



What's on your mind?

President's Message

Speechcraft is at the top of the list at the moment. How are we going to fit in all the preparations, presentations and organisation that this event requires. If we expect someone to pay \$150 for a six-week course, we all have to provide them the best we can offer. What will we get out of a Speechcraft course?

Let's start with me. What is my basic motivator, my reward.

1. **Time management.** Well, the first thing is to practice "time management". A Speechcraft project must be fitted around a busy schedule so there is no leaving things to the last minute when the last minute that was available was last week. How can I make good use of the time available?
2. **Delegation.** Can I hear you moan – dumping. At work we call this the "slopping shoulder syndrome", as the task slips off to the person below. Delegation is not about avoiding work, it is about learning **leadership** skills for myself, knowing which tasks it is important for me to focus on and which are better performed by others. It is also about recognising the talents and potential of others.
3. **Encouragement.** We can often see potential in others that they can't see in themselves. Why would you give a task on which, your reputation, or the reputation of your club, rests expecting them to fail? No, we are in the **business of success** and we are in the business of supporting each other to reach our full potential. So don't ask, "why me", ask why not me". Then we seek a mentor who can help develop our strategy for success.

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Congratulations

Catherine Wong and **Steven Varga** completed the Southern Division Table Topics and Humour Speech Contest on 20 September. Catherine won the second place in Table Topics Contest and Steven also did very well in the Humour Speech Contest. We are proud of them.

Congratulations and thanks to them for working hard to represent our club.



The joy of being a Leader

As Area Governor, last year, the social interaction with different club members during activities, executive meetings and contests was great. Toastmasters provided me the best social, speaking & leadership experience. By visiting the clubs, I realised that remembering names are very important. Witnessing a club member developing leadership in stages is a great satisfaction. At close range, I experienced club culture changes for the better. Meeting strong personalities in club and their challenges is a great learning experience too. At most times, sharing the think tank solutions with club executives is a great learning experience.

This journey of a thousand miles this year, as Division Governor, started with an encouraging nod as a club president a few years back. Leadership in Toastmasters abound in every turn. Find the joy of leadership in Toastmasters as experience is the best reward.

Rebecca Ruiz

MEETING 2nd & 4th Monday of each month at 7:00pm; Illawarra Catholic Club, 13-17 Woodville Street, Hurstville- **mob.** 0414 556 224

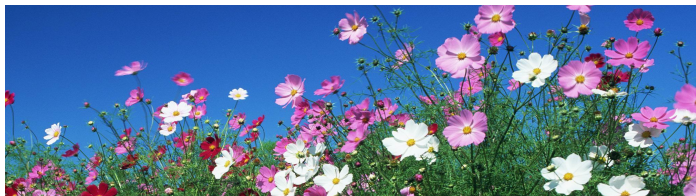
A Small Reminder: Please send an apology, by sending an email or calling a member if you cannot attend a meeting

"Renew the spirit. Refresh your goal."

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5. **Evaluation.** One of the most important skills that I have learnt in Toastmasters is evaluation. Criticism is hard to take and is not politically correct to give. Evaluation, on the other hand, is focused on the action not on the person and is levelled to encourage improvement. When I go clothes shopping the sales assistant will tell me I look wonderful, she wants to make the sale (motive), my children will say that I look fat, or old, etc or I don't need it but then find something that is just perfect for them (motive), but my true friend will honestly say the colour is wrong or find a larger size. My friend will help me achieve my goal and I would be wise to listen. We need a friend and we need to be a friend. We need to be open to evaluation and to provide good evaluation so we can all move toward our goal.
6. **Progress.** Have you ever climbed up a steep hill? It was hard work and after a while you stopped to take a breath and turned to see how far you have come and it has taken your breath away because you have come so much further than you ever thought you would. It is hard to see where we are if we don't take the time to look back and see how far we have come. Speechcraft gives me that opportunity. I remember when I first joined and sat there in awe of the speakers thinking I would never be able to do that – yet here I am and I have the secret knowledge that, if participants take up the opportunity, they will also be on the way to achieving their goals.
- So there it is my motivation. I could tell you that it is my opportunity to give back some of what I have learnt in Toastmasters.

Ann Beard
President



Event Calender

13 Oct – Start Date of the Speechcraft of our club

17-18 Oct – Semi-Annual Conference

Tell us what you want

I often look around our meeting and wonder why each member joined Toastmasters. Did the member join to become a better speaker, to gain confidence, to improve English speaking and writing skills, to become a leader, to be good at evaluations, to become a mentor, to be part of an executive team, or to find new friend's, the reasons are endless.

What I have realised is that people join toastmasters for many reasons. This is why toastmasters is so very special, because it can be used to meet so many different needs.

Consider why you joined Toastmasters, what you want to achieve, and tell me, so that I can ensure that you get what you want from toastmasters.

Stephanie Miszuk
VP Education



THE WORLD OF WORDS from GUS

"vitiare \VISH-ee-ayt\, *transitive verb*:

1. To make faulty or imperfect; to render defective; to impair; as, "exaggeration vitiates a style of writing."

2. To corrupt morally; to debase.

3. To render ineffective; as, "fraud vitiates a contract."

MacNelly is one of the few contemporary political cartoonists who can use humor to accentuate, not **vitate**, his points.

-- Richard E. Marschall, "The Century In Political Cartoons", [Columbia Journalism Review](#), May/June 1999

Their religious convictions and conduct were held to be **vitiated** by hideous error.

-- David Vital, [A People Apart](#)

It is conceivable that an error could be so serious as to vitiate the entire body of the work.

-- Linda Hawes Clever and Lois Ann Colaianni, "Uniform Requirements for Manuscripts Submitted to Biomedical Journals", [Public Health Reports](#), May/June 1997

Vitiate comes from Latin *vitiare*, from *vitium*, fault. It is related to *vice* (a moral failing or *fault*), which comes from *vitium* via French."



Discover your Potential