



BLOOMING AT TOASTMASTERS

By Lynne Kobus

(Inspired by a talk with Naturopathic Doctor Katherine Willow, watching the movie “Strictly Ballroom”, and finding a book at the library titled “What’s Stopping You?” by Nicky Marone.)

My mother mentioned Toastmasters to me maybe twenty-five years ago. I read information about Toastmasters and did absolutely nothing. It was something I could do someday. What was stopping me?

I joined Toastmasters in September 2004. That means I missed twenty-three and a half years of Toastmasters meetings. I wonder who I’d be today if I had had more of the experiences I have every Monday evening at 7p.m. at Renfrew Toastmasters.

Toastmasters has been one of the best things I have ever done for myself. Yes. Toastmasters is about writing speeches, speaking in front of a group, and learning to listen effectively, but increased confidence is, I think, the most important benefit.

Join Toastmasters. “Who me?” What’s stopping you? No one really wants to put themselves in front of a bunch of people, have all eyes on them, and speak. It’s scary. Fear may be what stops many potentially great speakers from joining Toastmasters.

In the movie “Strictly Ballroom”, there is a line, “A life lived in fear is a life half lived.” Wow! Toastmasters can give you an experience that you may otherwise never have. Come to a meeting. Bring your apprehension, nervousness, and fear. Renfrew Toastmasters is a fun group. We don’t bite.

I never really thought that joining Toastmasters was a big deal, but my naturopath, Dr. Katherine Willow made me see that it was a huge deal. Toastmasters is helping me change. Dr. Katherine likened it to part of a process of blooming.

So why not join us, Renfrew Toastmasters, on Monday evenings at 7p.m. at 236 Hall Avenue E. and start to bloom along with the spring blossoms. Bring your fear along with you. It will be fertilizer as you flower.

Oh yes. You can attend three complimentary meetings before making your decision to put down some roots in our Renfrew Toastmasters group.

For more information call 432-7557 or 649-2950.