

Wednesday April 30, 2008

Toastmasters Weekly Newsletter

Wow, four months gone already in 2008, and only two months till the end of our Toastmasters season. Have you reached your goal for this year? Did you get all the speeches done you wanted to? I know I still have a few to go! Time to get busy and book your speeches. Pick a date, write it down and then you are halfway there.

Here is the link to the speech timer that I mentioned at post toasties on Tuesday night. <http://www.centraltoastmasters.org/timer.html> It is a timer you can use while practicing your speech – 2 minutes, 5-7 minutes, 8-10 minutes. Just hit enter and start talking, keep an eye on where you are at green, at yellow and then you will know if you are at the right place when you deliver your speech in order to end in time.

Who was there?

In Renfrew – ack Stekelenburg, Ryan Stuart, April Cappel, Becca Platthy, Val Brohart, Lynne Kobus, George Hooper, Karen Hopewell, Chris Hopewell, and Fran Watson

In Pembroke – Bill Halkett, Mike Crawford (Div. B Governor), Angie Goudie, Debra Lloyd, Jane Dougherty, JoJo Burgess, Fran Watson

What happened?

The theme in both clubs this week was Gardening.

In Renfrew our Toastmaster was George Hooper and our Table Topics Master was Lynne Kobus. Lynne Kobus had us tell why we would grow certain items on trees. Lynne also took on the role of timer, Val Brohart came back to be our Ah Counter and we took in another \$1.50 with her excellent counting! Becca's joke/story was wonderful and she definitely deserved the sparky award for it. I hope you all get a chance to hear this one again!! Jack was our Grammarian and General Evaluator. Chris Hopewell gave a toast and was the evaluator for Ryan's 2nd speech. Fran evaluated April's excellent speech.

In Pembroke Jane offered the toast, Fran the word (cultivate), Angie the joke/story and Mike Crawford gave us an Educational on Evaluations. Angie and Fran shared the job of timer, Debra was the Grammarian and Quizmaster, Jane counted ahs (\$2.00 worth) and Mike did the General Evaluation. It was nice to hear how we did from an outsider's perspective. Fran was the Toastmaster as John had another flood. Angie came up with a very creative way to do her Table

Topics and there were some excellent responses. If anyone ever gets lost, just ask Debra!

We had two speeches – Debra talked about decluttering (I need to hear this one again, so am hoping she will come to Renfrew to do it!), which was evaluated by Bill, and Jane did a practice toast which was evaluated via a Round Robin.

What's next?

The theme for next week is Elections / Mother's Day The elections will take place at the beginning of the meeting and will be about 10-15 minutes.

In Renfrew we have the following roles taken: Ryan – Toast, Joke/Story – Jack, Timer – Lynne, Grammarian – Lynne, Ah Counter – Val, Quizmaster – Val (before you know it we'll have her moved up into telling stories... *smile*), Ryan will be doing Table Topics Master and George will be giving a speech.

Roles still open: Word, Educational Tip, General Evaluator, Speech Evaluator.

In Pembroke The role of Toastmaster will be filled by Debra with Angie giving the Toast, JoJo the Joke/Story and the General Evaluator. Fran will be the Quizmaster, Bill will be the Table Topics Master and Angie will be giving a speech.

Roles still open: Word, Educational Tip, Timer, Grammarian, Ah Counter, Speech Evaluator.

What's new? There was an article in The Weekender in Renfrew and a picture in the Pembroke Observer this past week.

Special Events –

1. Jack is putting together a **special event** to teach people how to do toasts and specialty speeches for the wedding season. We will try to put this together in such a way that it can be presented in both Renfrew and Pembroke, or that members of both communities will be invited to attend. Jack will be looking for some helpers for this event. **Date May 10 at 236 Hall Avenue.**

2. **Charter Party** - Elizabeth Wiebe, who came to speak to our Renfrew Club in November has asked us to help the Above And Beyond Advanced Toastmasters Club celebrate their chartering at a party which is being held on **Saturday, May 24th** in Ottawa. The tickets are \$25.00 each which includes the meal. Tickets need to be ordered in advance. Elizabeth would like to know asap who will be attending. If you want to go, please let me know and I will collect your \$25 to give to her. I am planning on attending, and can take people with me. **For more**

information contact Bill Bishop at 613 825-2363 or Gord Bell 613 825-9682. You can also email us at info@aboveandbeyondtoastmasters.ca

Other Items of Note:

PR/Membership - Please continue to invite your friends and family members to attend our meetings. If you have some ideas on how to increase our visibility, please let me know. If someone is available to call those who have been our guests, that would be great.

Educational Awards - How are you doing with your Competent Leadership Manual? If you have a role in the meeting, check your manual to see if it can be evaluated, then ask someone to do so. All of us should be able to complete our Competent Leader manual by the end of June.

Publicity If you would like to write an article about Toastmasters or about why you joined Toastmasters for publication in the local paper and/or on our web page, please send it to me.

Webpage – Debra attended some workshops at the conference and will be working on some things we can add to our webpages. Is there anything you would like to see on our webpages? We do have a freetoast account for a webpage which we will be setting up shortly.

Remember to check out our webpages and to refer people who are interested in Toastmasters to them. Perhaps after they read a few newsletters they may decide to check us out. I try to get our newsletters posted soon after I send them out.

WEBPAGES:

www.franwatson.ca/ToastmastersRenfrew.html and

www.franwatson.ca/ToastmastersPembroke.html

www.toastmastersdistrict61.org

www.toastmasters.org

See you soon!!

Fran Watson, ATM-S, CL
President