



Sears-Halifax Club 1555 Halifax, Nova Scotia

Inside this issue:

| | |
|---|----|
| <i>A Word From Our President</i> | 1 |
| <i>Division of the Assembly</i> | 2 |
| <i>"Talk up Toastmasters" Membership Contest 2012</i> | 3 |
| <i>What's Been Happening, What's Coming Up??</i> | 4 |
| <i>Meet Our Members</i> | 5 |
| <i>Advice Corner "Taking off! Six Tips for Travelling"</i> | 6 |
| <i>Pictures from our 2011 Christmas party & Annual Awards Night</i> | 7 |
| <i>What has membership in Toastmasters done for me?</i> | 8 |
| <i>Another Amazing Engineer</i> | 9 |
| <i>Smiles & Chuckles</i> | 10 |
| <i>Toastmasters Crossword</i> | 11 |



Sears-Halifax 2011-2012 Club Executive

Club President: Rick Joseph
VP of Education: Karen Caldwell
VP of Membership: Jane Holden
VP of Public Relations: Craig Rupert
Treasurer: Cindy Slade
Club Secretary: Ralph Smith
Sergeant-at-Arms: Norris Eddy
Past President: Graeme Van Leer

A Word From Our President

Rick Joseph, DTM



It gives me great pleasure to welcome you to the 2012 season of Sears-Halifax Toastmasters Club. Over the past months we have had several members achieve educational goals and personal growth. In 2012 we look forward to even more achievements by all of our members.

The Toastmasters program is world renowned for offering a proven way to improve your communication and leadership skills. We achieve this by enabling you to participate in a fun and supportive Toastmasters club environment. As a result you can become a better speaker, a better leader, and gain the confidence necessary to succeed in whatever path you've chosen in life. You will be surprised at how much fun you can have while learning to overcome what people fear most – public speaking.

Sears-Halifax Toastmasters Club meets every Thursday evening at 6:00 pm from September 8th until mid June. Our meetings are held in the Sears Training Room within the Halifax Shopping Centre, located adjacent to the bedding department on the second floor.

We invite all who are interested in developing their public speaking and leadership skills to join us for one of our fun-filled evenings of learning and camaraderie.

You won't be disappointed! Use the Contact page on the website or our Facebook page for more information on the Club and the Toastmasters program. We look forward to seeing you.



Division of the Assembly

Rick Joseph, DTM

During most of our Business Meetings motions are put forward and the Chair calls for a vote. Most often these are by a show of hands or a voice vote. In situations where there is uncertainty about the result of the vote members can seek clarification in the following manner.

Whenever a member doubts the results of a voice vote or a vote by a show of hands, he or she can call for a **“Division of the Assembly”**.

A call for the Division of the Assembly requires a standing vote. When the Division is demanded, the chair immediately takes the vote again first by having the affirmative rise, then by having the negative rise.

Where it appears the vote will be close after the affirmative rise, the chair may count the vote or order it to be counted.

If a member desires the vote on the division to be counted, he/she must make a motion to that effect, which requires a majority vote.

VOTE RETAKEN AT CHAIR’S INITIATIVE

The chair has the responsibility of obtaining a correct expression of the will of the assembly. If he/she is uncertain of the result of a vote or if the chair feels that the vote is unrepresentative, the chair may of his or her own accord take the vote again by a rising vote.

DILATORY USE

When it is clear that there has been a full vote and there can be no reasonable doubt as to which side is in the majority, a call for a Division is dilatory and the chair should not allow the individual member's right of demanding a Division to be abused to the annoyance of the assembly.

Highlights of the Characteristics of the Motion:

1. Takes precedence over any motion on which a vote is being taken or has just been taken, within the interval immediately following such a vote.
2. Can be applied to any motion on which the assembly is called upon to vote by voice or by a show of hands.
3. Is in order without obtaining the floor, when another has the floor and at any time after the question has been put, even after the vote has been announced.
4. Does not require a second.
5. Is not debatable.
6. Is not amendable.
7. Does not require a vote, since a single member can demand a division.
8. Cannot be reconsidered.

---- Source: *Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised Tenth Edition. Chapter VIII, Article 29, pages 270-273.*

(The above information is presented for information and educational purposes only and does not reflect the comments or opinions of the presenter. All information in italics is direct quotation from Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised Tenth Edition.)



“Talk up Toastmasters” Membership Contest 2012

Erna Slingluff, ACB/CL



What makes a Toastmasters club strong and healthy? It's existing members and new members, right?

Without a strong and healthy membership a club will soon wither and die. Sears-Halifax Toastmasters club has been a strong and healthy club for many years.

It is the responsibility of each and every one of us as toastmasters, new or seasoned, to ensure that our club remains a strong and healthy club. The only way to achieve and maintain that is through continued membership and membership building.

We have the opportunity starting February 2 to March 29th to retain and build our club membership through “Talk up Toastmaster” Membership Contest. Here is a great opportunity to use or develop your impressive communication and leadership skills, in addition, gain recognition for your participation. Sears-Halifax Toastmasters Club 1555 is holding a special “Talk up Toastmasters” Membership Contest 2012” contest starting February 2nd to March 29th. This gives you nine weeks (9 weeks) to talk up Toastmasters by promoting Toastmasters by sharing with others the benefits you have gained as a Toastmaster member. Word-of-mouth is the most effective method of advertising the many benefits that Toastmasters has offered you but not the only way. With today's technology at our finger tips, we can reach many people who can benefit from our valuable Communication and Leadership program, with methods such as E-mails, Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn, blogging etc. Give it a try and inspire others.

This is how the campaign works. For each **New guest** a Toastmaster member brings to the club between Feb 2nd and Mar 29th the member will receive one point. Each time that guest returns, the member gets another point. If the guest joins the club on or before March 29th the member gets two points. At the end of campaign the points will be tallied.

There will be two awards presented.

1. One award to the member who brings the most guests on or before March 29th and
2. A combination of two awards to the member who has the most guests that join the club on or before March 29th.

The Toastmaster member who brought the most new guests will receive a signed copy of a DVD, **“Speaking With Your Pen”** by Randy J. Harvey (This DVD contains two hour training on learning how to write the best speeches of your life).

The Toastmaster member who has the most guests that joined, dual or reinstated to our club on or before March 29th will be awarded a trophy that states **“Sears-Halifax Club 1555, Toastmasters Membership Award.”** (for one year, this member will hold the trophy and pass it on to the winning member the next year). In addition to the trophy the winning membership contestant will receive a \$10 Starbucks gift certificate.

The real reward, of course, goes to Sears-Halifax Toastmasters club in the form of new members. Membership is the lifeline of any Toastmasters club. New memberships draw new life, new experiences, and new enthusiasm to the club. By adding 5 new members, dual or reinstated members to our roster between February 2 to March 29 our club will receive “Talk up Toastmaster!” ribbon to proudly display on our club banner.

Probably the best method of encouragement to your guest is by your example as a good participating Toastmaster. Demonstrate to them the confidence and skills you have gained by giving a speech while they are in attendance or volunteering in other roles of the meeting. (Taken from President's manual 2007)

Be a proud participant and join the **“Club Membership Campaign 2012” Contest** because membership is the key to a successful Toastmasters club.

What's Been Happening, What's Coming Up??

Rick Joseph, DTM



We certainly ended 2011 on an exciting and positive note. Congratulations go out to **Jane Holden** on receiving her Advanced Communicator Silver, **Cindy Slade** for her Advanced Leader Bronze, **Craig Rupert** and **Norris Eddy** for their Competent Communicator designations. They have all worked very hard over the past year and made significant contributions to the club. In addition to achieving these milestones they all took on club Executive roles for 2011/12, with Jane becoming VP of Membership, Craig VP of Public Relations and Norris Sergeant-at-Arms. Well done folks, you have set a fine example for all of us.

The first half of our 2012 Toastmaster's season promises to be very active and exciting. One major event that we are all looking forward to is the "District 45 Spring Conference" to be held in May. This is the first time since 2007 that it has taken place in Halifax.

District conferences always provide opportunities to learn, see old friends and make new ones. The last time it was held here the conference received very high marks for content, organization and great fun, indeed it was believed to have been one of the largest conferences held in the District in some time. Sears-Halifax members had a real opportunity to demonstrate their leadership and organizational skills, taking on some of the key roles in putting the conference together.

This year we hope to repeat those achievements and provide opportunities for some of our members to achieve their High Performance Leadership designations and for all to enjoy great learning and fun experiences. I encourage all of our members to get involved and participate in this event.

The Executive of Sears – Halifax Club is committed to you, our members, in your personal growth as leaders and public speakers in a supportive and encouraging atmosphere. Let us know how we can help you grow.



Jane Holden, ACS/ALS



Cindy Slade, ACB/ALB



Craig Rupert, CC



Norris Eddy, CC

Meet Our Members: Joanne Fraser, ACB/ALB

Lynne Fielder, TM



Back in 2008 Joanne met a friend at a networking event. This friend was Nadine Wentzell (ACS/CL) and she said this simple yet powerful phrase, "I belong to Toastmasters, you should come to a meeting!" Without hesitation, Joanne took her up on the offer and soon attended her first Toastmasters meeting. Joanne knew right away that she wanted to join and shortly after that she was pledging the Toastmasters' Promise.

Since her induction Joanne has served on the Executive as VP of Membership, volunteered on the 55th Anniversary committee and currently holds the position as the Area 9 Governor. As an Area Governor, Joanne's role is to provide support and guidance to 4 clubs in reaching their goals. For Joanne, there are many highlights of serving as Area Governor. The most significant is the perspective she has gained attending other clubs' meetings. Joanne stresses, "I highly recommend going to another club; it is an enriching experience that provides insight beyond what's available at one's own club."

This new role has made Joanne very busy this year, but her heart still belongs to Sears-Halifax. "When I'm not at a meeting, I feel like I have missed something," explains Joanne. She attributes the connection she feels to the club members, the camaraderie, and the fun at the meetings.

In her professional life, Joanne is self-employed as a consultant in her company, River Systems (<http://www.riversystems.com>). Her clients include the University of New Brunswick, Dalhousie University, and NSCC to name a few. Joanne conducts workshops on a variety of topics such as project management and leadership development. Her experience at Toastmasters has aided her in refining her craft as a public speaker. In her personal time, Joanne enjoys snowshoeing, kayaking, downhill skiing and has a love of travel.

Despite a demanding career, an array of personal interests and travelling at least once per year, Joanne is able to maintain her enthusiasm and commitment to Toastmasters. How is she able to maintain a life/work balance while also continuing on her own development path with Toastmasters? "It's easy," explains Joanne, "I just make it a priority." Joanne encourages members to set a goal and plan out your speeches according to your own schedule. However she cautions members, "Do your manuals at your own pace, but remember, slow is not easier as you lose momentum."

Joanne understands how it feels to be a newcomer to Toastmasters. "New members are often stepping out of their comfort zone when they walk into a Toastmasters meeting," explains Joanne. She recommends using the mentorship program offered by Toastmasters to seek support. "Clicking with your mentor is really important," says Joanne. New Toastmasters can also get involved by volunteering for various roles at each meeting. The grammarian, ah counter, timer, thought of the day, and listener are all excellent jobs for the novice. When ready to add more challenge, members can sign up for fines master, Toastmaster of the evening, and table topics master. Joanne suggests new members keep it simple, working at a regular and steady pace to reach each goal.

This year, Joanne will continue to serve as Area Governor as well as complete her Advanced Communicator Silver. We can also expect to hear more speeches from Joanne this year as she is working on the manuals "Speaking to Inform" and "Special Occasion Speeches". She has one speech from each to complete and based on Joanne's energy and enthusiasm, she's sure to complete her goal.

Advice Corner



Taking off! Six Tips for Travelling

Colette Robicheau, TM

Sometimes the most stressful part of travelling is everything leading up to the trip – and let's face it, it can take the fun out of the trip before it even starts. Use these tips to reduce the stress before you leave, while you are travelling and when you return!

1. Check the weather forecast at your destination – even if travelling to a warm country – for ideas on what to pack. Build your travel wardrobe around one basic color (black, navy or brown) to expand wardrobe options and limit luggage. If you plan on driving and it calls for snow, try to leave room in your schedule so that you can take off earlier to avoid the storm. If travelling through snow is necessary, pack an emergency kit, a shovel and some gravel in case you get stuck.

2. Use travel sized toiletry items to save space. Fill them only three-quarters full to save on extra weight charges if travelling by air. Place in zipper freezer bags to avoid leakage. If you have the time, purchase these items once you arrive at your destination. If your suitcase is full and you want to squeeze a few more items in, drop the bag on the floor a few times to make everything settle and create more space.

3. Use plastic dry cleaner bags or tissue around clothing to reduce wrinkles. Another method is to place two items of clothing together flat and fold them around each other. Try not to fold clothing any more than it needs to be to fit in the suitcase. Some may even iron everything before placing it in the suitcase. If it goes in crisp and clean, odds are more in its favour of coming out the same.

4. Pack snacks and bottled water for yourself and the kids. Fill a cooler if you're on the road. This eliminates unnecessary stopping and can be much cheaper. Eating in the car can be hard for kids to manage, so use a shoe box as a tray to hold a sandwich, a drink or fries and keep from spilling.

5. Pack an extra bag for items you buy or receive on your trip. This especially applies during the holidays. If time permits, wait to wrap presents you will be giving until after you arrive at your destination. This saves on space and you don't have to worry about damaging your pretty wrapping paper.

6. Take care of home before you leave. You will be returning at some point, so tidy your house before you leave. The thought of returning to a messy house can put a damper on your vacation. Try not to let too many people know you are going away and set several lamps on timers to switch on/off at various times so it appears as if you are home. Have a neighbour pick up your mail – or stop service – and take out the garbage bin on garbage day.

You can't do everything, so if everything is not perfect before you leave, try not to let it bother you. Once you have left your house there is nothing you can do about it, so wait and take care of it when you get back - you might as well enjoy your trip!



Connect, Learn, Do

For more great tips and information on our services visit us at

<http://www.organizeanything.com/> and <http://www.coletterobicheau.com>

Phone: (902) 233-1577

Email: colette@organizeanything.com

Visit our blog: www.organizeanything.wordpress.com

Like us on Facebook: www.facebook.com/organizeanything

Follow us on Twitter: [@organizenow](https://twitter.com/organizenow)

Pictures from our 2011 Christmas Party & Annual Awards Night

Craig Rupert, CC



'Twas a Night to remember, we gathered as one, 15th of December, was an evening of fun. Inductions took place, awards handed out, plenty of food to enjoy, all delicious no doubt. Santa was there, in his usual style, handing out gifts and making us smile. We look back on the year, 2011 it ends, always remembering this evening, with our fabulous friends!!

What has membership in Toastmasters done for me?

Karen Caldwell, DTM

For me, it has been an incredible journey of self-discovery. I am approaching my 10 year anniversary in Toastmasters this February. I joined Toastmasters to challenge myself to become a better communicator and remove the fear of speaking off the cuff in uncomfortable situations. I wanted to grow as a person who was confident in any situation, whether it was good or bad.

During my first nine months, I was so afraid of speaking. Every time I opened my mouth, it felt like my heart would pound out of my chest. My mind would go blank, leaving me feel like an idiot. Yes, even people who have a sales background get spooked!

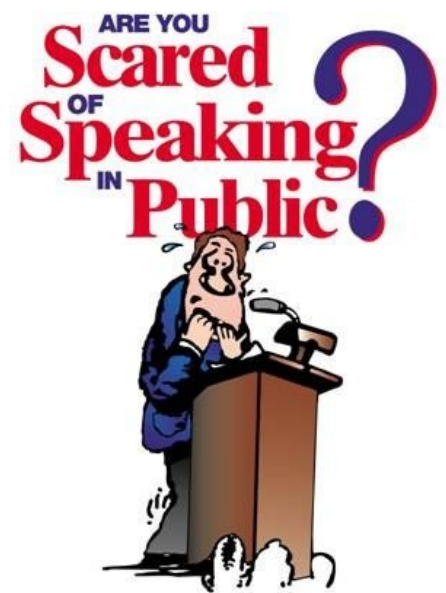
But as time went on, I learned that “participation” was the key to my own development as a speaker, a listener and a leader. By taking part in the various roles throughout each meeting, I became more self-confident. It didn’t seem so bad to stand up and announce the “Ah King or Queen”. Table Topics became easier each time I participated. I realized that it wasn’t the topic or the time that counted, but how I told the story.

As I began presenting speeches and learning the techniques of how to give a great presentation, I realized that all I had to do was follow the manual, prepare, practice, practice, practice and then I could conquer my “FEAR”. I knew I had to keep challenging myself to move forward. Yes, each speech seemed like a form of punishment to test my intelligence and fortitude. That little fear monger kept sticking thoughts of failure into my mind. So I kept asking myself, why join Toastmasters. The same thought kept coming back to me “TO GROW AS A PERSON!”. If I wasn’t going to challenge myself, then who would challenge me?

So then I thought, why stop at communication, why not try mentoring and leadership. The steps were gradual, but through each process, I gained knowledge, friendship and respect for others as well as myself.

Through participation as a member, whether it’s participating in weekly meeting roles, presenting table topics or speeches, or holding a position on the Executive, I have grown! I feel I am a better listener, mentor, communicator and leader now. I know that I will continue to grow as long as I participate.

I hope that you will take the plunge and conquer all of your fears to become a more effective member of our club.



Another Amazing Engineer

Ralph Smith, ACS/CL



Henry Martyn Robert

Leave it to an engineer to get things right. Back in 1863 at age 26, Henry Robert was chair of a meeting that reportedly lasted 14 hours and accomplished nothing because the assembly did not “behave itself”. Afterwards he was determined to not let something like that happen again so he tried to find guidance from existing material on parliamentary procedure. He was not satisfied with what was available so he prepared his own 16 page guide which he was not able to complete until 1874. However, he had difficulty getting it published because no publisher believed that a non-lawyer-engineer would be qualified to provide such guidance.

He finally had to take the financial risk himself and 4,000 copies were produced in 1876. As we say, the rest is history and critics suggested that a lawyer could not have produced such work because it would have become bound by existing rules and precedents.

Over the next 40 years Robert worked on fine tuning his rules and in 1915 published *Robert's Rules of Order Revised* which is the basis for today's versions.

His son, Henry Robert Junior and grandson, Henry Robert III has carried on with subsequent revisions. The latest is the 11th edition, *Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised*, published September, 2011.

There is also a second version of the *Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised in Brief* available which is a compressed version of the main book. There is a link on our club's web page to the Robert's Rules official site where you can purchase both books. They are also available at the Toastmaster Store on the International website to which there is a link.

I have the *Parliamentary Procedure at a Glance* booklet by O. Garfield Jones which is also available at the Toastmaster store. I have made fun of this book in my secretary speeches as it seems to be written in its original 1932 style although it is supposed to have been revised several times.

General/Engineer Robert once said, “When a better book comes along, get behind it.” After doing the research for this article I am encouraged to order the official Robert's version.

Born: May 2, 1837, Robertsville, South Carolina
Died: May 11, 1923 (aged 86) Hornell, New York
Service/Branch: United States Army
Years of Service: 1857-1901
Rank: Brigadier General
Commands Held: Chief of Engineers
Battles/Wars: Pig War, American Civil War
Other Work: Author of Robert's Rules of Order



Smiles & Chuckles



Savage Chickens

by Doug Savage



There are two things that are more difficult than making an after-dinner speech: climbing a wall which is leaning toward you and kissing a girl who is leaning away from you".

- **Winston Churchill**

According to most studies, people's number one fear is public speaking. Number two is death. Death is number two. Does that sound right? This means to the average person, if you go to a funeral, you're better off in the casket than doing the eulogy.

- **Jerry Seinfeld**

There are always three speeches, for every one you actually gave. The one you practiced, the one you gave, and the one you wish you gave.

- **Dale Carnegie**

Every speaker has a mouth;
An arrangement rather neat.
Sometimes it's filled with wisdom.
Sometimes it's filled with feet.

- **Robert Orben**



"I had to give a short speech last night. It was hoot!"

Toastmasters Word Search by Craig Rupert, CC

T N A E V A L U A T O R S I M
 S O E E A D I S C U L E I T R
 S I C I P O T E L B A T S C I
 H S O M A E R M R R I S T O B
 N U N E H O A E S T P A C E T
 A L T R L N N H O E O M S M A
 I C E B R E A K E R O T N E M
 R N S B T L A C E I S S A A M
 A O T S I R H D A P I A F M M
 M C I F A P O W E R P O I N T
 M L A N O I T A N R E T N I I
 A X P E B A K P C B S U E S M
 R I M M T E M T R R G H S L E
 G C P A R T E T E L P N I E R
 T E A R N T T C R M C P P P E

Toastmaster
 Speech
 Bestspeaker
 Searshalifax
 Leadership
 Powerpoint
 Icebreaker
 Listener
 DTM



Fines
 Tabletopic
 Timer
 Mentor
 Contest
 International
 Grammarian
 Evaluator
 Conclusion