



Sears-Halifax Club 1555 Halifax, Nova Scotia

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Sears-Halifax 2012-2013 Club Executive

Club President: Erna Slingluff
VP of Education: Ralph Smith
VP of Membership: Craig Rupert
VP of Public Relations: Sophie Williams
Treasurer: Tony Easton
Club Secretary: Karen Caldwell
Sergeant-at-Arms: Saker (Sam) Mrishih
Past President: Rick Joseph

A Word From Our President

Erna Slingluff, ACB/CL

Welcome Toastmaster members and guests.

Whether you are a current member, past member or a guest, you're invited to join us this year for wonderful exciting learning experiences.

I cannot praise the Toastmasters program enough for how it has changed my life. The Toastmasters program is world renowned for its success in offering a proven way to improve your communication and leadership skills. The mission of Toastmasters club is to provide a mutually supportive and positive learning environment in which every individual member has the opportunity to develop oral communication and leaderships skills, which in turn foster self-confidence and personal growth. Our club offers a fun and friendly environment to achieve this mission. An environment where it is fun to learn, grow and achieve together.

Already the Executive Team have gotten together to map out plans for another successful year. We have set goals to achieve our Distinguished Club Program, we are planning our Awards Night and we are planning our Fall Humorous Speech and Evaluation Contests.

This year my personal goal is to inspire "Enthusiasm!" What is your goal?

I look forward to leading you all through a successful and fun filled year in 2012-2013.



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for details



Parliamentary Quick Tip

"If you know the rules you are better equipped to play the game."

Rick Joseph, DTM

How many times can a person speak on a motion?

Unless the assembly has a special rule, no member can speak more than twice on the same question on the same day – except in the case of an **"Appeal"**.

Merely asking a question or making a brief suggestion is not counted as speaking in debate. Making a secondary motion is not considered as speaking in debate, as long as the member makes no comment on the then pending motion.

In other words the making of a secondary motion cannot be used as an opportunity for the member to express his or her opinion on the pending motion.

To change the number of times a member may speak on a motion requires that the assembly must approve a motion to: **"Limit or Extend the Limits on pending question"**. Such a motion requires a **2/3 adoption**, is **not debatable**, but **can be amended**.

This special rule can be applied to the pending question or can be used to apply to the entire session, provided the matter is addressed at the beginning of the meeting.

The adoption of the motion can extend or limit the length of time a member may speak on a motion and or increase or limit the number of times a member may speak.

Note: A member cannot make a second speech on the same question, on the same day, until every member who wishes to speak has had an opportunity to speak once on the question.

"Never interrupt your enemy when he is making a mistake."

- Napoleon Bonaparte (1769-1821)



Our Executive

Craig Rupert, CC/CL



Erna Slingloff, ACB/CL

President

Rick Joseph, DTM

Past President



Craig Rupert, CC/CL

VP of Membership

Sophie Williams, TM

VP of Public Relations



Karen Caldwell, DTM

Club Secretary

Ralph Smith, ATM

VP of Education



Tony Easton, CTM

Treasurer

Sakher (Sam) Mrishih, TM

Sergeant-at-Arms



Toastmasters Leadership Institute (TLI) Club Officer Training

Karen Caldwell, DTM

Each year Toastmasters International and District 45 Toastmasters provide two opportunities, for training our club officers. This is one of the most critical parts of the district's mission.

Without properly trained officers, clubs cannot meet members' needs or introduce the benefits of Toastmasters to others. This is why two specific training events are provided yearly by each district. For District 45 these training sessions normally take place in June and January of each year.

Leadership training is not just for Officers. The training is open to all members of the club. If you have every thought of being a leader in your club, this is a wonderful place to learn about each of the roles your executive fill.

At TLI, you don't only learn about the various executive roles, you learn about motivating others, how to achieve the Distinguish Club Program and of course how to attract new members.

The President:

- Chief Executive Officer/Chairman
- Discuss issues, concerns with Members
- Assist with Mentors
- Checks with Officers for reports
- Participates in Inductions of New Members
- Notifies Members of Upcoming Events
- Coordinates & Chairs Executive Meetings

The VP Education:

- Plans & schedules each meeting
- Assist Members to achieve their goals
- Charts Accomplishments of Members & Club
- Recognizes Awards/Achievements of Members
- Informs Guest about Toastmaster Program
- Assigns Mentors
- Participates in Inductions of New Members

The VP Membership:

- Coordinates membership building activities
- Greets all guests and assigns a host member
- Answers guest questions – break & close of meeting
- Maintains statistics on guest visits
- Runs Membership Drives
- Completes membership forms.
- Coordinates Inductions of new Members
- Promotes healthy environment for existing Members

The VP Public Relations:

- Prepares public relations campaign
- Creates Newsletter
- Updates Website
- Greets Guests
- Promotes healthy environment for existing Members

Secretary:

- Records the minutes of each meeting.
- Keeps records of membership attendance.
- Records and maintains the membership contact list.

The Treasurer:

- Handles financial planning & budgets
- Collects dues
- Order supplies and issues cheques
- Presents a financial reports

The Sergeant At Arms:

- Arranges the room set up and display awards
- Distributes ballots and agendas
- Greets and registers guests
- Calls Meeting to Order
- Once the meeting is adjourned, puts away all materials.

Advice Corner

Manageable Mornings

Colette Robicheau, TM



How are mornings at your house? Crazy or calm? Do you get the kids to the sitters or yourself to work on time, or is every morning a race that you can never seem to win? Preparation is the key. Here's a checklist so you can take control of the chaos:

1. **Clothes, check:** Have everyone pick out and lay out an outfit the night before. Don't forget socks, pantyhose, underwear, coats, hats and footwear. Do any necessary laundering, ironing or mending.
2. **Lunches, check:** Make them, pack them and leave them in the fridge. That gives you time to run to the store if anything has run out. You never know who's going to eat that last apple and not put them on the grocery list.
3. **Breakfast, check:** Table was set with bowls, glasses, cutlery and cereal boxes last night. All you need are the milk and juice from the fridge.
4. **Bathroom, check:** The more bathrooms, the better. But if you only have one for a family of two or more, make a schedule for showering and teeth-brushing, depending on who has to leave the house first. If you have children, maybe they could bathe the night before.
5. **Backpacks, purses and briefcases, check:** Keep them in a designated spot (hanging by the front door, perhaps), packed and ready to go since the night before with necessary supplies (except the packed lunches, which go in last). Your child's backpack was checked last night, so the permission slip for her field trip is signed and ready to return to school.
6. **Keys, check:** They're hanging in their designated spot, of course. You put them there yesterday as soon as you got home from work.
7. **Last look, check:** You give yourself a quick once-over in the full-length mirror you hung near the front door. Your skirt is not tucked into your pantyhose. Phew!
8. **Gas, check:** You filled up yesterday.
9. **Commute, check:** You've done the research and you know the most efficient route to your destination. Your radio is on so you can listen for traffic problems and revise your route.
10. **Arrival, check:** You arrive at your destination in plenty of time, put together and never in a panic.

Using these tips will give you a winning morning every time. Taking the chaos out of the morning routine will give you more time to spend time with your spouse or children...or even just to sleep in a little bit longer.



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Pictures of “Our 2011-2012 Year End Summer Party”

Craig Rupert, CC/CL



It was once again time to wrap up another very successful and entertaining Sears-Halifax Toastmasters year. We all gathered for a range of yummy BBQ treats, a fabulous spread of salads & desserts (which included that awesome dip featured in the last newsletter) and let's not forget the selection of tasty beverages, you know, pop & grape juice. We all look forward to a safe & relaxing summer and to see each other all again in September for a new season of speeches, contests & fun.

2012-13 District 45 Humorous Speech Winner, Christophe Lorenz, CC/CL

Karen Caldwell, DTM

Congratulations Christophe Lorenz on becoming the District 45 Humorous Speech Contest winner in November 2012. You accomplished this feat with ease, setting another milestone for yourself and the Sears-Halifax Toastmasters Club.

We, as members of our club, enjoy listening to the fascinating speeches presented by Christophe. He has a wonderful sense of humor, but how does he translate his thoughts into an award winning humorous speech? The follow is a list of the criteria Christophe had to develop in order to win the title of "1st Place of the District 45 Humorous Speech Contest".



The importance of speech development is the way Christophe puts ideas together so the audience can understand them. The speech is structured around a purpose and this structure must include an opening, body and conclusion. A good speech immediately engages the audience's attention and then moves forward toward a significant conclusion. This development of the speech structure is supported by relevant examples and illustrations, facts and figures, delivered with such smoothness that they blend into the framework of the speech to present the audience with a unified whole.

Effectiveness is measured in part by the audience's reception of the speech, but a large part is your subjective judgement of how the speech came across. In preparing his speech, Christophe would ask himself such questions as "Was I able to determine a purpose?" "Did the speech relate directly to that purpose?" "Was the audience's interest held?" "Was this speech subject appropriate for this particular audience?"

Speech Value justifies the act of speaking. Christophe has a responsibility to say something meaningful and original to the audience. The listeners should feel that Christophe has made a contribution to their thinking. The ideas should be important ones, although this does not preclude a humorous presentation of them. Audience Response reflects the audience's reaction to the speech. Did his speech hold the audience's interest? Did people understand and laugh at the humor?

Physical presentation of a speech carries part of the responsibility for effective communication. Christophe's appearance should reinforce the speech, whether profound, sad, humorous or instructional. Body language should support points through gestures, expressions and body positioning. Christophe makes effective use of and stays within the designated speaking area.

Voice is the sound that carries the message. It should be flexible, moving from one pitch level to another for emphasis, and should have a variety of rate and volume. A good voice can be clearly heard and the words easily understood. Christophe should speak with enthusiasm and assurance, showing interest in the audience and confidence in their reactions.

Appropriateness of language refers to the choice of words that relate to the speech purpose and to the particular audience hearing the speech. Language should promote clear understanding of thoughts and should fit the occasion precisely. Correctness of language ensures that attention will be directed toward what the speaker says, not how it is said. Proper use of grammar and correct pronunciation will show that Christophe is the master of the words being used.

Remembering Nick Stuifbergen, CTM

Karen Caldwell, DTM



On behalf of Sears-Halifax Toastmasters Club, it is my honor to say a few words about our friend Nick, who sadly passed away on November 15, 2012. Nick was one of our most respected and longest serving members for 31 years.

Nick joined Toastmasters in 1981 to improve his people interaction skills, but soon discovered that being a member was not only beneficial for communicating, but it is more like an enjoyable recreational activity.

In 2007 during an interview with our Vice President of Public Relations, Nick expressed how he had benefited tremendously from Toastmasters. On the social side he stated that he found it much easier to approach and converse with a diversity of people. About three years after joining he began presenting technical presentations in the workplace with ease and confidence.

His work involved providing marine navigation charts and mapping the seabed at the Bedford Institute of Oceanography.

Nick appreciated our club because he liked the easy-going atmosphere, the friendliness of the members, and the valuable tips from evaluations. However, the members truly appreciated and benefited from Nick's commitment and participation in our club.

Nick's Table Topics (impromptu speaking) were always interesting and informative. Perhaps this was due to his occupation and his love of knowledge.

Nick held the designation of Competent Communicator. His storytelling abilities were amazing and always entertaining. He would take us on a marvelous journey to a far away place, or move our emotions with a history lesson.

His ability to recall events, circumstances and accounts in life were remarkable. Nick always painted spectacular pictures in our minds as though we were living each story with him.

As Grammarian, he would always provide us with a challenging "Word of The Day", giving us mind-blowing examples to teach us the correct meaning of each word. We felt Nick was like a walking dictionary. We were all able to benefit from his knowledge and expertise of the English language. The members appreciated his wonderful ability to inspire us all to learn.

I believe the most wonderful thing about Nick was that he always had encouraging words for others. His thoughtfulness and consideration for others was always evident. I like to think of him as our Gentle Giant. He always came to our meetings with a positive attitude and the mind-set to learn.

Nick's point of view, opinions and his way of behaving as a member was exemplary. He was the perfect example of a true Toastmaster, always willing to inspire others. We will miss him as our friend, colleague and our mentor.



Smiles & Chuckles

Craig Rupert, CC/CL



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Savage Chickens

by Doug Savage



WRITER'S BLOCK, OFTEN BLAMED ON THE BLANK PAGE, IS CAUSED BY EVIL PENCILS.

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Let thy speech be better than silence, or be silent.

- Dionysius Of Halicarnassus

Say not always what you know, but always know what you say.

- Claudius

You can speak well if your tongue can deliver the message of your heart.

- John Ford

Be still when you have nothing to say; when genuine passion moves you, say what you've got to say, and say it hot.

- D. H. Lawrence

Toastmasters Picture Puzzle

Craig Rupert, CC/CL

Click on the picture below to solve the puzzle

(See how quick you can do it)

