

Wednesday May 7, 2008

## **Toastmasters Weekly Newsletter**

The tulips and daffodils have lifted their heads, despite the rain and the below freezing weather, to brighten our lives as we drive or walk around the town. This weekend is Mother's Day (for those who need reminding..\*smile\*)

Two great meetings this week, with elections and speeches and great Table Topics.

### **Who was there?**

In Renfrew – Jack Stekelenburg, Ryan Stuart, Val Brohart, Lynne Kobus, George Hooper, Marilyn York, Marg Solar, Ben MacMurchy and Fran Watson

In Pembroke – Bill Halkett, John Munkittrick, Nigel Reynolds, Angie Goudie, Ellen Vandersleen , JoJo Burgess, Fran Watson

### **What happened?**

#### **The theme in both clubs this week was Elections/Mother's Day**

**In Renfrew** we started off with our elections and elected the following slate of officers who will officially begin their duties on the 1<sup>st</sup> of July. In actual fact, they start sooner as they begin to plan for next year. The Toastmasters Leadership Institute training will be held on Saturday, June 21<sup>st</sup>. All members are encouraged to attend, but those in Executive roles should be there to learn about their duties for the coming year.

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Past President, Fran Watson  
President, Jack Stekelenburg  
VP Education, Becca Platthy  
VP Membership, Lynne Kobus  
VP Public Relations, Ryan Stuart  
Secretary, Marilyn York  
Treasurer, Osiah Horst  
Sgt. At Arms, Marg Solar

Our Toastmaster was Jack Stekelenburg and our Table Topics Master was Ryan Stuart. Ryan also delivered the Toast There were many reminiscences about mothers, particularly in Jack's story. Ben was given the role of Timer (just to keep him in practice) while Val took on the roles of Quizmaster and Ah Counter. Marg did a great job at the General Evaluator role and Lynne was our Grammarian.

George presented a speech from his advanced manual which was evaluated by Fran.

**In Pembroke** our elections were held just before the break with the following members elected:

Past President, Fran Watson  
President, JoJo Burgess  
VP Education, Fran Watson  
VP Public Relations, Debra Lloyd  
Secretary, Angie Goudie  
Sgt. At Arms, Angie Goudie  
VP Membership – open  
Treasurer – open

The toast was offered by Angie, followed by Fran with the Word of the week and JoJo with a story comparing prisons and stay-at-home moms (makes you think!). John Munkittrick was the Toastmaster and the Timer role was taken on by Ellen. Fran was the Quizmaster while Angie listened for ahs and egregious errors in our grammar. JoJo did a great job evaluating the entire meeting, while Bill challenged us with his Table Topics by electing us to various offices.

Angie gave a speech from her Advanced Manual which was evaluated by Bill.

At the end of the meeting we held a discussion about having a short discussion on how to increase our membership at each of our meetings. A couple of suggestions were made – Cogeco Cable, have a special meeting in the summer, contact Youth and Seniors groups, changing the ad running in the community column. This will be implemented, starting next week with a full meeting focused on membership building.

### **What's next?**

#### **In Renfrew the theme is Moving**

Toastmaster Lynne Kobus  
Toast – Marg  
Word – Ryan  
Timer – George  
Grammarian – Jack  
Ah Counter – Val  
Quizmaster – Ryan  
Table Topics Master – Ben  
General Evaluator – Marg

Speeches being given by: Jack, George & Ryan  
Speech Evaluators: Fran, Jack & George

Roles still open: Educational Tip, Joke/Story,

### **In Pembroke the theme will be Membership**

Toastmaster, Nigel Reynolds  
Joke/Story, Jane  
Educational Tip, Fran  
Timer, JoJo  
Grammarian, Angie  
General Evaluator, Angie  
Table Topics Master, JoJo

Roles still open: Toast, Word, Ah Counter, Quizmaster.

**What's new?** There was an article in The Weekender in Renfrew and a picture in the Pembroke Observer this past week (Saturday).

### **Special Events –**

Jack is putting together a **special event** to teach people how to do toasts and specialty speeches for the wedding season.

**Date: Saturday, May 10 at 236 Hall Avenue, 9 – 12 .**

### **Other Items of Note:**

Only two months till the end of our Toastmasters season. Have you reached your goal for this year?

Did you get all the speeches done you wanted to? I know I still have a few to go! Time to get busy and book your speeches. Pick a date, write it down and then you are halfway there.

Here is the link to a speech timer that you can use to practice your speech timing at home. <http://www.centraltoastmasters.org/timer.html> You can set it for 2 minutes, 5-7 minutes, 8-10 minutes. Just hit enter and start talking, keep an eye on where you are at green, at yellow and then you will know if you are at the right place when you deliver your speech in order to end in time.

**PR/Membership** - Please continue to invite your friends and family members to attend our meetings. If you have some ideas on how to increase our visibility, please let me know. If someone is available to call those who have been our guests, that would be great.

**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. All of us should be able to complete our Competent Leader manual by the end of June.

**Publicity/Membership Building** If you would like to write an article about Toastmasters or about why you joined Toastmasters for publication in the local paper and/or on our web page, please send it to me. We will try to get some articles into the paper over the next few weeks. Keep your eyes open for them and cut them out when you see them please.

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)

See you soon!!

Fran Watson, ATM-S, CL  
President