

Toastmasters Weekly Newsletter - September 23, 2007

This week's theme was Fall Fairs, but before I get into the newsletter, I would like to remind everyone that **DUES are DUE this week**. They must be submitted to Toastmasters International by the 1st of October, so please bring your chequebooks or cash - \$90 for returning members and \$120 for new members. Thanks

Who was there? - Renfrew had a marvelous turnout this week With last week's guest Jack Stekelenburg returning and a new guest – Tim Hildebrand. Members in attendance: George Hooper, Lynne Kobus, Chris Cobus, Marg Solar, April Cappel.

In Pembroke Fran greeted two guests – Stella Gallant and Maged Fanous who were very interested in finding out more about Toastmasters and how it could help them.

What happened? – It seems that I missed a really interesting meeting as George took on the role of Toastmasters and Acting President. Jack did the Toast, Chris the Word, Ben the story and Lynne the Educational Tip. Marg counted ahs and did a great job as the General Evaluator (it's thanks to her that I could put this newsletter together!!) and April gave a wonderful speech. She will be giving her Ice Breaker next week. Marg was also the Table Topics master and had a wonderful choice of words to challenge the participants. Some great definitions were created and some might be even better than the original!

In Pembroke Fran had the opportunity to meet with the two newcomers and review the Toastmasters program with them, going through the manuals, the opportunities, and the agenda. She gave the Toast, the Word and the Educational Tip to illustrate how the meeting would work.

What's new? The webpage has been updated with articles. Check them out as there is now a picture to go along with the articles.

Remember to bring your Competent Leadership Manual to every meeting and have someone evaluate you in the roles you take on.. This way every member should have completed their Competent Leader by the end of the year. We will be discussing this more fully at our "Club Success Plan" meeting on the 24th of September.

What else? All Roles are open for Pembroke. Please let me know if you will be available and what roles you can fill. For Renfrew we still have openings for Timer, Grammarian, Ah Counter and Quizmaster. We have two speeches being given-way to go!!!

There are a number of incentives being offered to individual members and to clubs for membership building. Each member is encouraged to speak to at least one person

per month about coming to a Toastmasters meeting. The more visitors we have, the more people we can encourage to join.

I would like to see each and every club member prepared to take on any role at any time. I would also like to see each club member take on an Educational Tip using the prepared manuals. This takes some time and preparation to be successful. Next week's meeting is focused on the **Club Success Plan**. Following are some of the elements of an effective club. Please read these over and be prepared to discuss these elements and also what your personal goals are for the coming year:

1. Club officers are responsible, dedicated and effective.
2. Club programs are well-planned and well executed.
3. The club places high emphasis on educational development.
4. Meetings are varied, dynamic and enjoyable.
5. Members receive positive support and recognition.
6. The club attracts and retains new members.
7. Members are encouraged to get involved outside the club.
8. Members are energetic and enthusiastic.
9. Members assess the club to check how well the club is operating.

Contests: The fall contests are Humorous Speech and Table Topics. The Area 10 Contest will be held in Renfrew on Monday, October 15, 2007 with clubs from Arnprior, Deep River, Chalk River, Pembroke and possibly Inspiring Toastmasters.

The Division Contest will be held in Ottawa on Saturday, October 20, 2007 with all the Area winners participating.

The District Contest will be held in Mount Tremblant at the fall conference. Spaces are still available. Check the website (www.toastmastersdistrict61.org) for more information.

WEBPAGE: www.franwatson.ca/ToastmastersRenfrew.html and www.franwatson.ca/ToastmastersPembroke.html have both been updated with newsletters and newspaper articles. If you missed some of the articles in the paper, catch up here. I will continue to update at least monthly.

Well, that's all for now....another long email to be sure!

See you soon!!

Fran Watson, ATM-S, CL
President