

Toastmasters Gazette

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July 26, 2007

Our mission is to provide a mutually supportive and positive learning environment in which every member has the opportunity to develop and practice communication and leadership skills which in turn foster self-confidence and personal growth.

July 26 Meeting Notes

Our July 26th meeting was fairly well attended. We had 12 members and one guest. Ronnie Mack, our Area Governor, attended and held the officer installation ceremony. Thanks to our officers from the last term.



The Meeting Theme was “Garlic Festival” (No theme had been specified and the end of July sees festivals celebrating this odiferous cooking item, so there!!).

The word of the day from Rick Sharon was “exalt” - to raise in rank, power, or character; to elevate by praise or in estimation.

We had just one speaker:

- Cindy Breaman gave a humorous speech about noses and the inner contents of them (turbinates, the thin plicated membrane-covered bony plates on the walls of the nasal chambers).

We had 7 table topics, provided by Scott Lewis (hopefully I can do them):

- For Rick Sharon, think of a time of change in his life and what spice would represent it. For him, life is like being in a blender (due to working with computers) but maybe the spice would be pepper.
- For Deb Liptak, some people have a core value that may cause discomfort in others. What is that value (and a related spice) that you wouldn't give up? Deb says she is stubborn, somewhat right wing. Her parents are Czech, and they often had honey and garlic on the table (to represent the sweetness and bitterness of life).
- For Cynthia Holleman, someone who took your life, which was bland before, and somehow spiced it up. A Vice President at work who saw something in her and believed in her and helped her move in to the career she currently has and helped her succeed.

- Diana Patton, describe a smell that brings back a pleasant memory. Her husband had been out on a business dinner and came home with a strong smell related to the meeting's theme. The pleasant memory (and believe it or not there is one) is that when she met with the wives of the men who were at dinner with her husband that night, they remembered the same smell...
- Ronnie Mack was asked how he could find and identify the person he loved the most. His response had to do with a strong memory of the first Gulf War and how he could find his rifle based upon its sound (when he shook it) and its smell.
- Toni Hendrick was asked to describe a smell that was therapeutic for her. For her it was the smell of a freshly mown lawn and of the smell after a rain.
- Chris Nichols was asked about a smell that was offensive to others but reminded him of a good time. One of his early jobs that he really liked had a guy with really bad breath. Even with the bad breath it was a great job.

Special August 2nd Meeting

Shannon Hills, a member of District 25 and the winner of the Region III International Speech Contest will be giving her World Champion Contest speech on the 2nd of August (competes later in August). This may be your chance to hear the next World Champion of Public Speaking!!! After her speech we will be having a round robin evaluation of her speech.

July 5 Winners



Speaker Cindy Warmbrodt-Breaman

Table Topics Deb Liptak

Evaluator Jim Jameson

Word of the Day Well used by many people but no winner.

Member News and Profile



Cynthia Holleman has lived in Fort Worth with her two children Jamal and Lauryn for the past 11 years. She is originally from Memphis, Tennessee. She has been employed by First American for several years and is a divisional trainer for the First American Centralized Services Corporation. She is a very goal-oriented person who loves to travel and to ball room dance. Her favorite movies are "Two can Play that Game" (with Vivica Fox) and "Dejuve" (with Denzel Washington). She is excited about being a member of Toastmasters. She joined to improve her speaking skills as well as overcoming the fear of speaking in front of a large group. Her goal is to become a better communicator and leader while promoting professional development.

Club/Area/District News

Division makeup for officer training is coming up. Division A will have their training on August 13th.

Start thinking about the upcoming Humorous Speech and Evaluation Contests. All members who are not district officers are eligible to compete in each contest. The club contest will be sometime September. If interested in competing please contact our EDVP, Toni Hendrick. More information to follow.

The Area 15 contest is on October 6th. The Division A contest is on November 3rd and in November the District Conference will be held.

Tips from the Bill Gove Website

"Are great speakers informers . . . or performers? Probably a little of both, but Bill Gove believed that speakers are primarily performers. Bill used to say that a high school kid can stand up and deliver information, but performing an entertaining speech seeded with bits and pieces of wisdom was a com-

Next Week's Major Players

Toastmaster TBD

Table Topics TBD

Speaker Shannon Hills

pletely different skill level."

"Remember that effective speaking is more of a subtraction process than an additive process. It's more about subtracting the things that are getting in our way of connecting with the audience. Things like busy hands, excessive movement, or a monotone voice."

"Bill Gove used to say that the enemy of the speaker is sameness. In other words, it's ok to smile, but not all of the time. It's ok to frown, but not all of the time. It's ok to be loud, but not all the time. It's ok to whisper, but not all the time. It's ok to put your hands in your pockets, but not all the time. It's ok to do almost anything on the platform that doesn't distract the audience, as long as you don't do it all of the time. The greatest enemy of the speaker is sameness."

"Remember that every speech has a timeline. The goal of effective speech writing is to get as many pay-offs as possible within the shortest timeline."

"There are three grades of speech material: Fair, good, and great. The fair material is what connects the pieces of the story together and makes it coherent. The good material grabs the attention of the audience. The great material creates the payoff. These are the only three grades of material that should be left in your speech after the final draft is written. Everything else should be edited out of your speech."

<http://billgoveworkshopuk.com/quotes.htm>

Web Sites of Interest

Keller Communicators web site:

<http://keller.freetoasthost.org/>

District 25 web site:

<http://www.d25toastmasters.org>

Toastmasters International web site:

<http://www.toastmasters.org>