

## **Toastmasters Weekly Newsletter – November 27, 2007**

As I was reminded on Monday night in Renfrew, there have been no “weekly” newsletters for the past two weeks and I apologize for that. Two weeks ago I was at the Conference at Mont Tremblant and this past weekend I was visiting my mother in Campbellford. But I’m back and so is the newsletter.

### **CHRISTMAS PARTY:**

I’m going to start off with a note about our Christmas party. After a search for a location that would not have steps and could accommodate some of our members, we located The Tea Room in Renfrew. The date is a Sunday, December 9<sup>th</sup> 12:30 to 3:30 to allow those from a distance to attend and be home while it is still light. Please let me know ASAP if you will be able to attend as I have to give them numbers. They are looking at doing a buffet with 7 types of salads, crepes and quiches with 3 desserts, tea and coffee for \$15-\$20 per person.

For our “Table Topics” you (and your guest) are asked to bring a gift costing not more than \$10. This gift can be a “regift”, something from your house you want to get rid of, a joke gift....the choice is up to you, but you are going to have to “sell” it to the rest of the group in such a manner that they want to bid high as this is a fund raiser for our Clubs. Hopefully John will be able to make it and be our auctioneer.

Ok...on to the meetings for the past two weeks.

**Who was there?** On the 19<sup>th</sup> of November in Renfrew, Osiah and Jack ably handled the meeting and Ben came through in flying colours with a Terrific Table Topic which he repeated on the 26<sup>th</sup> for those of us who hadn’t had the opportunity to see it the week before – George, Marilyn, Lynne, April and Fran. (For those of you who missed it, you’ll have to ask someone who was there all about it! \*grin\*) Becca, Karen Hopewell from Arnprior and two of the residents from 236 Hall Avenue also attended on the 19<sup>th</sup>.

In Pembroke on the 20<sup>th</sup>, we had a guest who will be joining us soon and Maged gave his Icebreaker. He did a great job. We were joined by Stephen Gagne who is a member in two clubs in Ottawa, but will be joining us as he can in Pembroke. Cleo, Maria and Fran were also in attendance.

The meeting in Pembroke was cancelled tonight (27<sup>th</sup>) due to the weather and the fact that my car was stuck in my driveway. Hopefully next week will be a better day!!

**What happened?** – Our theme for the week of the 19<sup>th</sup> was Libraries and for the 26<sup>th</sup> was Preparing for Winter.

On the 19<sup>th</sup>, Acting President and Sergeant at Arms: Jack, Toast and Word: Jack, Joke: Karen Hopewell, Educational Tip: Osiah. Toastmaster: Osiah, Timer: Ben, Grammarian / AhCounter: Bekka, Quizmaster: Karen, General Evaluator: Ben, Speaker #1: Karen, Evaluator Osiah, Speaker #2: Jack, Evaluator Ben, Table Topics: Ben  
Word of the week: Semantics, Best Speaker: Jack; Best Evaluator: Ben and Osiah; Beat Table Topics: Bekka; Sparky: Ben (Thanks Osiah!!)

On the 26<sup>th</sup>, Jack jumped right in with another speech and was evaluated by George Hooper. This was speech #6. Next week we have 2 or 3 speeches lined up, so it should be a great meeting.

In Pembroke Maria took on a number of roles – Timer, Joke/Story and Educational Tip. Maged gave his IceBreaker and was evaluated by Stephen. Our guest took on the role of Quizmaster and Fran handled the Toastmaster role. Cleo did our General Evaluation.

**What's new?** We held an Induction Ceremony in Renfrew on November 5<sup>th</sup> for the Marilyn, Jack and Becca (April was ill). We will be inducting Maged soon. As April reminded us at our meeting this week, we need to keep on inviting those friends and neighbours!!!

Newcomers night is being held on Thursday and we need some volunteers to "person" the table. I will be there representing my office, but I will be close by the Toastmaster table. I believe Jack will be there and I am not sure who else.

**What else?** Remember to bring your Competent Leadership Manual to every meeting and have someone evaluate you in the roles you take on.. (For those who forgot last week, talk to me and we will get your evaluations done.) This way every member should have completed their Competent Leader by the end of the year.

Do you have your envelope filled with: A Toast (on anything), A Word (be creative), A Joke or Story (on anything) and an Educational Tip (on anything – 3-7 minutes)???. If not, you'd best get it ready, you never know when you might be called upon to give your toast, your word, etc. If you are asked, you may have to make something up on the spot if you don't have something in your envelope. I may have said January, but you never know.....

Remember there are also Education Tip programs prepared by Toastmasters International that are available for you to take home and prepare to give to the group. These are usually 8-10 minutes in length.

We are having articles published in both the Renfrew and Pembroke papers and Fred is getting articles into the Arnprior Chronicle. Soon Toastmasters won't be much of a secret and hopefully EVERYONE will want to join. I actually had a call this week from a woman who has just moved to Petawawa, she and her friend will be coming to the meeting next week.

**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

P.S. Everyone is doing a wonderful job at Toastmasters and I am very proud of all of you!  
You've come a long way!!