



# Toast-it Notes

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February 2011

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## PRIVILEGED MOTIONS

Recently in one of our meetings after a long circuitous debate, a member rose to call for "Orders of the Day."

The intent was to bring debate to a close and move back to the agreed upon agenda. The next item on the agenda was a recess. Therefore, was the motion frivolous and out of order? Or was this a legitimate motion?

A "Call for the Orders of the Day" – is in order:

- If the adopted agenda is not being followed, or
- If consideration of a certain question had been set for a specific time and is not being introduced



**Privileged motions deal with special matters of immediate importance. They does not relate to the pending business.**

*In such instances any member can interrupt by saying, " Mr./Madam Chairman, I call for the Orders of the Day."*

**The motion need not be seconded, is not debatable and usually does not involve any voting. However, can be set aside by a two-thirds vote of the assembly. --- RRONR 10<sup>th</sup> Edition**

In this instance it may be argued that the agenda was not being followed, as there was a scheduled time to recess and that time had been reached.

If the Chair felt that the issue being debated was of great importance to the club and needed further discussion, he / she could have called for a vote, without debate, on the "Call for Orders of the Day". In order to continue debate a 2/3 thirds supporting vote would be needed.

*"I can well understand the Honourable Member's wishing to speak on. He needs the practice badly." - Winston Churchill*



This article was written by our expert on parliamentary procedure - Rick Joseph, DTM

## Meet Our Members

By Joanne Fraser



Tony Easton CTM / CL

Tony is one of our most regular attending members. He says he only misses when he is away on holiday. Tony joined Sears-Halifax Toastmasters in 1987 to improve his speaking ability. When I asked him why I have never heard him give a speech in the three years I have been in the club; he said that he enjoys fulfilling other roles more than giving speeches.

For his contributions, the club is very grateful. He often fills the Parliamentary role and has been our Club Treasurer for many years.

During his membership with Sears-Halifax, Tony has served all club officer roles except VP Education. However, he was VP Administration; a role that was split into the VP Public Relations and the VP Membership.

One cannot help but pick up an interesting historical tidbit every time they talk to Tony. He is the go to person for any statistics or facts about our club. His passion for factual information means that he keeps statistics that no one even knows about until he says, "would you like a list of .....?" And it is always something that is useful.

Tony grew up in the UK near London. In 1948 he watched the Olympics on TV when the actual events were being held in nearby Wembley Stadium visible from his bedroom window. His father was in the cable television business which is why they had a TV when few families at that time did.

Tony moved to Canada in 1953 and attended high school and McGill University in Montreal. When he came to Halifax in 1967 he flew over the opening ceremonies of Expo 67 and then had to drive to Montreal to visit the Expo.

Tony is married to Marilyn and they have a son, a daughter and three grandchildren. He is a Civil Engineer and prior to retiring nine years ago, he spent 40 years in construction management. Every winter Tony and his wife go "south" somewhere warm for a week.

When asked what he enjoys so much about Toastmasters that he is there week in and week out, Tony replied "everything". He did say that is likely more the social aspects that he really likes. He stated that he has a reputation as a "kibitzer". Here is the word of the day definition:

1. To look on and offer unwanted, advice to others.

2. To chat; converse.

He is well known for catching members who say: "I would now like to introduce ....." And he quips "Why don't you?" The proper phrase is "I now introduce..."

Tony is a "philatelist." Here is another word of the day definition: a collector and student of postage stamps. It is a hobby he had as a child and then dropped. He picked it up again, when he retired, now buying and selling stamps online. Not a day goes by that he is not actively doing something related to this



interest. He started out collecting stamps worldwide, narrowed it to the British Commonwealth and now focuses on the British Caribbean. I asked him if his collection was worth quite a bit of money and he said, "probably."

He will leave his collection to his son who will likely sell it!

Toastmasters has increased Tony's social and interpersonal skills, making him more self-confident and comfortable in his interactions with others. He recently participated as a presenter at the January 2011 Toastmasters Leadership Institute (TLI). He led the session on the role of Treasurer. **TM**

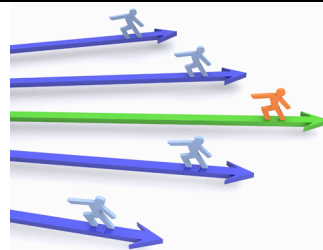
### A TOASTMASTER'S PROMISE

Do you remember your first visit to Sears-Halifax Toastmaster's club as a guest? Do you remember how surprised you were to find that you could actually learn and enjoy Toastmasters, so much so, that you couldn't wait to join the club? Do you remember the mixed feelings of excitement and fear at the thought of public speaking? Do you remember the enthusiasm that you felt, thinking that one day you would be a competent speaker? Do you remember your Toastmaster's Promise?

.....CONTINUED ON PAGE 4

# High Performance Leadership

By Karen Caldwell DTM



Have you ever wondered what the High Performance Leadership program is all about? I would say it was the most effective program I have completed in Toastmasters to improve my confidence and my leadership skills.

This program is a “learn by doing” project, which uses a three-part learning process of study, action and feedback. The projects in this manual require considerable thought, preparation and time. The reward you receive will depend on the effort you expend.

The program requires you to do the following:

**Recruit a Guidance Committee** - the three mentors will meet with you at the completion of five phases of this program to provide feedback and suggestions for improvement. At least one mentor on your committee must be a Toastmaster.

**Study the learning materials** provided in the manual and carefully apply them to fit your project.

**Select a project** which you intend to complete by working with others in a “leadership capacity”, either formal or informal. Your project can be almost anything, so long as it is legal, ethical and socially responsible and your activities are not represented as being endorsed by Toastmaster International.

**Develop and work with a team** to accomplish the goal of your project, or at least to make enough progress so you can show the results of your learning process.

**Make two presentations** on your project to your Club - get feedback from the member; then have your VP of Education submit the results to Toastmaster International to receive your “Leadership Excellence” award towards your Advanced Leader designation.

## You will learn the “Six Dimensions of Service Leadership”

So what are you waiting for, take that plunge and learn how develop your leadership skills by leading a team to victory through the “High Performance Leadership” program.

.....CONTINUED ON PAGE 7



## CURIOSITY

SOME PLACES REMAIN UNKNOWN BECAUSE NO ONE HAS VENTURED FORTH.  
OTHERS REMAIN SO BECAUSE NO ONE HAS EVER COME BACK.





## A Note from the President

Welcome to the February edition of the award-winning Toast-It notes. As I write this I hear word of yet another major storm heading our way and wonder what effect this is going to have on the meeting this week. As many people have told me, this is winter, this is Canada, it snows, get used to it!

Of course, on a cold winter's evening, the temptation is to snuggle up in front of a roaring fire but if you do this what will you be missing out on? Why did you join Toastmasters, and more specifically why did you join the Sears-Halifax Club? A vast majority will say that they joined to improve their communication skills, to increase their comfort speaking in front of a crowd and to develop their leadership skills. Sadly you will not be able to do this sat in front of that roaring fire!

Every meeting we have is different. Each speaker we have shows you how to improve your skills, every time you participate in a meeting role, you are developing your confidence and leadership ability. As we move towards spring, let's realize what great value membership of Toastmasters really is!

It's only good value though if you attend as many meetings as you can and don't forget one of the Toastmaster Promises you made at your induction was to 'attend as many meetings as possible'. I look forward to seeing you all at a club meeting in the very near future, and of course at our 55th Anniversary celebration at The Atlantica Hotel on May 7th!

Graeme Van Leer (CC), President



**To reserve your  
tickets for the 55th  
celebration email Tony  
Easton  
Tony@eastonia.ca  
More info next issue**



### **Continued..A Toastmasters Promise:**

Here are the ten parts of the Toastmaster's Promise:

- To attend club meetings regularly;
- To prepare all of my speeches to the best of my ability, basing them on manual projects;
- To prepare for and fulfill meeting assignments;
- To provide fellow members with helpful, constructive evaluations;
- To help the club maintain the positive, friendly environment necessary for all members to learn and grow;
- To serve my club as an officer when called upon to do so;
- To treat my fellow club members and our guests with respect and courtesy;
- To bring guests to club meetings so they can see the benefits Toastmasters membership offers;
- To adhere to the guidelines and rules for all Toastmasters educational and recognition programs;
- To maintain honest and highly ethical standards during the conduct of all Toastmasters activities.

**More on page 6**

# SOUND YOUR BEST

## The Comfort Monitor

Too many times, speakers put their laptops on the podium in front of them or place them off to the side.

Over the course of the evening, the presenter will direct their eyes towards their poorly placed computer and look quite amateur.

On a large scale event this is where the TelePrompter is introduced. A TelePrompter is simply a TV placed on the floor that looks up to a piece of glass on a 45 degree angle. The image is from the TV is reflected off the glass into



the presenters eyes. The image is quite often the speakers speech displayed as a rolling marquee.

Instead of a TelePrompter, you can use a comfort monitor. A comfort monitor is a TV monitor that is on the floor in front of the stage or podium that displays one's power point presentation. It is strategically placed so that the presenter can look at it when they casually look down at their notes on the podium. It's all smoke and mirrors!

To get the comfort monitor effect when presenting at your club, place your laptop on a chair about four to six feet in front of the podium or where you will be standing. TM

## Sears Halifax Toastmasters Presents Evening at Province House - Nova Scotia Legislature

On Thursday, March 3, 2011, at our regular meeting starting time, Sears Halifax Toastmasters will meet at the Nova Scotia Legislature, for an opportunity to become more familiar with Parliamentary procedures.



For one night only, you can sit, and stand, and speak, from the floor of one of the oldest legislatures in North America.

Every working day in this House of Assembly, Province House, Toastmaster skill sets are being applied - be it thinking on your feet as with Table Topics; or with

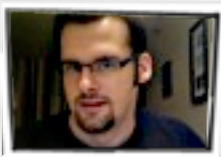
parliamentary procedures; or in speaking to inform and influence the opinions of others, and the general outcomes.

Each speaker in attendance will represent an area of the province. Join us for this fun evening of mock-parliament. Be early, the event starts at 6:15 pm sharp!

To register Call Rick Joseph  
T 443.3282. E [rjoseph42@gmail.com](mailto:rjoseph42@gmail.com)



Tony Blair using a comfort Monitor



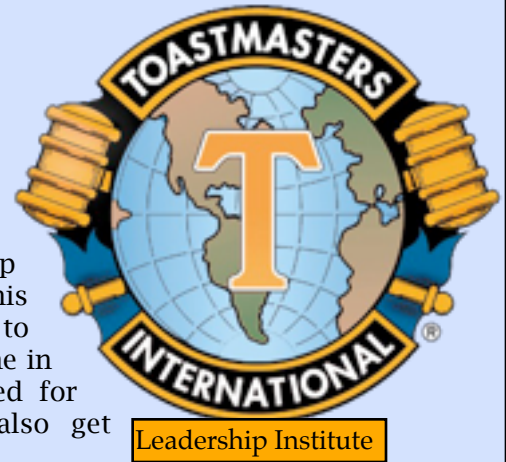
Mark Doyle is an Audiovisual expert with many years of experience working in the conference industry. Look for his articles in future newsletters as he shares secrets of the industry.



# Nutrition and Knowledge

From your Secretary, Ralph Smith, Advanced Communicator Silver.

I attended the recent mid-term training session for club officers January 15th, or should I say I graduated from the "Toastmaster Leadership Institute" (T.L.I.). I really can't find where this institute is located but this session was held at the same place that the officer training sessions used to be held in previous years. These sessions are usually held twice a year; one in the fall to accommodate the new executive and one like I just attended for rejuvenation and possible new executive members like me. We also get Distinguished Club points if four officers attend.



Whatever anyone wants to call it, the whole event was well run, entertaining and educational. I have always come away from these with some new ideas and inspiration. As usual, there were breakout sessions for each officer position. Our very own Tony Easton conducted the Treasurer session. I went with the other Secretaries and one of the things I came away with was a condensed list of the objectives for each Toastmaster manual project including the advanced manuals. These have now been added to the Information section on the Downloads page of our website. Of course, everyone has a C.C. manual and we have all of the advanced manuals in our library. Members can review the physical manuals before or after meetings to help them decide which ones to order after achieving the C.C. designation. The website list provides for a quick overview.

Something new to me this year was the opportunity to sit in on presentations of your choice such as evaluation and judging. Creativity abounds at Toastmasters while maintaining tried and true basic structure.

Toastmasters Leadership Institute should be mandatory for club officers but any member who is interested in being an officer can enroll. Tuition is paid for by the club which even includes food. There should be another semester this fall for the new executive plus interested members. Nutrition and knowledge, a typical Toastmaster combination. TM

## Continued...A Toastmasters Promise:

Have you kept your promise to Toastmasters? Or has life gotten in the way of your goal of being a committed Toastmaster?

We all joined Toastmasters for different reasons but we are all committed by the same promise. There are exceptions at times when we must step back because other commitments prevail. Is that time being extended because we have gotten lost along the way? Maybe it is time to rejuvenate, to reconsider our goals and remember our Toastmaster's Promise. TM



## Miss the Christmas Party?

Continued from page 3

## The “Six Dimensions of Service Leadership”



### Vision & Values

- Imagine or envision what you would like to happen
- Understand what is happening now
- Decide what needs to be done to make your vision become reality

### Direction

- Set goals, establish priorities
- Delegate effectively to team members

### Persuasion

- You persuade others to see, understand and believe in your vision
- Project self-confidence – build trust and acceptance
- Communicate the big picture – Understand the contribution, direction and priorities of the team – keep the team informed
- Call attention to goals – Remind your team about the goals and mission
- Communicate one-to-one – listen effectively, put people at ease and help them express themselves
- Follow through – stand behind your decisions and see them through to completion.

### Support Your Team

- Monitor progress – set specific goals and meet regularly with team
- Use resources wisely – help team achieve goals includes people, money and equipment
- Be creative – fresh innovative ideas to solve problems
- Manage time well – Keep your mind on priorities, avoid wasting time, manage well and give attention to the important work



### Development

- Develop people – provide team with learning experiences and challenges to help them grow as individuals – insist they do their best – set standards – encourage to find new ways to do things
- Teach and Coach – Teach members what they need to know and do to perform their tasks
- Build team spirit – Stay in touch with members – hold regular meetings – help them work together

### Appreciation

- Give praise and positive recognition
- Respect the ideas and opinions of others – encourage your team to make contributions
- Use ritual, celebration and ceremony – give your team an opportunity to celebrate their success – thank your team for their efforts and hard work

- TM

# Club Website



Some of you may have noticed some cosmetic tweaks to the Club Website. In an ideal world, all of you would have noticed! So what has changed?

The background colour has been modified to tie in with the burnt orange colour of the TI logo.

Menus have been added as drop downs to give a cleaner look. The menus drop down automatically when you hover your mouse over the relevant tab. Drop down menus exist on the 'About', 'Members Only' and 'Download' tabs.

Galleries for the Club events are added as and when I get sent the relevant photos. At the moment we have two galleries set up and these can be found under the 'About' tab.

Our 'Members Only' area is password protected (contact me if you have forgotten the password) and contains links to the upcoming agendas and membership list. You can also view minutes to meetings that have been approved by the club.

The Downloads tab contains a list of useful links to other Toastmaster websites, as well as useful wordsmith type websites. All our available past newsletters are available to download here as well in pdf format.

An RSS feed has been added to the sidebar on the homepage from the Toastmasters International Twitter page. These update regularly and link off to some really interesting articles, so check them out! I will also be adding links to other TI social media sites as they become available.

The Club website takes time to maintain and keep relevant to you the members, so please use it. If there are any deficiencies that you can think of, if you find a broken link or even a typo, please don't hesitate to let me know and I will investigate.



"On the Internet, nobody knows you're a dog."

## Conjecture

### Noun

*The information is merely conjecture:* speculation, guesswork, surmise, fancy, presumption, assumption, theory, postulation, supposition; inference, (an) extrapolation; an estimate; **informal** a guesstimate, a shot in the dark, a ballpark figure. **ANTONYMS** fact.

### Verb

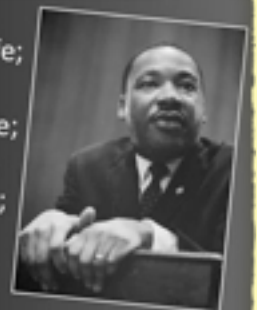
*I conjectured that the game was over:* guess, speculate, surmise, infer, fancy, imagine, believe, think, suspect, presume, assume, hypothesize, suppose. **ANTONYMS** know.

## Word of the Newsletter

Club Webmaster

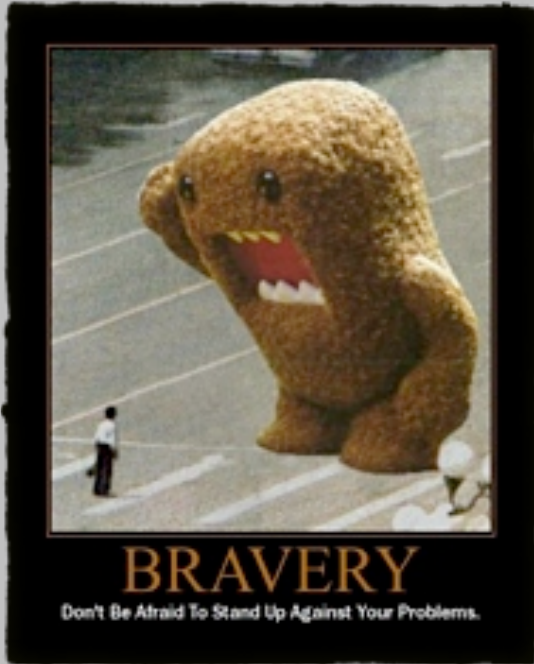
Hatred paralyzes life;  
love releases it.  
Hatred confuses life;  
love harmonizes it.  
Hatred darkens life;  
love illuminates it.

Martin Luther King Jr.





# Smiles, Chuckles & Games



Even the best of us struggle with technology.

**Extra Strength  
BOREDOM RELIEF™**

Take daily as directed. **WARNING:** May cause uncontrollable laughter. Potentially addictive.

A Deep Thought by Jack Handy

**If you're in a war, instead of throwing a hand grenade at the enemy, throw an apple. Maybe it'll make everyone think how stupid war is, and while they are thinking, you can throw a real grenade at them.**

**The funniest joke in Britain!**

A woman gets on a bus with her baby. The bus driver says: "That's the ugliest baby that I've ever seen. Ugh!" The woman goes to the rear of the bus and sits down, fuming. She says to a man next to her: "The driver just insulted me!" The man says: "You go right up there and tell him off – go ahead, I'll hold your monkey for you."

## VISUAL AIDES CONTEST

There are six words in this word search. Each word represents a visual aide. Find all six words and write them below. All entries will be put in a draw for a \$5 gift card for Tim Hortons on the 24 of February.

Good Luck!

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