

Toastmasters Weekly Newsletter (well, almost weekly) – January 23, 2008

Hello everyone

Well January is off to a good start with new members making their Ice Breaker speeches and moving on to additional speeches.

What a night we had in Renfrew this week.....!!!

Who was there? George, Marilyn, Lynne, Jack, Becca, Marg, Ben and Fran plus Gerald from Pembroke and Karen and Chris - 2 members from Arnprior.

In Pembroke John Munkittrick, Bill Halkett, Angie and Fran attended.

What happened? – Our theme for the week in Renfrew was Winter Sports. Jack was our Toastmaster, Lynne opened with the Toast, Marilyn prepared a very interesting word (Perspective) complete with pictures demonstrating the word, Becca told a story about a skiing experience and Fran did an Educational on How to Become a Distinguished Club.

Two speeches were presented. Jack told us about things to watch for when getting your roof repaired and Chris gave us some tips on how to deal with cranky people....

In Pembroke the theme was winter, John took on the role of Toastmaster and Angie gave her second speech. Those of you who missed it, missed a lot as Angie took us through the life cycle of a prize cow. I had no idea how complicated it all was and Angie's props were excellent. She might be persuaded to bring in on the road down to Renfrew at some point. John also did the educational on humour – what is acceptable and what isn't, based on an article from the latest Toastmaster magazine. Basic rule, if you can't tell it at church or in a classroom, it's not acceptable.

What's new? Next week's theme is Groundhog Day and we will be having two Renfrew members complete their final speech for their Competent Communicator certificate – Ben MacMurphy and Jack Stekelenburg. Becca will also be doing a speech.

Bill will be joining Pembroke Toastmasters next week.

There are some special awards for "Talk Up Toastmasters" 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.

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.

This week's roster:

Renfrew – Speeches – Jack, Ben, Becca
Evaluators – Nigel, Lynne, Jack
Toast – Jack
Word – Margaret
Joke/Story – Gerald
Ed Tip – Nigel
Ah Counter – Fran
Grammarians - Becca
Quizmaster – Karen
Gen Eval – Margaret
Table Topics – Lynne

Pembroke – Toastmaster – Nigel
Joke/Story – Angie
Ed Tip – Fran
Ah Counter/Grammarians -
Quizmaster – Angie
Table Topics – John
Speaker –
Evaluator –

What else? I need to know who wants to compete in the International Speech Contest and the Evaluation Contest. For the International Speech Contest, you have to have completed 6 speeches from the Competent Communicator Manual. For the Evaluation Contest, there are no speech requirements. If we are going to have a competition, we need to have judges and timers and ballot counters which I will have to request from other clubs, so **please let me know asap. (as in by next week)**

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. 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.

Watch the Weekender for a new article by Lynne!!

WEBPAGE: www.franwatson.ca/ToastmastersRenfrew.html and
www.franwatson.ca/ToastmastersPembroke.html

See you soon!!

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President