

WELCOME TO TOASTMASTERS

Queen's Park

July, 2009 Newsletter



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Greetings !

The purpose of this Newsletter is to provide information of interest to our members, guests and others who may be curious about our club.

We would like to thank to all of our members who took on a role in the June 24, 2009 joint meeting with Grosvenor Toastmasters ! In particular, we would like to acknowledge Simon Luisi, Evaluator; Stan MacDonald, General Evaluator; David Junop, Grammarian; Gail Marche, Table Topics Master, and Don McKellar, who provided the humorous anecdote and quote. The session proved very enjoyable and more successful due to their participation. In particular, we would also like to thank our past V.P. of Education, Stan MacDonald and incoming President of Grosvenor Toastmasters, Janice Laws, for their efforts in organizing this event. We also enjoyed the opportunity to socialize at the Pogue Mahone Irish Pub, at College Park, after the meeting.

Message from the President

As incoming President of the Queen's Park Public Speaking Club, it will be my duty to guide the Club during the coming year. In my opinion, I think our club performs well, however I am confident that we can do even better in the coming year.

Like other volunteer clubs, we deal with various challenges. Over time, it may perhaps be easy to lose our focus and to conduct our meetings simply out of habit. In my opinion, it is important that we constantly re-focus on our objectives and refresh our sense of purpose.

As your President, I am committed to increasing the Club's membership level over the next few months, in addition to increasing the level of participation and the number of speeches given at meetings.

I believe that what should make us proud is not so much the actual goals we attain, but rather the process that we go through in order to attain them.

There are many people living in the downtown Toronto area who would benefit membership in Toastmasters. In the coming year, it should be our objective to let them know about our club.



**Ralph Waldo Emerson said,
"The reward of a thing well
done is to have done it." Any
formal recognition is just the
icing on the cake.**

Recent Club Events



In his CC speech #10, Club V.P. of Education, Brian Welch, reflected on his experience as a paramedic.

The months of May and June witnessed an unexpected surge in interest in the Club by newcomers, as we welcomed an increased number of guests at our meetings and inducted a number of new members.

Within the last month, two of our members completed the final speech of the Competent Communicator program, earning the C.C. award from Toastmasters International.

The subject of the CC # 10 is a challenging project that involves giving an Inspirational Speech, with a length of 8 to 10 minutes. Joe Lawson gave his speech on the subject of Toastmasters and its relevance, at the Joint meeting with the Grosvenor Club, on June 24th. Brian Welch gave a passionate speech where he reflected on his work as a paramedic, at the regular Club meeting on July 8th.

Congratulations to Joe Lawson and Brian Welch!

Club Election Results

Club Officers for the 2009-10 year were elected in May as follows: President - Joe Lawson; V.P. Public Relations - Gail Marche; V.P. Education - Brian Welch; Secretary - Lisa Anthony; Treasurer - Fern Wagner; Sergeant-at-Arms - Richard Albert. The Past President is Simon Luisi. Officer training took place on June 26th.

There is a possibility that we may lose Lisa Anthony for a period of time, because she has been offered a position in Ottawa. We are, however, hoping that she will return to us!

The Position of V.P. Membership remains open for nominations.



Gail Marche, our new Club V.P. of Public Affairs, hails from Stephenville, Newfoundland.

Member Spotlight: Gail Marche, Club V.P. of Public Relations

Gail Marche is a relative newcomer to Toronto. She is from Stephenville, Newfoundland, and works with a Toronto-based charity.

Gail has been inspired by famous orators from her home Province, including Joey Smallwood, the last living father of Confederation, and John Crosby, the current Lieutenant Governor.

Gail enjoys the friendly atmosphere of the Club's weekly meetings and is taking an enthusiastic role in promoting the Club to potential new members.

Toastmaster Toast: John A. MacDonald

John A. MacDonald was born in Glasgow, Scotland in January 1815. He was the son of merchant, Hugh MacDonald. After the failure of one of Hugh's business ventures, the family immigrated to Kingston, Ontario, in 1820. The MacDonald family managed to scrape together enough money to send young John A. to grammar school, where he excelled. After finishing school, his parents decided that he should become a lawyer. In addition to being an obvious choice for a boy who was so interested in studying, a John A. undertook a career in law in response to the pressure to support his mother and sisters.

John A. MacDonald articulated with George MacKenzie, in Toronto (York, as it was then known). He opened his own law practice in Kingston in 1835, where he rose to prominence. For a while, he made his career by representing defendants in criminal trials and became known for his ability in persuading juries with his humorous anecdotes. MacDonald entered politics in 1843, being elected to the office of Alderman in Kingston. In 1844, he was elected to the legislature of the province of Canada.

MacDonald helped found the Liberal-Conservative Party, which came to power in 1854. Under this government, he was appointed Attorney General.

In the period from 1864 to 1867, MacDonald was instrumental in lobbying various political leaders and organizing the legislation required in order to confederate the British colonies in North America into the country of Canada. In September 1864, he led the Canadian delegation at the Charlottetown conference in Prince Edward Island, where he presented his idea to a group of leaders of the Maritime colonies, who were discussing a union of their own. In October of the same year, delegates met for the Quebec Conference, where the resolutions were drafted for confederation.

John A. MacDonald served as Prime Minister of Canada from 1867 to 1873, when he was forced to resign, over the Pacific Scandal. He won election again in 1878, and served until he died in office in 1891.

John A. MacDonald was known for his wit, as well as for his alcoholism. According to one anecdote, in one election debate, he was so drunk that he began to vomit on stage. When his opponent pointed this out saying "is this the man you want to run the country?" John A. collected himself and replied, "I become ill, not because of drink, but because I am forced to sit and listen to the ranting of my honorable opponent".

John A. MacDonald was a major force behind the Canadian Pacific Railway, completed in 1885, linking Canada from one coast to the other.

John A. MacDonald was Canada's second-longest serving Prime Minister and the only Canadian Prime Minister to win six majority governments.



"I become ill, not because of drink, but because I have to listen to ranting of my honorable opponent"

- John A. MacDonald

Upcoming Events

Fall Speech Contests :

Humorous Speech and Table Topics contests take place at the Area and Division levels late in the fall. We are always interested in putting forward entrants for these competitions. To this end, the Club will be holding its own round of Humorous Speech and Table Topics contests in late August and early September, in order to select its representatives.

If you are a keen public speaker, or an enthusiastic Table Topics contestant, consider entering a competition and representing our Club !



Executing meeting :

- after the regular Club meeting, on July 15.

Pub night - at the "Fox & Fiddle", 27 Wellesley St. East (across from Wellesley St Subway Stn)

- after the regular Club meeting, on July 22.