

Hello everyone

Who was there?

In Renfrew Lynne, Jack, Marg, Becca, Angie, Marilyn, George, Fran and guest Janice Lee

In Pembroke we were pleased to see Nigel, Bill, Gerald, Angie and Fran attending

What happened? - Our theme for the week was Valentine's Day and Lynne was our Toastmaster in Renfrew. She did a great job of keeping the meeting on time and she had lots of good Valentine information. She introduced the helpers and the speakers Marg and Angie as well as our Table Topics Master Jack Stekelenburg. Fran's educational was on the power of words which fit in beautifully with Angie's 4<sup>th</sup> speech which was about Words. Marg gave us a visual presentation and roasted "Grapes".

In Pembroke Nigel was the Toastmaster and Gerald rehearsed his speech for the Cattleman's Association. Everyone keep him in mind next week and even offer a little prayer for him if you wish that he will succeed in his endeavours to be one of the Executive. Angie's word was very interesting - analeptic - meaning comforting, restorative, invigorating - kind of like Jack's Chicken Noodle Soup.

Fran had control of the table topics and had everyone create a valentine using a list of words given to them. Everyone did a WONDERFUL job on this and it was EXTREMELY difficult to choose only one winner, however Nigel was finally chosen. He also took home the Spark Plug award while Gerald picked up Best Speaker and Bill Best Evaluator

What's new? Bill and Angie have offered to take on some of the PR/Membership duties in Pembroke to try to increase the numbers of participants at the meetings.

Next week's theme is Potpourri.....be prepared for anything!!!

You still have time to register new members for the "Talk Up Toastmasters" Awards program which runs from Feb 1 to March 31. If you bring in 5 new members you will receive a special pin from Toastmasters International as well as an award from the district. Remember to invite your friends and family, and even your enemies - it will make for an exciting evening!

If you are a member of another group (or if your spouse or partner is) see if there is an opportunity for someone from Toastmasters to come and speak to their group. Perhaps we will be able to increase our numbers in that way. 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. Our goal is to charter the Renfrew Club by mid March.

What else? The Arnprior Toastmasters Club held their Speech Contest last week and Jack was the test speaker. He did his "Chicken Soup" speech. For those of you who haven't heard it, you really missed a great speech. He might be persuaded to redo it again some time in the future. Perhaps for an Open House.

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. (I think I did 9 evaluations last week!!) 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. If you haven't started, let's sit down and set a plan in place to work on it. Please feel free to call me or to set a time before or after a regular meeting if you have any questions.

If you would like to give one of the Educational Tips prepared by Toastmasters International please let me know. They are available for you to take home and prepare to give to the group. These are usually 8-10 minutes in length. Currently the box is in Renfrew.

WEBPAGE: [www.franwatson.ca/ToastmastersRenfrew.html](http://www.franwatson.ca/ToastmastersRenfrew.html) and  
[www.franwatson.ca/ToastmastersPembroke.html](http://www.franwatson.ca/ToastmastersPembroke.html)

See you soon!!

Fran Watson, ATM-S, CL  
President