



Message from the President

One step at a time is the future

We continue serving our members by providing opportunities to deliver speeches & taking on club meeting tasks to enhance communication and leadership skills.

Other event opportunities for some additional tips to enhance these skills is by attending contests, conventions and training available at all levels. TM always encourages us to "expand our horizon".

Communication and Leadership skills need to be contextualised in a form that would show enthusiasm and commitment to self - development. And for those members who experienced these events, I believed they learned something along the way.

As we take our path one step at a time, it would be worthwhile to reflect on the questions:

"Was my goal clear"; "Am I on my way to achieve my goal?" "As a part of learning, did I ask questions when unsure?" "Did my commitment to myself and the club fade or was it enhanced?" "Did I promote the vision and mission of the Club or was I a barrier?" Reflection and collaboration are two things we still need to strengthen as individuals and as a club to face a future in which one can say, "I did my best."

As members finish their manual speeches, the club in turn earns some points and is now on her way to a President's Distinguished Club for the year 2007-2008.

May Mitchell
President
2007-2008



Event Calender

- 14 April – Regular Meeting – **Mock Table Topics Speech Contest**
- 19 April – **Coffee at the Club- All about Thailand**
- 26 April – **Coffee at the Club – Wearing My Crown**
- 28 April – Regular Meeting – **Mock International Speech Contest**
- 4 May – **Coffee at the Club – The Characters of Alice in Wonderland**
- 12 May – Meeting - Election of Club Officers
- 18 May - **Coffee at the Club – If I were....**
- 19 May – 40th Anniversary
- 25 May – **Coffee at the Club – Shakespeare in a nutshell**

Presidents Distinguished Club

Congratulations to the following:

1. Gus Tang –Advanced Communication Bronze Award
2. Rebecca Ruiz –2nd Advanced Communication Bronze and Competent Leader Awards
3. Stephanie Miszuk -Competent Communication Award

We now have earned 7 out of 10 points in our DCP. We need at least 9 point out of 10 to achieve our club goal of President's Distinguished Club for the year 2007-2008.

For members who only need to do around 3 – 4 speeches there is still time. We have 4 regular meetings and 6 Coffee at the Club meetings to achieve this goal up to 31 May 2008

We encourage all members to avail these opportunities.

Opportunities do not come the second time around. Grab them and we all will find satisfaction.

Harry Kyriakopoulos
VP Education

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."

Illawarra Toastmasters Club

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News

April 2008



The Area 9 Contests

Area 9 Evaluation and International Speech Contest was a success. We all enjoyed the speeches even with standing guests, as the whole room was overflowing with people. Area 9, the only area in the Southern Division, was lucky enough to have judges from Western Division, Central Division, Hawkesbury Division, Phillip Division and of course our own Southern Division.

Ann Beard, represented our club in the Table Topics Contest while Gus Tang took on the International Speech Contest.

From all the speakers, we learn, the strategies of table topics and speeches. And also it was great to meet other toastmasters. The whole event was a whole basket of goodies with regards to a whole new experience. In the near future, we will endeavour to plan a mock TT, Evaluation, Humorous and International Speech contests.

We also intend to invite Royston Fernandes for his presentation on Evaluation in one of our mock contests.

*Rebecca Ruiz
Area Governor*

Welcome to the new members:

Flora Shu
Cathy Wang

Welcome to reinstated members:

Catherine Yip Wong
Liz Rojas Jaque

Humour, Wits & Wisdom

- Bacon & Eggs – hens are involved but pigs are committed
- “Would the standing committee please sit down.”
- Don’t take life seriously, it is not permanent.

OFFICER TRAINING ANY ONE!

Toastmasters,

Can I share a well kept secret with you? Officer training is not just for officers. Its for prospective officers too. Since every member of Toastmasters is eligible to be a club officer that means everyone can go.

A spur of the moment decision took me to the last training at the Bankstown Sport Club and I must admit it was a good decision. With four sessions each offering a choice of three subjects, there was enough variety to keep everyone interested. And between sessions there was time to chat. That’s often the most useful part of these events.

Everyone attended the session on Quality Clubs. This isn’t just about winning a ribbon; this is about achieving a standard. This is about being a strong and vibrant club, setting a standard for all members and knowing that the support is there to achieve the goal.

I chose: Meeting procedure in your Club, Improving your management skills and Developing an excellent Club evaluation climate. It was a difficult choice. It wasn’t that I had no interest in the other areas but I could only be in one place at a time.

Now if you had been there, we could have swapped notes!

*Ann Beard
Toastmaster*