

The Advantage



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Editor

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Support the Division Contest

The Northeast Division A Contest will be Friday, May 2nd at the Holiday Inn in Orange Park. Contestants representing Toastmasters from all Six Areas will compete in Table Topics and International Speech. They need an audience. Come support them in their endeavor to be the best and continue in their journey to District.

The master of ceremony also known as Contest Master will be fellow Toastmaster Gregory Gaines from Speak Up America. Our visiting dignitary will be Distinguished Toastmaster, Lieutenant Governor Education and Training Margaret Wan. The evening promises to be filled with interesting and awe inspiring speeches.

There will be a buffet dinner that includes items for vegetarians and some wonderful dessert choices. The cost is \$25.00. Please visit the division website at www.geocities.com/division_governor for details and the registration form. It is very important that I get a headcount by April 28th.

I look forward to seeing all of you supporting your fellow Toastmasters.

Four Benefits of Attending the Spring Conference

1. Be inspired by keynote speaker's message and presentation style to achieve more of yourself.
2. Sharpen your public speaking skills by learning from several Toastmasters who will compete in the District 47 International Speech Contest.
3. Improve your ability to listen and evaluate other people's ideas by observing several Toastmasters demonstrate their techniques in the District 47 Evaluation Contest.
4. Learn proven techniques to improve your communication and leadership skills and grow as an individual.
 - Communication Workshops will feature tips on giving dynamite presentations.
 - Leadership Workshops will provide tips on making your club stronger.
 - Personal Growth Workshops will focus on building more quality in our personal and work lives as well as on networking to leverage the power of mutually beneficial relationships.

Special points of interest:

- F April 1— deadline to submit club membership dues to Toastmasters International
- F April 1— 30 Area Speech contests
- F April 30—Area Governor visit deadline
- F May 2, 2003—Division A International Speech and Table Topics Contest—Holiday Inn Orange Park
- F May 16—18, 2003—District 47 Spring Conference—Orlando, Florida



LOGS
Jacksonville
Chartered: 2000
2 Years



QUALITY MEETINGS IN YOUR TOASTMASTER CLUB

By Andrew Bochenek

Do you remember when you first walked into a Toastmaster meeting? What was it that impressed you the most, and how did it affect your decision to join the club? Everyone can give you their opinion from their individual perspective. If we step back a moment, we can see that our opinions can be based on either the quality of the meeting we attended, or the welcome we experienced from the club members. The combination of these two elements will decide if guests will join your club.

A quality club meeting can be defined using these following principles. One, the meetings start and end on time. Two, all of the prepared speeches are from the communication manuals. Third, the speech evaluations are constructive and helpful to the speaker. Finally, the club members attend the meetings regularly and are prepared to participate in club roles. Even low-member clubs can apply these principles when conducting a meeting with guests in the audience. The energy and pride that members exhibit in their club during a meeting will overcome any doubts a guest may have about joining. Present your guests with an opportunity to join a club in growth where they can have a say in how the meetings could be run. There is always a positive spin we can apply to the challenges we face in our clubs. It will be up to the club leaders to decide how to present their club's strengths to a potential member. Remember to have fun while you are building membership in the club, and people will want to join us in our Extreme Adventure!

Congratulations! March Educational Achievements

Competent Toastmasters

Matthew C. Barrett (Orange Park)
Beverly Farnell (Toast of Jax)
Shauib A. Karim (Toast of Jax)
Fushan Zhang (Toast of Jax)
Adrienne Tyson (JIA)
Amy Bryant (Meadows)
Jeff Weeks (Alltel - February)
Jared Dollar (Toast of St. Johns)

Advanced Toastmaster

Edward I. Moore (TM on the Halifax)

Skill Building...

Summarized from *When You are the Introducer (Toastmasters)*

“Introducing the Speaker”

Why a speech of Introduction?

The introductory remarks by which a speaker is presented to his/her audience are an important aspect of public speaking. Listeners will be a more perceptive and appreciative audience if they understand what the speaker is undertaking. One function of the introduction is to establish the proper "mental set" so the group will know what to look for.

A good introduction contributes to the speaker's authority by making it clear that he or she speaks from special preparation, knowledge or experience.

What Should the Introducer Say?

Speeches of introduction should not be flat or stereotyped. They should be graceful, witty and fun... fun to hear and fun to give. Here is a set of guidelines that will serve as a handy system in organizing the facts that have been collected about the speaker. It is the T-I-S formula, as presented by Dale Carnegie in his book, EFFECTIVE SPEAKING.

T stands for TOPIC. Start your introduction by giving the exact title of the speaker's talk.

I stands for IMPORTANCE. In this step you bridge over the area between the topic and the particular interest of the group.

S stands for SPEAKER. Here you list the speaker's outstanding qualifications, particularly those that related to his/her topic. Finally, you give the speaker's name distinctly and clearly.

From this point you can use your imagination. Tying the formula to the information that you have gathered, take no more than 30-45 seconds to introduce the speaker. Make it short, and make it count.



Distinguished Club Program

The Distinguished Club Program is an annual program, running from July 1 through June 30. The program consists of 10 goals your club should strive to achieve during this time using the Club Success Plan.

At year-end, World Headquarters calculates the number of goals the club achieved and recognizes it as a Distinguished Club, Select Distinguished Club, or President's Distinguished Club based on the number of goals achieved and the number of members it has. In order to qualify, at year-end (June 30) your club must have at least 20 members OR a net growth of at least five new members. Here are the standings for Division A:

Data Current: 3/31/03

						1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10				
Governor	Area	Club Number	Division A Distinguished Club Program Club Name	Membership Base	Current Membership	Net Change (+5 or 20 Members)	CTM (2)	Addl CTM (2)	ATM (1)	Addl ATM (1)	CL/AL/DTM (1)	Addl CL/AL/DTM (1)	New Member (4)	Addl New Member (4)	Officers Trained Jun/Aug (4)	Officers Trained Dec/Feb (4)	On-Time Semi (1)	Officers List (1)	DCP Total Points
Michelle Myrick	7	2155	Top O' Rock	20	24	4	2	1			1		4	2	5	4	1	1	4
	7	3661	Bell Speakers	11	14	3							4	3	4	4	1	1	3
	7	3795	CSX	20	25	5	2		1				4	6	4	1	1	1	5
	7	3862	JIA	21	16		2								5	5	1	1	3
	7	6549	The Tower Speak Easy	13	17	4							4	2	5	1	1	1	2
Larry Baughn	19	2862	Beaches Area	27	26		2						4		4	4	1	1	4
	19	4768	Work Source	22	43	21	2	5	1	3	1		4	32	6	4	1	1	9
	19	5128	Meadows	20	35	15	2						4	12	4	4	1	1	5
	19	7612	Gung Ho!	36	35		2	4			1	1	4	2	4	4	1	1	7
	19	7934	Riverside	8	8						1		4		5	6	1	1	4
Coleman Stokes	22	3774	St. Augustine	20	14		1		1				4		5	0	1	1	3
	22	5368	LOGS	16	18	2	2		1	1	1		4	2	5	0	1	1	6
	22	6878	ZIS EZ Speakers	29	21								4		4	4	0	1	2
	22	7911	Speak Up America	37	37				1		1	3	4	5	6	5	1	2	7
	22	9551	Toast of St. Johns	15	11		2		1		1		2		5	5	1	1	5
	22	5199	Ponte Vedra Toastmasters*	23	24	1							1			5	0		
Ray Benson	37	546	Southside	36	39	3	1				1		4	14	6	5	1	1	5
	37	892	Arlington	37	43	6	2	2	1	3			4	5	5	5	1	2	8
	37	3397	Toast of Jax	45	50	5	2	7	1				4	4	6	5	1	1	7
	37	4867	Amelia Island*	21	21											5			
	37	6886	City of Jax	21	24	3	1						4	12	4	6	1	1	4
	37	8061	Homeside Lending	20	14		1				1				6	2	1	0	1
Ronald Melvin	38	1134	Daytona Beach	23	30	7	2		1				4	6	6	7	1	2	6
	38	4366	SE Volusia County	10	10								3		4	0	In	1	0
	38	5709	Inspiring Voices	23	17						1		4		6	5	1	1	4
	38	6418	Bethune-Cookman College	8	20	12							4	12	0	4	In	1	2
	38	7286	Toastmasters on the Halifax	28	27		2	1	1				4	1	6	6	1	2	5
Joe Herron	43	1980	Orange Park	21	22	1	2	3			1		4	2	6	4	1	1	6
	43	2346	Lillian R. Bradley	12	15	3	1						4	2	4	7	1	1	3
	43	4789	JTA	16	16								2		4	2	1	1	0
	43	7560	Haskell	10	11	1							2		4	4	1	1	1
	43	7859	Alltel	27	20	1	1						4		6	4	1	1	3

* Clubs Chartered since July 2002

President's Distinguished

Select Distinguished

Distinguished