

Toastmasters Gazette

Volume 4, Issue 16

October 18, 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.

October 18 Meeting Notes

We had okay attendance - fourteen present, including one Guest - Phillip McClure. The Meeting Theme was "Collections." Our host for the evening was Cindy Breaman, who provided some tidbits about the theme (showed us some of the things she 'collects' and talked about hobbies).

The word of the day was provided by Sanjay Kumar. It was: gravamen. It is a noun:

- the material or significant part of a grievance or complaint.

We had two speakers.

Scott Lewis gave speech #7 from the basic manual (Research). His title was "Broken" and he discussed spousal abuse (and provided eye opening statistics).

Brenda Potts gave us a show and tell (speech #8, visual aids). She was the "Jewelry Lady", providing a demonstration speech related to Premier Designs Jewelry (with which she is associated). For more information about this organization you can go to <http://www.premierdesigns.com> or you can talk with Brenda.

Amy Morenz was our table topics master:

- Rick Sharon was to describe his Halloween decorations. He didn't know yet, but provide some ideas.
- Deb Liptak was asked if she collected dolls and what kind. Unfortunately Deb hates dolls and clowns (poor clowns). Though she does have a "Goth" rag doll.
- Randy Potts was to identify what he would sell in a rummage sale. It would be things from the garage and attic, stuff they hadn't looked at in years.

Member News and Profile

Congratulate Cindy and Robert Breaman on the opening of their new business - **C R Coins**. As the name suggests it has something to do with coins and such. The store is located in North Richland Hills, on Highway 26 south of the Loop 820 Intersection. The web site is www.crcoins.com.

Club/Area/District News

The Division A contest is on Saturday, November 3rd, at Stacy's Furniture in Grapevine (south of the intersection of Highway 114/121 and Main Street). Rick Sharon will be representing Keller in the Humorous Speech and Evaluation Contests (and David Watkins will be representing another area in the Humorous Speech contest).

Briefing is at 4:00 pm. The contest will start at 5:00 pm. We should be through by 8:00 pm. Then we can go party (maybe Joe's Crab Shack will let us do YMCA)!!!!

The District Conference will be held on November 30 and December 1. There will be contests, a plethora of education sessions, and an opportunity to meet and greet other Toastmasters.

Seven Tips from David Brooks

By David Brooks, edited by David Watkins

1. **Do not think you can hide behind technology.** A bad speaker with PowerPoint is still a bad speaker. Use of technology will never help with lack of preparation or "lack of subject knowledge."
2. **The audience is rarely your enemy.** A bad

Winners

Speaker **Scott Lewis**

Table Topics **Deb Liptak**

Evaluator **David Watkins**

Word of the Day User **No clear winner**



performance by the presenter is also a bad performance for the audience. The audience almost always wants you to succeed [unless you are a political candidate - DW]. Take comfort in their support.

3. **Choose one of four objectives.** Good speakers know they have a choice of four objectives - to inform, to persuade, to inspire, or to entertain. You must choose one (though you can use any combination). Once you are clear as to exactly what you want to accomplish, your message will be so much easier to prepare and deliver.
4. **Don't speak to your audience; speak with it.** Today's best speakers know that a good speech is good conversation. Good speakers today solicit audience involvement, comments, and questions. And the best speakers do these things while keeping it brief.
5. **Nothing can top a good story.** Bill Gove says: "Public speaking is simply this - make a point, tell a story. Make another point, tell another story." People may not remember points, but they will remember stories. Good speakers turn to personal experiences to use as stories.
6. **Write your speech word for word.** Writing word for word encourages economy of thought. Write your thoughts, word for word, then edit aggressively. And then rehearse your tightly edited speech to the point you can deliver it by referring to no more than a few note cards. This will let you pack the most information in the least amount of time.
7. **There is no substitute for practice and preparation.** What more can be said about this?

Next Week's Major Players

No longer applicable since the editor is late with this issue (having to work late on a Friday, early Saturday, and taking vacation the following week tends to mess up deadlines).

Newsletter Policy on Advertising

As you may have noticed, the newsletter mentioned some outside business interests of two of our members. The purpose of this newsletter is to inform each member about what is happening with the club and fellow members, not to act as advertising media. Therefore it neither solicits advertisers nor provides advertising to outside businesses (unless approved by the membership or unless the business provides something to the club for free or at a much reduced price).

However, as members we are like one big family (maybe a strange family, but a family). As family we want to keep up with what is going on with each other. Therefore, in the interest of keeping up with others, the newsletter may at times mention outside activities of members, business or otherwise (such as speaking about a local charity or entering an athletic event). Such mention will be very brief (a few sentences and maybe a web site reference at the most).

Requests by members to make announcements concerning outside activities, business or otherwise, will receive consideration. However, the editor reserves the right to determine what announcements will appear in the newsletter.

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>