be held at our first meeting of February, that is at our next meeting. It is an opportunity to refine your evaluation presentations. Refer to our website (www.citytattersallstm.org.au), or the District 70 website (www.d70toastmasters.org) to note some helpful tips. Alternatively contact our Evaluations Champion Keith Anderson for some award winning tips.

A contest would not be held without a: Contest Chairman, Counters, Timers, Chief Judge and judges including the Contestants. If you would like to participate in the Contest by filling one of the above named roles please let your mentor or our Vice President of Education, Simon McGregor-MacDonald advise you about the role.

A simple quiz to test your knowledge:

- | | |
|--|---|
| <u>1.</u> How frequently do we hold our meetings? | <u>5.</u> Who do we contact when we are unable to attend a meeting? |
| <u>2.</u> How many roles (minimum) are to be filled at each meeting? | <u>6.</u> How many different types of evaluators participate throughout an evening? |
| <u>3.</u> Who opens the meeting? | <u>7.</u> What Awards do members strive to achieve? |
| <u>4.</u> How do we know when to prepare to wind-up a speech? | |

(Answers on page 4)

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8. At what time are we expected to arrive to a meeting?



Toastie Tatts Tittle Tattle

A TOASTMASTER EXPERIENCE:

Alistair Gerrard

When/Where/How did you first hear about Toastmasters?

I participated in an evening course in Chatswood in 1990. It was a six weeks course for "Public Speaking" at the TAFE. At the end of the course we students were all advised of Toastmasters and the benefits of joining a club as a member.

When did you join?

I joined the Dynamic North Shore toastmasters club in 1994.

Why did you join?

I was looking for an interest to begin that was totally outside of work, that is, totally opposite to being what I was then an introverted computer operator.

Have you achieved what you set out to do?

Yes! I completed my CTM Award, Advanced Toastmaster Bronze. I have also over the years participated in numerous contests, representing the club in the humorous contest. I have participated in area and district contests. I helped mentor a new club from two members and watched the life cycle of a club.

What has kept you motivated as a member of a Toastmasters Club?

It is useful in work situations to have the ability to communicate. I really like the variety of people who participate in our meetings.

Have you served your club as an Officer?

I have represented the previous club I was a member of as VP Education and Treasurer.

What could you advise to others?

Complete all the projects in the manual. Go for it! Alistair Gerrard joined our club mid 2007 to continue to develop and improve his skills.

Would you like to share your experiences at Toastmasters, your first speech or the tenth? Contact the Editor at yppr@citytattersallstm.org.au

Club Officer Role

Secretary

Each year new club officers are appointed to represent and manage the club.

Ting Yu is currently representing our club at the Executive level as Secretary. His responsibilities are:

- Meet and greet guests.
- Handle general club correspondence
- Keep club files including club charter, constitution and by-laws, minutes, resolutions and correspondence.
- Attend club executive committee meetings
- Attend District sponsored club officer training
- Arrange for a replacement if unable to attend meetings.

MEETING ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

THE TOASTMASTER.

The role of the Toastmaster is to conduct the prepared speech session of the evening.

"The Toastmaster creates an atmosphere of interest, expectation and receptivity.

Just before the meeting - Interview all speakers present. Collect a brief note from each speaker (see below). Prepare a brief introduction for each speaker. Take note of members who will be presenting an evaluation of a project.

"Program participants should be introduced in a way that excites the audience and motivates each member to listen."

During the meeting – The toastmaster explains the purpose of the prepared speech session of the evening. He/she introduces each speaker (both prepared speeches and evaluators) and must remain standing until the speaker has acknowledged (often by handshake) before being seated.

Always lead the applause before and after each presentation.

To aid the Toastmaster of the evening we do ask for each member presenting a speech to prepare a brief sketch of their project. This brief note would cover:

1. Your name
2. The name of your manual
3. The name of the project
4. The title of the speech.
5. The timing allowed for the presentation.
6. and a brief sketch of the objectives.

(No more than six lines please!)

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Website: www.citytattersallstm.org.au

Editor: Julia Sztaba



SYNCHRONIZE – presented by Ting Yu

The earliest practical attempts at synchronizing are to keep speech a gesture perfectly in phase!

The January Summer Speechathon.

Dedicated members once again devoted time into preparing speeches but most importantly devoting time towards developing and improving what is most important to us all, good communications skills.

Time permitting six excellent speeches were presented and evaluated. We only imagine all our evaluators from this evening will be participating in the Evaluations Contest to be held this month of February.

Congratulations to Luke Liria who presented his tenth speech, from the Competent Communicator manual. Luke will shortly be receiving his Competent Communicator Award.

“Talent Alone is never enough” was the title of the speech. He moved beyond talent and spoke of other personal attributes like your character, discipline, sense of identity and Integrity. He defined Integrity to consist of how you think, feel, do and speak.

Sue Lee presented, “Sunrise Starts 2008, Success is in the Journey, not the Destination.” Success starts again each new year! says Sue. She defines success, suggests why we try to achieve success only to remind us that achievement fades away, - “it’s not there anymore.” Sue defines Reaching destinations as, Playing the game – the journey. Are we disappointed? We don’t have the wealth of Bill Gates, We don’t have the beauty of Angela Jolie or the Intelligence of Albert Einstein, the Power of the president nor A great heart like Mother Theresa. Sue endeavours to start the new year with a new purpose of life, to maximise her potential. This was Sue’s second presentation from the competent communicator manual.

Stuart Milson presented his third speech. Thailand – Holiday destination or was it just a dream. Landing in Thailand there were many emotions and thoughts flooding his mind. A lost sense of safety, vulnerability highlighted, a sense of isolation and tiredness. Instead of the usual taxi hire he opted to journey in a tut tut, “The traffic, differing sights and sounds completed encapsulated me!” Excitement and adventure turned into what some would say the scenes of a James Bond Movie, of escape. He wakes up at the airport lounge after a dream. It sounded tall, or was just a short tale.

“My Summer House!” and Grace Zhen’s fifth presentation of the competent communicator manual. Camping and the blue tent. “Rainforests and beautiful beaches.” Grace Zhen won the best speech award for the evening. Congratulations Grace.

Dates For Your Diary

Club Events

- 12 February – Evaluations Contest
- 26 February – International Contest

Area Events

International and Evaluations Contests.
 March 2008

Division Events:

International and Evaluation Contests
 26th March 2008

District Events

Sunday Seminars

Bankstown Sports Club, Greenfield Parade

“Running a club Speech craft.”

(remember to book in advance)

4th May 2008.

Annual Conference March 2008

Panthers World of Entertainment, Mulgoa Road, Penrith

Theme is “We are One, We are Many”

Special Guest Toastmaster International President,

Chris Ford from Ontario, Canada.

Thursday 10th -13th April 2008.

DISTRICT 70 CHANGE-OVER DINNER

to be held Saturday 28th June 2008.

www.d70toastmasters.org

We always welcome your feedback and suggestions. Peter Peeters proposed to conduct the meeting as chairman from the lectern. We as members enjoyed the change. Please read below:



THE ROLE OF THE CHAIRMAN

Dear Members,

As promised, a little review on performing the Chairman role from a different perspective.

Taking the chair to the lectern at the front of the room gives a different perspective to conducting the meeting.

I had prepared, so I had two sets of programs and pens so in both spots, the lectern as well as my table space would have the same information.

What I have learned:

- Even with the double agenda and pen, I kept carrying something between the two spots.
- The gavel, which is the instrument of order, as I pointed out at the beginning of the meeting, was continuously positioned on the lectern, meaning that while I was sitting down, I had no instrument to force control upon the meeting. (carrying it back and forth would have looked clumsy, but I just forgot to take it)
- Control of the speakers, when sitting down and a speaker, speech or role, needs direction, it is not automatically done from the position I choose to sit down, but automatically everybody pays attention to the back of the room, where Dennis was sitting in this case. (I would like to remind to the instance where Oksana needed some guidance on her Table Topics Master role.)

Putting a table on the podium, where the president chairman and VPE would sit, will take away from the attention of the speakers if that is in the back, (option briefly discussed with some people) because everybody automatically is focused towards the audience.

Conclusion: I think it was a well spent experiment, it did learn us why we always conduct the meeting as we do, because there is more control over the meeting.

In my opinion we should advice that the chairman role is executed as we always have done.

The method of presenting upfront may be effective in a bigger set up, where the chairman is always standing behind the Lectern on the side, so he/she can keep control, when speakers are center stage, but that is not a setup we sport.

So lets learn this lesson, I am very happy that I tried and did it this way, it is good to start some discussions and make people realize why we do things the way we do.

With kind regards,

Peter Peeters



A reminder: We can now **video record your presentations. Please advise Dennis Szabo before the meeting to register your interest in receiving a video recording of your presentation.**

Great tips are to be found at our website:
www.citytattersallstm.org.au

Including great ideas for our entertaining Table Topics Masters to present.

Quiz Solutions: 1. Twice a Month 2. Ten (Sgt-at-arms, Chairman, General Evaluator, Timer, Lexicologist, Table Topics Master, Table Topics Evaluator, Toast, Speaker, Evaluator) 3. The Sergeant-at-Arms 4. By observing the timing lights (red = wind-up!) 5. The VPE (Simon) 6. Three (Table Topics, Speech and General Evaluator) 7. A Competent Communicator or Competent Leader Award, then move on to Advanced Communicator Bronze, Silver and Gold, Advanced Leader, and ultimately the Distinguished Toastmaster Award 8. At 6:50pm for a 7:00pm start

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