

## **Toastmasters Weekly Newsletter – May 22, 2008**

We have been focusing on Membership for the past week and this newsletter will continue in this vein. In Pembroke we chose 5 points from the list provided to work on for the remaining few weeks of this club year. We have identified some additional areas to be worked on over the summer to be ready for the fall season.

Following is what we chose. I would encourage each of you to choose an item that you will personally complete.

**#1 was to practice selling, i.e. what do we say to someone who is interested in Toastmasters (see below for some ideas on this)**

**#2 introduce guests at meetings. Guest to be introduced by the person who brought them, but if they arrive on their own, have a designated person each week to be the “guest host”. That person will sit with them, find out about them, introduce them to the group and answer any questions they might have. This takes the burden off one person and shares it.**

**#3 each person will be responsible for putting posters, pamphlets and bookmarks around their local community – Laundromats, store windows, libraries, etc.**

**#4 have copies of club newsletter (2 or 3 issues) to give to guests so they can see what has gone on at meetings., or set up a newsletter with highlights of activities to be given out. (Link to District Newsletter - <http://www.toastmastersdistrict61.org/eng/members/leader.htm>)**

**#5 club web page – updated and hosted on freetoasthost ([http://www.freetoasthost.org/FTH\\_User\\_Guide.pdf](http://www.freetoasthost.org/FTH_User_Guide.pdf) )**

*The last two require a volunteer. Currently I am doing both of these jobs, and I would like to turn them over to someone. I will provide any help needed to get you started.*

**Note:** I have contacted James Watson, the District Parliamentarian, and he will come to Pembroke in October (date to be determined) to give a talk on Roberts Rules of Order. This is an open meeting and we will be inviting all local service clubs, church groups, etc.

**Just as a note on Membership.** In the beginning of all your Competent Communicator speech manuals there is a copy of the Toastmaster's Promise. This is the promise you make when you are inducted into the club.

As a member of Toastmasters International and my club, I promise...

- To attend club meetings regularly
- To prepare all of my speeches to the best of my ability, basing them on projects in the Communication and Leadership Program manual or the Advanced Communication and Leadership Program manuals
- To prepare for and fulfill meeting assignments
- To provide fellow members with helpful, constructive evaluations
- To help the club maintain the positive, friendly environment necessary for all members to learn and grow
- To serve my club as an officer when called upon to do so
- To treat my fellow club members and our guests with respect and courtesy
- To bring guests to club meetings so they can see the benefits Toastmasters membership offers
- To adhere to the guidelines and rules for all Toastmasters educational and recognition programs
- To maintain honest and highly ethical standards during the conduct of all Toastmasters activities.

### **Ideas for “selling” Toastmasters:**

*The Benefits are Clear:* Think about what you gain as a member of Toastmasters. By giving others the opportunity to join, you help them:

- Improve speaking, listening, thinking and leadership skills
- Discover hidden abilities and bring latent talents into use
- Obtain an expanded vision of the role of communication
- Increase self-esteem through active participation in personal development.

*Inviting guests:* Give each one a brochure and invite them for a specific date, not just for a possible visit sometime in the future. Make sure they are introduced to each member and acknowledged formally during the meeting. Find out what the guests needs are and how the club can help meet them. Show how specific segments of the Toastmasters program can fulfill a person’s goals for personal and professional growth.

| <i>Need</i>                                  | <i>Solution</i>                 |
|--|---------------------------------|
| Confidence when speaking in front of a group | Communication Program           |
| Impromptu speaking                           | Table Topics                    |
| Conducting meetings                          | Toastmaster, Leadership Program |
| Personnel review                             | Evaluator                       |
| Management skills                            | Participation as a club officer |
| Leadership development                       | Leadership Program              |

*Also, extremely cost effective* – compare yearly cost with the cost of a 4 week program at the local college, or a 1 day program given by training centres.

*Convenient* – local meetings

*Time commitment* – one evening per week

*Quality* – educational materials continually updated to provide the best learning experience, more than 4 million people have benefited from Toastmasters training

*FUN* – club meetings are fun, friendly atmosphere

***Hopefully the above is enough to get you started and we will do some practicing each week. Prepare a 2-3 minute speech and be ready to give it when called on. We will try to do 2 or 3 per meeting.***

### **Who was there and what happened?**

In **Pembroke** this week, the following people were in attendance: Bill, Debra, Jane, Ellen, JoJo, Fran. The theme was “Moving” which was open to interpretation – Moving On, Body Language, Emotions, etc. The word JoJo provided was “inspire” and it was used several times. Bill volunteered for the role of Timer and he was also the General Evaluator. Debra gave the Toast and was the Table Topics master. Jane told a couple of jokes that had us chuckling. Fran hosted the discussion to finalize the Membership session from last week. There were two speakers – Jane Dougherty and JoJo Burgess. Their evaluators were Fran Watson and Debra Lloyd.

**Renfrew's** theme was Membership and Marg Solar was our Toastmaster. She kept us right on time as she introduced all our participants. Marg also gave the Toast. Fran gave the Educational Tip on Membership from the Club Success Series. Our Word for this week was “camaraderie”. Lynne provided a story about capturing an elephant. Val took on the role of Quizmaster this week, and Fran counted ahs. Marilyn volunteered to fill in as Timer, while Osiah was the General Evaluator. In attendance were: Lynne, Val, Marg, Osiah, Marilyn, Fran and a guest Velimir (brought by Marg)

### **Special Events:**

June 6/7 Region VI Conference at the Westin Hotel in Ottawa

(<http://regionvi.freetoasthost.us/> )

Who is Region VI - <http://regionvi.freetoasthost.us/page6.html>

Workshops, etc. - <http://regionvi.freetoasthost.us/page4.html>

[http://regionvi.freetoasthost.us/cgi-bin/public\\_downloads.cgi](http://regionvi.freetoasthost.us/cgi-bin/public_downloads.cgi)

Agenda - <http://regionvi.freetoasthost.us/page3.html>

**SPECIAL NOTE: Pembroke Executive, we will take pictures or have someone come in from the paper on May 27<sup>th</sup>, so please dress accordingly. We will also have our Induction Ceremony for the newest members.**

**We will have the Induction Ceremony in Renfrew on May 26<sup>th</sup>. ( I will contact the paper, but we may be taking our own pictures as it is Council meeting night.)**

Roles for Pembroke: Toastmaster – JoJo (Theme Local History)  
Timer – Bill  
Quizmaster – Bill  
General Evaluator – Debra  
Speakers – Debra, Angie

Roles for Renfrew: Toastmaster – Lynne (Theme is Juggling)  
Educational Tip – Osiah  
Timer – Osiah  
Quizmaster – Val  
Speakers – April, Fran

Lots of room for volunteers still. Just let me know by Sunday night.

See you all next soon

Fran

PS. WEBPAGES:

[www.franwatson.ca/ToastmastersRenfrew.html](http://www.franwatson.ca/ToastmastersRenfrew.html) and  
[www.franwatson.ca/ToastmastersPembroke.html](http://www.franwatson.ca/ToastmastersPembroke.html)  
[www.toastmastersdistrict61.org](http://www.toastmastersdistrict61.org)  
[www.toastmasters.org](http://www.toastmasters.org)