



TOASTMASTERS INTERNATIONAL

Club 9327 District 31 Area A-3 Haverhill, MA

OUR NEXT MEETING:
August 25, 2008

Join us at 7pm at:
Haverhill
Public Library
99 Main Street

FRIENDLY PERSUASION

Hello Everyone:

SPEAKING OF SPEECHES...

If there is one thing we learn at Toastmasters, it is the ability to go with the flow...be flexible and pull together. At our last July meeting, a scheduling problem prevented the appearance of the Region 7 Toastmasters International Speech Champion from making a visit to Friendly Persuasion. Although we were disappointed, we sure did not let it stop us from having an entertaining and informative meeting on our own! As it turns out Katherine Morrison *did* go on to win 3rd place in the Toastmasters International World Championship of Public Speaking!



Here is a recap of the speeches we have heard from our members lately: At that July 28th meeting, member **Shawn Mills** offered Project #4 Presenting An Award from the Special Occasion Speeches advanced manual. The speech titled "*All Hail the Officers*" was a little bit serious and a little bit humorous and a fun way to thank our outgoing club officers from 2007-2008. Thank you "gifts" were given of course! Former Sergeant-at-Arms **Joe Blackburn** received a mini grocery cart to symbolize the job he had carting around the club equipment. Secretary **Anne Six** was given her own mini paper cutter to honor the many, *many* squares of paper she provided us to use as feedback forms. Outgoing Treasurer **Jean Leider** was given some cold cash with our thanks for her efforts at keeping the books. Former Vice President of Education **Elizabeth Benson** was given a mighty sword to commemorate the battles she fought in that most demanding of club officer roles. On a more serious note in the speech, outgoing President **Carole Holcroft** was honored and recognized for her leadership with a beautiful wooden gavel and engraved holder. This *Presenting An Award* speech was the perfect way to thank all of the club officers for their dedication and commitment to all of us in Friendly Persuasion. Yes, All Hail the Officers!

HOW TO SAY IT

Your Toastmasters speech—or your presentation for work—or any public speaking you will do, can be made better by the use of stories or anecdotes. If the speaker gives a concept or fact, it is much more interesting, believable and memorable if the speaker weaves a story around it as an example. Anecdotes can be your own personal stories or the stories of others (as long as you don't pass them off as your own) Try to make them fit the message of the speech. If you are telling serious stories, use plenty of pauses. If your anecdotes are to demonstrate something for a business purpose, think of human values that might apply to the employees. Need some help finding anecdotes? Experts, like David Brooks, former Toastmaster World Champion of Public Speaking, suggests starting a list or file of personal stories. The six emotions we can all connect with are happiness, sadness, anger, surprise, disgust and fear. When you experience or discover a story that fits one of these categories file it away. Keep your eyes open, listen to your surroundings, feel empathy for others...all of those things can help you discover stories for your files. Someday it may be just the anecdote you will need to bring your speech to life! Remember, to make a point, you should tell a story.



We also heard an exciting presentation by new President **Elizabeth Benson** who offered a project from the advanced manual Speaking to Inform. Her speech titled, "*Strategic Navigation*" was a demonstration of how we as a club can navigate our way to becoming a President's Distinguished club. The metaphor of whitewater rafting was used to symbolize our journey toward the highest recognition possible. Liz gave her usual enthusiastic and energetic delivery which was creative and very motivational. Members were called upon to commit to accomplishing their Competent Communicator or Advanced Communicator requirements. Some members were able to commit to completing the requirements for Competent and Advanced *Leader* recognition, too. Together we can strategically navigate the Toastmasters

"PROCEED WITH PASSION---SPEAK WITH COURAGE"

International program “River”, earn the points necessary and become officially designated as a President’s Distinguished Club! Thanks Liz for another outstanding speech.

Equally as enthusiastic about the direction our club is taking is veteran Toastmaster **Bob Dunlavey**. Bob gave Project #5 from the Speaking to Inform advanced manual and the title was “*Speak Out—Make an Impact*” Bob advised us all to give speeches at every opportunity possible. Of course that will help satisfy the requirements of the club getting Distinguished recognition but more importantly, members who give speeches—members who *Speak Out*—will learn and grow and achieve the objectives we all have for membership! Way to keep us inspired, Bob!

Member **Paul Brady** offered Project #4 How to Say It—in the Competent Communication manual with his speech titled, “*Pearls of Wisdom*”. This was a life lesson speech with the game of golf as a metaphor. With Paul’s entertaining speech, it was easy to recognize his passion for golf and life!

We heard from **John Zujewski** with Project #4 as well....his speech titled “*Flying Ryan*” was a true tale of a bicyclist who was hit by a car...landed on a train and ended up traveling unconscious into another state...that’s a neighboring state, not a state of mind! It was a powerful speech about perseverance and hope. Thanks John, for sharing this inspiring story.

At our August 11th meeting, we heard from **Anne Six** who gave a speech from the advanced Toastmaster manual, The Professional Speaker. Anne’s speech was project #2 Speaking to Entertain and she titled it, “*Everyone Has Their Own Weird Ann Stories*”. What a funny and delightful speech this one turned out to be. Anne’s use of self-deprecating humor and her skill at storytelling combined to give us a very entertaining talk. Thanks Anne for giving us the giggles. Well done!.....At the same meeting,

member **Shawn Mills** who is working on Advanced manuals and her second Competent Communicator award, offered Project #2 from the Competent Communication manual. The objectives of this project are to organize your speech. Shawn’s speech titled, “*Just Like an Olympian*” was a lesson in goal-setting. We can aspire to be just like an Olympian when we go for the goals important to us and when we follow a goal-setting formula. It was a timely speech with applications for every member.

President **Liz Benson** gave a follow-up to her speech on our quest to become recognized as a President’s Distinguished Club. We are definitely on our way!



Friendly Persuasion meets the 2nd and 4th Monday nights of every month unless there is a library holiday. We meet again on August 25th and in September on the 8th and 22nd. Meetings are open to the public and there is no obligation to attend. For more info visit our web-site: www.friendlypersuasion.org

Our Toastmasters Area A-3 Governor **Rich Baker** is planning a visit to Friendly Persuasion for our September 22nd meeting. The role of the Area Governor is to provide assistance and support to each Toastmaster club within the area. The focus is on membership growth and educational achievements which allow the area to achieve recognition as a Distinguished area. The Area Governor helps the club by motivating and assisting them to become a Distinguished Club.

We’re looking forward to meeting Rich and having his assistance with making us an even greater club!

“The mission of a Toastmasters club is to provide a mutually supportive and positive learning environment in which every member has the opportunity to develop communication and leadership skills, which in turn fosters self-confidence and personal growth.”

Do you want to feel more comfortable and confident when speaking in front of a small or large group? Do you need help calming your fears about public speaking? Perhaps you could use some guidance in the development of your presentation content or with the improvement in your delivery? Visit us as a guest and learn how Toastmasters can help you meet your own personal and professional communication goals. Our next meeting is this Monday, August 25th at 7pm in the Haverhill Library. Please plan to join us then. Questions about Toastmasters International or the Haverhill club Friendly Persuasion? Feel free to call our Vice President of Membership, Shawn Mills at 978-475-1301. Our club motto is “*Proceed With Passion—Speak With Courage*”