

Toastmasters Gazette

Volume 4, Issue 13

September 27, 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.

September 27 Meeting Notes

We had great attendance today - eighteen present, including two guests (Lisa Bodley (guests of Deb and Steve Liptak) and Jon Atwood). Looks like we may soon have some new members.

The Meeting Theme was "Planes, Trains, and Automobiles."

We had three speakers:

- Deb Liptak who spoke about National Read a Banned Book (how and why books may be banned).
- Leone Lewis gave a motivational speech on going APE (which stands for Attitude, Perception, and Enthusiasm).
- Chris Nichols talked about what to do when you are laid off. He spoke from personal experience (after being let go from RadioShack).

We had three table topics provided by Brenda Potts, all related to travel:

- John Cregger related a trip to Canada (eh?) and his fun going through customs.
- Trish Dale describe what it would be like flying around like an airplane.
- Steve Liptak told us about a flight (he was the pilot) into a Mexican Airport (where they didn't have lights).

Member News and Profile

Nothing new.

Club/Area/District News

Congratulations to Rick Sharon for winning both Humorous Speech and the Evaluation Contests for the club. He will be competing at the Area Contest on October 6 at Stacy's Furniture. Let's all go to the con-

test and support Rick as he competes against the best in Area 15.

The Division A contest is on November 3rd at Stacy's Furniture in Grapevine.

The District Conference will be held on November 30 and December 1.

Introducing the Speaker

How you are introduced can be almost as important as how you give your speech. A proper introduction can excite the audience, help them understand why you are there and how important your speech is, and set the stage for your entrance.

On the other hand a bad introduction can confuse or turn off the audience, make their expectations so high that they will be disappointed, or can confuse them. Even though introductions are very important, often scant attention paid to them by the speaker and the Toastmaster?

When you are a speaker, you are responsible for providing some sort of introduction to the Toastmaster. The best thing to do is to write your own brief introduction. That way, assuming the Toastmaster reads it like you wrote it, your introduction will be exactly the way you want it. Otherwise, you may get an introduction that you do not want.

There are several ways to put together an introduction. One method is the TISN method:

- T is for Topic. Tell the audience the subject and

August 9 Winners

Speaker Deb Liptak

Table Topics Steve Liptak

Evaluator Sanjay Kumar

Word of the Day User No clear winner that I remember



title of the presentation.

- I is for Importance. Tell the audience why the presentation is important to them - how they can benefit. Relate the topic to the audience.
- S is for Speaker. Tell the audience why the speaker is qualified to speak to them on the subject.
- N is for Name. Tell the audience the name of the speaker.

What you put in your introduction will depend upon the audience and your topic. In some cases, for a Toastmaster meeting speech, you may want your audience to take on a specific role (e.g., town council listening to a proposal). If that is the case, be sure to put that in the introduction and be sure the Toastmasters is aware of this.

Be sure to keep your introduction short - a rule of thumb is to keep its length to less than 10% of your total speech length (if your speech is 5 minutes, your introduction would be around 30 or 45 seconds).

Keep your introduction short, simple, and clear. Once the introduction is finished make your way quickly to the speaking area (if necessary stage yourself close to the speaking area. This will keep the pause between your introduction and your opening words short and the audience won't lose their focus.

Next Week's Major Players

Toastmaster Jim Jameson

Table Topics David Watkins

Speaker #1 Cindy Breaman

Speaker #2 Rick Sharon

Here is an example of a slightly tongue-in-cheek introduction:

For many years our speaker has wondered why men and women behave so differently. As you can guess, knowing why makes men and women behave the way they do can make life so much simpler for everyone.

After several months of research at singles bars across the country our speaker has identified the reasons for this difference.

Our speaker has devoted days, if not weeks, developing his new theory.

Please help me welcome our speaker, David Watkins, with his speech "The Woolly Mammoth Theory - why men don't shop."

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>