



Concord Breakfast Toastmasters

Give Voice to your potential

Message from the President

by Kanda Alahan

Tuesday mornings are one of the high points of the week for me, thanks to all of you. The efforts you make, whether they are as simple as bringing a word for the day or as challenging as writing and practicing a speech, all go into the mix that makes for an enjoyable personal growth experience.



We've found at Kensington what may well be the answer to our search for a new meeting site, thanks in large part to Joy's investigations. What we must do now is address the weakest link in maintaining a successful club: find new members! As Sarah and Marilyn outlined for us at the meeting of January 16, let's make the effort to talk with friends, neighbors and acquaintances about Toastmasters and invite them to visit our club. Remember it is the influx of new blood that keeps the club fresh and vibrant.

The theme for the year which I spoke of last July when I first became club President applies now just as much as then. "Challenge Yourself!" Do better than you think you can do and engage in the Toastmasters experience to the degree your schedule allows. Invite others to come to the meetings. Prepare entertaining and informative table topics, evaluations and speeches.

Club Re-Naming Contest

by Sarah Cole

Our Toastmaster's Club is looking for a new name! Currently our Club is called Concord Breakfast Toastmasters. We have been Concord Breakfast Toastmasters since the beginning of time. This name was appropriate when our club met at a restaurant in Concord and offered a free breakfast to all first time visitors. Our recent move to Kensington Place in Walnut Creek has triggered the desire to update our Club's name to better reflect who we have become.

I encourage all members to submit your new Club name ideas to Sarah Cole sarah@webcor.com. You may submit more than one entry. All names will be considered by the Executive Committee, the best ideas submitted to the membership for a vote and a Prize will be awarded to the winner. Submit your ideas today!

Special Thanks

by Mike Elliott -- your Sergeant at Arms

Fellow Toastmasters -- Since we left Marie Callenders last year we have been meeting at locations that had no storage space for our equipment. Our President, Kanda, has been hauling the bins and other impedimenta back and forth from his shop to the meeting site. We have limited storage available at Kensington Place and hope to move in this week.

Thanks to Kanda, to Mike M and Ken, and everyone who so generously help with the setup and pack up each meeting morning.

How I Help You Achieve Your Goals

by Marilyn Ashlin

As Vice President of Membership my role is to build and strengthen the club's membership by adding new members and retaining existing ones. As with all Toastmasters' roles, this is a team effort. All members are asked to "talk up" the club and invite people to attend meetings as guests. The VP Membership's job is to encouraging those guests to become members.

The job does not end there, however. Most people in business know that it takes quite a bit of effort to attract new customers. Once prospects become customers, it is important to hold on to them. Good businesses find out what their customers need and make sure they get it!

This is true for club members as well--once someone makes the commitment to join our club, it is important that they stay. Therefore a very important part and main focus of my job, is to make sure existing members are getting what they need from the club. Why did you join Toastmasters? Yes, to improve communication and leadership skills, but most members have more specific reasons related to their jobs, community involvement and other activities.

In the coming weeks and months I will ask for your support with membership-building programs, do my best to convert guests to members, and to make sure that all members are satisfied with what they are getting from our club.



Talk up Toastmasters!

by Marilyn Ashlin

Do Toastmasters like to talk? Yes, and it's a good thing we do!

During the Talk up Toastmasters! membership contest - February 1 to March 31 - we are challenged to add at least five new, dual or reinstated members to our club.
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How many people do you have to talk to in order to add one new member? History shows that for every nine people you talk to, three will attend as a guest and one will join our club. Do the math! To add five new members by March 31, we need to talk to 45 potential guests!

Your club needs your help to get out there and invite as many guests as possible to our Tuesday morning meetings. Prizes include a special Talk up Toastmasters! ribbon to display on our club banner and our choice of a module from one of TM's advanced skill building programs.

In addition, members who bring in the most guests will receive fun, individual prizes. To help you spread the word, Concord Breakfast Toastmasters business cards are now available from Sarah Cole, VP of Public Relations. So grab a supply, get out there and talk it up!

** Membership applications must be received at World Headquarters by March 31 to count for the contest.*

Newsletter continues

How My Job as VP Ed Helps You

by Mike McGarvey

One of my main jobs is to provide a schedule for the next four meetings. Then I change it. Another e-mail and I change it again! Another job is helping members with goals and awards. I need to know what your goals are and any details about how you want to accomplish these goals. Do you want to speak more often? Slightly less often? How can I help you? Please let me know.

Advancement in Toastmasters Can Be Fun!

by Mike McGarvey

Toastmasters is FUN. I've been having fun since I survived my first speech. Pretty soon I was understudy to Mike Elliott in the Sergeant-At-Arms position. Then I was elected to that job. I had lots of fun doing that. Even arriving at 0620 am and setting up was fun. As I moved into the VP-Public Relations position I found that the District Governor had appointed me to be Area B-6 Governor. Steep learning curve but fun. Lots of new friends along the way. I worked with Lee Woods and Sarah Cole in the Youth Leadership program. FUN.

All this fun and I haven't been a Toastmaster for even two and a half years.

There is a lot more to being a Toastmaster than just attending meetings. Look around for opportunities

New Officers, New Members

by Ken Smith



Past District 57 Governor Tevis Thompson inducts our new slate of officers. *From left to right: Kanda Alahan, President; Mike McGarvey, VP Education; Sarah Cole, VP Public Relations; Marilyn Ashlin, VP Membership; Lee Woods, Secretary; Ken Smith, Treasurer; (absent) Mike Elliott, Sgt@Arms.*



New members Richard Gage (joined November 2006) and Jack Doelcher (Joined January 2007).

December & January Birthdays & Anniversaries

Sarah Cole – Born December 31st
Edison Guerra – Born January 3rd

July – December 2006 Member & Club Achievements

By Ken Smith

At the half-way mark in our Toastmaster year, we have completed more than half of our Distinguished Club Program (DCP) goals.

There are ten DCP goals every club is challenged to meet each year (July-June). These goals were selected by Toastmasters International because they are proven measurements of what excellent Toastmaster clubs and members accomplish. Five goals completed qualifies the club as a Distinguished Club. Completing seven goals qualifies as Select Distinguished. Nine goals equals a Presidents Distinguished Club. Our club has achieved ten out of ten goals in each of the past six years. Once again, we expect to achieve ten this year.

Two of the goals are four new members each. To date, we have six new members, completing one goal and only two new members away from a second goal met.

Another two of the goals are two new Competent Communicators each. Joy Rynearson and Ken Smith have each completed Competent Communicator qualifications and we have several more members who will complete theirs – and fulfill the second of these two goals -- before the end of June.

Still two more goals are one new Advanced Communicator each. We have four or more Advanced Communicator qualifications in the works.

Then there are the leadership goals: one leadership qualification required for each.

Ken has already given us both of these for this year.

The ninth goal is a minimum of four club officers trained by the District in each of the two training periods. Your officers have accomplished both of these goals with all seven officers trained in the first training period, and at least five already trained in the second.

Finally, the tenth goal is to get the club officer and dues renewal paperwork (and money) in on time to Toastmasters International. This goal, too, has already been achieved.

Goal #	Goal	Done?
1	2 Competent Communicators (CC)	Y
2	2 More Competent Communicators	
3	1 Advanced Communicator (AC)	
4	1 More Advanced Communicator	
5	1 Leadership	Y
6	1 More Leadership	Y
7	4 New Members	Y
8	4 More New Members	2
9	Min 4 Officers trained each Training Period	Y
10	Officer List/ Dues Renewal in on time	Y
	Total to date	6

Outside the club, Joe Silva and Ken Smith were each recognized as Presidents Distinguished Area Governors for the 2005-2006 Toastmaster year, with Ken named “Area Governor of the Year” for District 57.

