

Superiorland Toastmasters Newsletter

Volume 2, Issue 4 April 2003 Club 3834, District 35 Voted #1 Newsletter in District 35 in 2002

Mission of our Toastmasters Club

The mission of our 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 foster self-confidence and personal growth.

What Does It Mean?

By Judy Hunt

The lack of understanding has changed the lives of people forever. It has broken lover's hearts, inflicted pain and anger, brought about war among nations and caused more than one student to fail his lessons. The use of ambiguous words can leave the reader in a quandary.

Have you ever found yourself on page 96 and confused about what is happening? Did you wonder what you missed? It may have been a single word on page two. When we don't understand the words, we cannot understand the subject or their context.

There is a school of thought that says you can teach yourself anything if you understand the words. The suggestion is to take a technical book (on any subject) and a good dictionary. It helps to use a dictionary with which you are comfortable. When you read your technical manual, look up EVERY word you do not understand. Be sure you know the word, it's origin and the context before you continue reading. It will be very slow reading at first. However, as your knowledge base increases so will your reading and comprehension speed. Your confidence in yourself, your subject and your reading ability will also grow.

The word crepuscule is an excellent example. Read the following two sentences and see for yourself. 1. When the crepuscule arrived, the children went into their homes. 2. Some people think the crepuscule years of life are the best. Is it something to be feared or not? Without knowing the definition of crepuscule, the sentence would be difficult to put into context.

Toastmasters is all about learning. Expanding your vocabulary helps you to speak with more authority, hear with better understanding, and read with more comprehension. The next time you read a book, take your favorite dictionary with you. Look up words you don't fully understand as you go along and see if it makes a difference to you. After all, this time it really is all about you.

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Superiorland Toastmasters meet twice each month from 6:30-8:00

Monday, Heritage Room, Ramada Inn, 412 W. Washington, 4th Monday, Community Room, Peter White Public Library, 217 North Front Street, Marquette.

Visit us at our award winning website:

WWW.Geocities.com/Superiorlandtm

Were You Listening? Did You See?

- How many visitors were at the March 10th meeting?
- ✓ When is Spring Conference?
- ✓ What month are officer elections held?

Are They Quotes or Speeches Waiting to be Developed?

Every beautiful flower has to go through a lot of dirt. Unknown

The closer one gets to the top, the more one finds there is no "top." Nancy Barcus

Don't go through life, GROW through life. Eric Butterworth

The Toastmaster's Promise

- To attend Club meetings regularly;
- To prepare all of my speeches to the best of my ability, basing them on projects in the Communication and Leadership Program manual or the Advanced Communication Leadership Program manuals;
- 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 guest with respect and courtesy;
- To bring guest 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.



Presidential Perspectives

Fellow Toastmasters,

Toastmasters Clubs provide an opportunity for members to develop their speaking skills as well as develop leadership. As we approach the end of the fiscal year, it is time to consider your personal contribution to **your** club. A member isn't really benefiting from the total Toastmasters experience without experiencing the interactions of an active Board. These members are developing leadership skills that can transcend experiences at work, in the community and can even better personal relationships.

Consider yourself a member of the Board! What direction would you take the club? The positions are a year long in tenure, and the Board has been meeting for about an hour the 3rd Monday of every month. There are 8 positions on the Board: President, V.P. of Education, Secretary, V.P. of Membership, Treasurer, V.P of Public Relations, Master Host and Past President. The small additional investment in time is not huge. Where would our club be without a Board? We need you!

Important meeting dates: Please try your best to attend!

April 28th: Nominations for 2003 Board Members—meeting to be held at the Peter White Public Library

May 12th: Annual Elections—Ramada Inn

May 19th: Annual Dinner & Business Meeting—at the Ramada Inn with dinner.

We will celebrate the installation of new officers at the *First Annual Dinner & Business Meeting* on May 19th at the Ramada Inn. Plans are not complete at this time, but will be communicated as soon as they are! Mark the event on your calendar now and please plan for your spouse or special guest to attend! I look forward to hearing you speak at our next meeting!

Pam Kauppila President



Pam Kauppila on reaching your C.T.M. We are all proud of you.

Calendar of Events

April	1	Deadline for Club dues sent to WHQ
	14	Superiorland TM meeting 6:30 - 8:00 p.m., Ramada Inn, Ancestor's Room. Toastmaster: Stacy
	21	Board Meeting, State Farm Office, 6:00 p.m.
	26	Area N2 International Speech Contest, location to be determined
	28	Superiorland TM meeting 6:30 - 8:00 p.m., Peter White Public Library, Community room. Toastmaster: Pam Note: This is an important meeting; all members are urged to attend.
May		Club Officers election are held in May
	2 & 3	District 35 Spring Convention, Madison, WI, See Judy for information or if you would like to coordinate of rides, rooms, or other details. There are several people interested in attending.
	12	Superiorland TM meeting 6:30 - 8:00 p.m., Ramada Inn, Ancestor's Room. Toastmaster: Judy Note: This is an important meeting; all members are urged to attend
	19	First Annual Dinner and Business Meeting, Ramada Inn. Toastmaster: Pam This meeting will replace the May 26, Memorial Day date
	26	Memorial Day No Toastmasters Meeting



- John B. recently returned, safely, from Central America
- Virginia recently volunteered at the pancake breakfast held by the Alzheimer's Association.
- We are very sorry to lose the membership of Lori Johnson. We wish you well, Lori. Please come visit sometime.

Answers to Were You Listening? Did You See?

- ✓ There was one visitor at the March 10th meeting?
- ✓ Spring Conference is May 2^{nd} and 3^{rd} .?
- ✓ Officer elections are held in May?

Speaker's Checklist

All good speakers have many of the same characteristics. Below is a list of items to double-check and prepare before giving any presentation.

- 1. Are you dressed appropriately?
 - a. Always be dressed for the occasion. Don't wear a business suit to a barn-raising, and don't wear overalls to a formal banquet.
- 2. How is your posture?
 - a. Stand tall and proud. Don't sway or shift. Keeping your feet comfortable apart will help. Keep both feet on the floor, do not rest one foot on the podium, do not stand on one foot.
- 3. Practice your gestures.
 - a. Hands should flow unless you intend to jab the air to make your point. Don't twitch, play with a rubber band or paper clip, or constantly fiddle with your notes. Gestures can add to or detract from your speech.
- 4. Think eye contact!
 - a. Look directly into the eyes of people. Move your eyes, slowly, until the entire audience covered. Resting on individuals for a few seconds does capture attention. It will be as if you are speaking directly to that one person, and everyone in the room will have that experience as your eyes move from person to person.
- 5. Have you practiced voice inflection?
 - a. When you vary your tone and volume as required by your words and your topic, you color your vocabulary. Variety brings life to your speech.
- 6. Have your chosen the right words?
 - a. Choosing explanatory words can help you avoid jargon and simplify complicated topics. Don't use foreign words unless you also provide an interpretation for your audience.
- 7. Check your smile.

As some wise person once told me, "Look like you are happy to talk to us!" Practice your smile, brush your teeth, and remind yourself that you really are pleased to be here.

CLUB OFFICERS

President	Pam Kauppıla
Immediate Past President	Burt Parolini
Vice President/Education	Stacy Jandron
Vice President/Membership	Rich Leinonen
Vice President/Public Relations	Judy Hunt
Newsletter/Website Coordinator	
Secretary	Stacy Jandron
Sergeant at Arms	Dan Barrington
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"Your Elected Officials" Word Search

Do you know what your Club officers do for you? All the words in the puzzle below relate to the duties of your Officers. Look for the answers in the May issue of Superior Speakers

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Achievements
Awards
Ballots
Banner
Collections
Commitment
Committee
Correspondence
Education
Efforts
Equipment
Files

Finances
Goals
Liaison
Membership
Minutes
Newspaper
Operations
Opportunity
Oversee
Participation
Planning
Preparations

President
Programs
Progress
Publicity
Public Relations
Records
Responsibilities
Schedules
Secretary
Supervision
Supplies
Training

Transactions Treasurer

Answer to the March Puzzle: The Power Is In The Words!

The correct meaning of the words are in italics and underlined.

Meliorated: eased, *improved*, sweetened, made into liquid form

Mendacious; *untruthful*, begging, repairable, of a household

Mephitic: sweet smelling, perfumed, poisonous, sour

Sycophancy: humorous, decomposed, feminine, *flattery*

Tufa: *porous rocks*, a food, part of a ballerina costume, currency

Felicitate: organize, *congratulate*, offer money, achieve

Bourette: *type of linen fabric*, piece of jewelry, hat, snobbish

Galliard: selfish, sturdy, coward, hero

Huia: dance, automobile part, an aircraft, A New Zealand bird

Fulgent: irritating, incessantly happy, *resplendent*, knowledgeable

Leave Them Laughing.

A kangaroo kept getting out of his enclosure at the zoo. Knowing that he could hop very high, the zoo officials put up a ten-foot fence. He was out the next morning, just roaming around the zoo. A twenty-foot fence was put up. Again, he got out.

When the fence was forty feet high, a camel in the next enclosure asked the kangaroo, "How high do you think that fence will go?" The kangaroo said, "About a thousand feet, unless somebody locks the gate at night!"