

Saturday April 5, 2008

Toastmasters Weekly Newsletter

Spring is here.....the snow is melting, the sun is shining and the flies are driving me crazy as they buzz around in my windows.....!!!!

Well, this was a great week. 20 members in Renfrew – charter strength, papers signed and faxed in to Toastmasters International at midnight on March 31st. 3 brand new members in Renfrew and 2 brand new members in Pembroke. What a great job you are all doing in recruiting!!!!

Who was there?

In Renfrew – newest members – Val Brohart and Ryan Stewart, Jack Stekelenburg, Marg Solar, April Cappel, Becca Platthy, George Hooper, Lynne Kobus, Osiah Horst, Fran Watson

In Pembroke – newest members – Debra Lloyd and Jane Dougherty – Bill Halkett, Angie Goudie, Melissa Laderoute (guest), John Munkittrick, Fran Watson

What happened?

Our theme for the week was April Fools

In Renfrew our Sgt. At Arms, Marg Solar, had everything set up for the night's meeting. Lynne Kobus was busy as she did the Toast, the Word, Evaluator #1 for George's speech, and General Evaluator, but as usual, she did a bang up job. Jack was also busy with Joke/Story, Grammarian/Ah Counter and he gave a speech. Marg was the Table Topics Master and Timer, Osiah the Quizmaster, and Fran gave an Educational Tip as well as being the Toastmaster for the evening. The word was Accordion. Awards were as follows: Best Speaker – George, Best Evaluator – Lynne, Best Table Topic – Osiah, Sparky – Jack.

In Pembroke Our Sgt. At Arms, Angie Goudie, set up the room and got us started with the changes to the agenda and welcoming guests and new members. She also performed the duties of timer and gave speech #9. John Munkittrick was our Toastmaster for the evening and he also presented a toast and was the Evaluator for Angie's speech. Bill Halkett presented the Joke/Story, the Educational Tip and an Evaluation of Debra Lloyd's Icebreaker speech. Debra, in addition to presenting her Icebreaker, took on the role of Quizmaster. JoJo presented speech #2 and kept track of our grammatical errors and filler words. Fran presented the Word, evaluated JoJo's speech and gave a report of the entire evening as General Evaluator.

What's next?

The theme for Pembroke is Earth Day. Angie, our Sgt. At Arms, is getting ready for speech #10, the final speech for her Competent Communicator! John Munkittrick will be taking on Table Topics and JoJo the role of Toastmaster. Bill will present the Joke/Story and try out the role of Quizmaster. There are a couple of roles still available. Let me know where you would like to fill in. Debra has tentatively asked for Timer and possibly one other role.

Renfrew's theme is Collections Our Sgt. At Arms, Margaret, will be away and Fran will be filling in for her. Our Table Topics Master will be Lynne, and Ryan, one of our newest members will be doing his Icebreaker speech as well as presenting the Word of the Week. Jack will be doing the General Evaluator role and also the Joke/Story. George will be presenting the Toast and Becca will be doing the role of Timer. There are still a few roles left so please call me and let me know what role you would like to take on.

What's new?

The District 61 Toastmasters Newsletter is now available online:

<http://www.toastmastersdistrict61.org/eng/members/leader.htm>

Special Events –

1. Toastmasters Spring Conference – April 18-20th in Pointe Claire Quebec. Check out the agenda and other information on the District website <http://toastmastersconference.com/spring/2008/english/index.htm>

Our local winners – Fred Schuck and Lynne Zander will be competing on Saturday and Sunday.

2. 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. I am planning on attending, and can take people with me. See the end of this email for additional information on the Above and Beyond Toastmasters Club.

3. Jack is putting together a plan to host 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. **Tentative Date May 3**

Other Items of Note:

PR/Membership - Please continue to invite your friends and family members to attend our meetings. Let them know what a good time we have and how much they can learn and share. For those who say they already know how to speak, invite them to come and share their expertise. For those who say they can't speak, invite them to come and listen. Tell them about the roles of Ah Counter, Grammarian and Quizmaster.

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. **Jack gave an educational on March 17th** on how to set this up. He has developed a good plan. If you have some questions, please ask him.

All of us should be able to complete our Competent Leader manual (including me – remind me to give someone my manual when I do a role!!!) by the end of June. Please feel free to call me or to set a time before or after a regular meeting if you have any questions.

Educational Tips:

Each week we present an educational tip. The reason we do this is to help us in our speeches as well as in our clubs. There are many areas to choose from and I would encourage you to take a look at the list below and think about what would help you to learn. Then choose that one to present. The format is in place, the introduction and everything is in the package. You can present it verbatim or paraphrase it – your choice.

Some of the topics are: From the Better Speaker Series we have: Beginning Your Speech, Concluding Your Speech, Take the Terror Out of a Talk, Impromptu Speaking, Selecting Your Topic, Know Your Audience, Organizing Your Speech, Creating an Introduction, Preparation and Practice.

Finding New Members for Your Club, Evaluate to Motivate, Closing the Sale, Creating the Best Club Climate, Meeting Roles and Responsibilities, Mentoring, Keeping the Commitment, Going Beyond Our Club, How to be a Distinguished Club, The TI Education Program (all from the Successful Club Series).

There are also a number of other modules in the Success Communication and Leadership Modules.

Please let me know which topic you would like to present and when you would like to present it. I would like to see one of these presented every week, or every other week. They are available for you to take home and prepare. I have copies of all of them.

Newsletters

Any comments on the newsletters? Things you would like to see in them?
Things you want me to leave out?

Webpage – Anything you would like to see on our webpages? There are some things we can not include because they are copyrighted, but let me know what you would like to see and I will see if it can be done. 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

P.S. The more members we have the better club we have as we all learn from each other. Please continue to spread the word to your friends and neighbours and invite them to come to a meeting.

P.P.S.

ABOVE AND BEYOND CHARTER PARTY INFORMATION

Saturday, May 24th, 6:00 p.m. at the Churchill Community Hall, Corner of Churchill and Richmond Road. Cost is \$25.00 per person which includes a catered meal. You can contact Elizabeth Wiebe directly at 613-274-0489 or let me know. I told Elizabeth that there might be 4 of us attending. It would be great if more of us were able to make it.

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