



Westside News

Volume 1

Number 1

March, 2003

Meet Terisa Green

(Continued)

During the dissertation writing episode, I realized that not only did I enjoy writing about archaeology but I enjoyed writing period. I decided that the gig of the century would be to write and write and write about all manner of topics of interest to me. So, after I started teaching archaeology at UCLA, I took writing classes through Extension so I could figure out, not only how to really write, but also how the publishing industry worked. Suffice it to say that I find Extension classes pretty worthwhile since I landed an agent and a book contract by putting my left foot in front of my right and doing what my instructors told me to do.

And this is how Toastmasters figures into all this. Hundreds of archaeology lectures, presentations, and even docent training seminars are no preparation for being an engaging public speaker -- any former student of mine can verify that. Each time I speak publicly I struggle with how to get to the next level. Nervousness in public speaking was ground out of me some time ago. Instead, I worry about keeping myself interested in what I'm saying and wondering whether or not I'm really communicating with anybody. I know I'll be speaking about the book and archaeology repeatedly and I look to Toastmasters as a way to help me prepare, organize my thoughts, and, most importantly, to learn how to better connect with people.

WHO'S NEW?

A warm welcome to Susan Johnston, Barbara Kanegsberg, and Ed Kanegsberg, our newest members



WHO'S WHO?

Meet our Vice President of Membership,
Terisa Green:

As I'm fond of saying, I'm an archaeologist with no interest in my own past. Let's see if I can hit some of the areas that have come up at Toastmaster's from time to time though. Using education as an organizing principle, my undergraduate degree is in physics and it propelled me down an eleven year path as a systems engineer at several different aerospace companies in Southern California. The only good thing I can say about that sojourn (but it's a MIGHTY good thing) is that I met my husband Mark on the job at Rockwell. That was 19 years ago. From that point on, there is no "my" life, only "our" life. In fact, it was Mark who first got interested in Toastmaster's -- but enough about him.

Back to education, wherein I segued abruptly from physics to archaeology, finishing my Ph.D. about four years ago. Incidentally, all my degrees are from UCLA because I'm apparently a lifer there.

(Continued next column)



HATS OFF TO US

Our club is right on track in pursuing our goal of becoming a President's Distinguished Club by June 30th. So far we have achieved six out of ten goals, and Ivars is well on the way towards achieving the seventh goal. Let's continue our fine efforts. **If three club members complete their ten speeches and send the papers into Toastmasters International, we will accomplish the two additional goals we need to become a President's Distinguished Club.**

WESTSIDE TOASTMASTERS

1920 Santa Monica Boulevard, Santa Monica CA 90401

Editor: Bonnie Thomas (310) 839-8611 bonnieth@pacbell.net

DISTRICT 1

CLUB 638

Wednesdays 7:30 p.m. - 9:30 p.m.

Publisher: Ivars Ozolins (310) 826-3372 ivars1999@yahoo.com

When you are the **TABLE TOICS MASTER**

Here are some helpful guidelines taken from the Toastmasters International publication, "A Toastmaster Wears Many Hats."

The purpose of Table Topics is to give all members an opportunity to speak--especially those who are not on the program--and to get members to "think on their feet." The Table Topics Master prepares and asks the topic questions.

Prior to the meeting: check with the Toastmaster to find out if a theme meeting is scheduled. If no theme is scheduled, choose a wide selection of topics. Do not repeat the previous week's theme or questions. Find out who the speakers, evaluators, general evaluator and Toastmaster are so you can call on all other members first. Only if time permits at the end of the topics session should you call on program participants (with speakers last). Choose questions that will inspire the topic speakers to expound on them and give their opinions. Do not make the questions too long or complicated. Phrase your questions in such a way that the speakers clearly will know what you want them to talk about. Keep your comments short. Your job is to give others a chance to speak, not to give a series of mini-talks.

During the meeting: briefly state the purpose of Table Topics. Keep your remarks brief but enthusiastic. Encourage members to use the word of the day in their response. Ask the timer to explain the timing rules. State each question briefly, and then call on someone to respond. By stating the question and *then* calling on somebody, two purposes are served: it holds everyone's attention (each person is thinking of a response) and it adds to the value of impromptu speaking by giving everyone an opportunity to improve his or her listening and speaking skills. Call on speakers at random. Avoid going around the room in the order in which people are sitting. Give each participant a different question. Only ask two people the same question if you want them to respond on the "pro" and "con" sides. Watch the time and adjust the number of questions to end the Table Topics session by 8:20.

At the end of the meeting: ask the timer if everyone qualified for the Best Table Topics Speaker award and ask members to vote for the Best Table Topics Speaker. Then return control of the meeting to the Toastmaster.

WINNER'S CIRCLE

March 5

Best Speaker	Rich Machrone
	J.P. Lavallee
Best Evaluators	Cynthia Mojica
	Gary Crow
Best Table Topics	Terisa Green

March 12

Best Speaker	Ivars Ozolins
Best Evaluator	Jonathan Proulx
Best Table Topics	Pauline Gray

March 19

Best Speaker	J.J. Israel
Best Evaluators	Cynthia Mojica, Ivars Ozolins, Gary Crow
Best Table Topics	Alla Rubin

March 26

Best Speaker	Craig Poindexter
Best Evaluator	Cynthia Mojica
Best Table Topics	Jonathan Proulx

Formulate and stamp indelibly on your mind a mental picture of yourself as succeeding. Never permit that picture to fade. Your mind will seek to develop the picture... Do not build up obstacles in your imagination.

Norman Vincent Peale (1898 -1993)

CONTEST NEWS

Upcoming Contest Dates:

Arca Contest	April 4
Division B Contest	April 12
District Conference	May 3