



Welcome to

Toastrmasters International

Making Effective Communication

A Worldwide Reality

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Club 4196 - Area 9
Division P – District 60

THE PHOENIX NEWSLETTER

THE MISSION OF THE CLUB

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

On a personal note

The timing is never too late to do something in your life! Better later than never. Like the April Newsletter...and again this month I have the honour to pass on the torch of the "On the personal note" section to one of our fellow Toastmasters. Stay tuned for the next Newsletters, as one of our Club Members will reveal to us in a series of articles, the rich heritage that contributes to the Toronto Phoenix Club. Again remember this Newsletter is yours and your contributions are the real success. Your contributions start right now by submitting a name for our Newsletter. The winner, to be determined by vote, will win a pair of movie tickets. So what are you waiting for? Ready, set, go for the ideas! The contest ends on Tuesday May 11 at 12:00pm (midnight). Good luck everyone.

Cheers,
Pierre Perron,
V.P. Public Relations Phoenix Toronto Toastmasters

Fellow Toastmasters,

The Area contest.... what an experience! Competing at this level has been one of my greatest fears, throughout my years as a Toastmaster. And after doing so once, I feel good that I tried it. Although, I was unsuccessful in advancing to the Division level, the butterflies that I experienced that Monday evening in March helped me to grow as a Toastmaster and as a communicator. For me, sometimes just doing something once helps with future attempts. Remember back to your first Table Topics, and how scary that experience was for many of us. But the second time and the third time, somehow was a bit easier. We learned the playing field and could therefore push forward to improve each subsequent time. The same principal applies in the Contest situation. The experience was scary for me, but I now feel that I am more aware of competition. I also believe that "scaring" myself is one sure way to grow. The next time around, assuming there is a next time, of course, I feel that I will be well prepared as a consequence of the Spring Contest of 2004. I look forward to the next opportunity to represent our club. For the fear that I experienced can only be beneficial the next time around. I encourage all of you to give it a shot! Where else can you take a risk, in a supportive environment? We are all here to grow as communicators, and competing in a contest is a wonderful way to spread our wings. The wind takes us to new and wonderful heights!

Michelle Warren
Toastmaster Member Phoenix Toronto Toastmasters

Quotes of the Month

"All blame is a waste of time. No matter how much fault you find with another, and regardless of how much you blame him, it will not change you. The only thing blame does is to keep the focus off you when you are looking for external reasons to explain your unhappiness or frustration. You may succeed in making another feel guilty about something by blaming him, but you won't succeed in changing whatever it is about you that is making you unhappy."

Wayne Dyer
Psychotherapist, Author and Speaker

"It's not that some people have willpower and some don't. It's that some people are ready to change and others are not."

James Gordon
Medical Doctor

Historically Speaking

Toastmaster Club #4196 (us), was chartered with the mandatory 20 members, on April 29, 1980, as – Sears Toronto! Open to employees only, it met bi-weekly Tuesday, year round, at the Craftsman Distribution Center on Dixon Rd. Membership was extended to the public in November 1980 to keep the numbers up, but by 1982, membership dipped to 11. In January 1983, the Craftsman building underwent extensive renovation, and the Club found itself homeless and without a sponsor. Temporary accommodations were obtained at Burnamthorpe Collegiate on the East Mall, and a major transformation was soon to take place. (To be continued)

Rex French
Toastmaster Member Phoenix Toronto Toastmasters

Vice-President Education Report

Please join me in thanking and acknowledging all our members for their flexibility and keen love of learning shown in the roles that everyone takes on in the meetings. Your enthusiasm is a key strength of the Club! As I prepare upcoming rosters, I would appreciate it if members can let me know their availability and especially BOOK THEIR SPEECHES with me. Also, please feel free to give me and any of the executives any ideas and feedback you have regarding our meetings and educational program. I would like to remind all the members who are mentees and mentors to connect with your partner or partners on a regular basis. If there are any members who want to have a mentee or mentor please contact me and I will hook you up.

I would like you all to join me in congratulating those members that have reached educational milestones this year:

CTMs: Pierre Perron, Janice Basili
CL's: Lara Gunter, Therese Hawn, Pam Kubis, and Carolyn Howard
Contest Speeches: Lidjia Scaldione, Carolyn Howard, and Janice Basili

Warm regards,

Therese Hawn
VP Education Phoenix Toronto Toastmasters

Smile. You're on camera!

"Would you like your speeches video-taped? I'll record your speech with my camcorder. Then transfer the video to a VHS tape. If you're interested, please make sure you bring a VHS tape with you to the meeting and let me (Fred Berni) know you want your speech taped."

Have a DYNAMIC day!

Fred Berni
Toastmaster Member Phoenix Toronto Toastmasters

Final Note

I would like to thank the following Fellow Toastmasters for their contribution to the April Newsletter issue.

Michelle Warren, for the "On a personal note" article and proofreading the Newsletter.

Fred Berni, for the "Smile. You're on camera!" services.

Rex French, for the "Historically Speaking" article as part of a series.

Pierre Perron,
V.P. Public Relations