

Toastmasters Gazette

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November 29, 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.

November 29 Meeting Notes

We had decent attendance - fifteen present, including one guest (Another Toni). The meeting theme was "Hobbies." Our host for the evening was David Watkins.

We had two speakers:

Deb Liptak talked about being stranded in Miami International Airport in 2006. Why stranded? Several reasons, including: 1) it was on a weekend when passengers for cruise ships were arriving and leaving, 2) spring break. So much for flying on standby!?!?!?

Scott Lewis talked about "sowing seeds." Not real seeds, but positive or negative seeds to help ourselves (and others) to grow.

Chris Nichols was the Table Topics Master. He did a great job keeping with the "hobbies" theme.

- Amy Morenz was asked what hobby would she pick if it could be her profession. For her it was as a "movie reviewer" (from a Christian perspective)
- Jon Atwood was asked if professional athletes should be able to make so much money. He felt no. He also felt that if they are hurt or otherwise don't play they don't get paid.
- Steve Liptak was asked if he felt that teens are spending too much time playing video/computer games. He feels that such games are a bane on society (desensitization to violence).
- Randy Potts was asked what he felt was the most dangerous hobby. For him it is skydiving (not that he skydives). Something to do with having to wonder if the person who packed the parachute was having a good day or not.

Member News and Profile

Nothing submitted. Come guys.... Let's learn something about you!!!!

Club/Area/District News

Officer elections are quickly approaching (for the January through June term). If you are interested in serving as an officer please contact Rick Sharon (nomination chair). He can also give you details on the duties of each office.

We will be having a special anniversary meeting on December 6th. It will be the "Trial of the Big Bad Wolf." It should be fun (or at least strange).

PLEASE, PLEASE, PLEASE LET RICK SHARON KNOW IF YOU WILL BE ATTENDING AND IF YOU ARE BRINGING ANY GUESTS. WE NEED RSVPs SO WE CAN PLAN FOR THE RIGHT AMOUNT OF SNACKS.

The **District Conference** was held on November 30 and December 1. Keller Communicators had three officers win outstanding officer awards:

- Rick Sharon for President
- Cindy Breaman for Education VP
- David Watkins for Sergeant at Arms

Congratulations to Rick, Cindy, and David.

Winners

Speaker **Scott Lewis**

Table Topics **Steve Liptak**

Evaluator **Jim Jameson**

Word of the Day User **David Watkins** used it the most



Next District Conference (around May of next year) will hold the **International Speech contest**. The club contest will be sometime in February or March. Now is the time to start working on it. If you have questions about the contest you can ask Rick Sharon or David Watkins.

David Watkins passed out information on the Keller of Chamber of Commerce (a follow-up email was sent to the member email alias as well). The officers have been discussing membership as a way to help spread the word about Toastmasters to businesses and professionals in the community. A motion to approve the \$150 cost for one year members will be made at an upcoming meeting.

Scott Lewis made a motion for the club to approve \$200 to sponsor "time out announcements" at local basketball games. Vote was held and motion did not pass.

As always, if you have an issue with how the club is working or a suggestion to improve the club please talk with an officer. He or she will bring it up at an Executive Officer meeting for discussion. OR you can bring a motion before the club (you may want to discuss this with an officer to be sure you have a properly worded motion and you are prepared to discuss the advantages of your motion).

How to Create a Meeting Agenda

This is a special encore article (very important for less experienced Meeting Toastmasters and I didn't have anything else to add).

Ever wondered where that agenda originates? Where does the Toastmaster of the Day find it? If you are the Toastmaster for the meeting, you are responsible for creating the agenda. The easiest way to do this is to use the template from our club's web site.

The following steps can help you prepare the agenda and have a smoothly run and successful meeting.

- Review the Duty Roster that is on our web site

Next Week's Major Players

Special Trial Big Bad Wolf

(you will have to log in with your user id and password).

<http://keller.freetoasthost.org/members/roster.cgi#>

- The roster will tell you who is assigned the various duties. Be sure to send out an announcement to the duty holders to be sure they will be able to fulfill their duty.
- Go to the public download site on our website and download the agenda template.
<http://keller.freetoasthost.org/members/roster.cgi#>
- This has two pages (first page has the duties, the second page has descriptions of the roles).
- Enter the names of the duty holders based upon the assigned roles mentioned earlier as well as any "who can and can't attend" feedback.
- The Toastmaster needs to let people know of their assignment, however **each duty holder is responsible for letting the Toastmaster know if they will be attending the meeting**.
- Print enough agendas - one for the Toastmaster plus an additional 20 or so (or at least enough so that attendees can share).

Having an agenda, an agenda where all of the duty holders listed have confirmed their presence at the meeting, will almost guarantee a successful meeting.

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>