

THE LILAC CITY LOWDOWN

Lilac City Toastmasters Club # 687 August 1998 Vol 1, #1

Welcome!!!

Welcome to the first edition of the Lilac City Toastmasters Club newsletter, *Lilac City Lowdown*. This newsletter will provide you with valuable information about what is happening in our club. In it you will find helpful tips, information about upcoming contests, and notices of member accomplishments. We will also include articles written by experienced speakers, to help you in achieving your speaking goals. We welcome your suggestions, comments, or articles for this new resource available to members of the Lilac City Toastmasters Club. Any active member of the Lilac City Toastmasters Club is welcome to join the staff of our new newsletter. If you are interested in this opportunity, please see one of the staff members listed below.

Lilac City Lowdown Staff
Shannine DiMora, CTM
Betsy Kalweit, CTM

The Executive Committee

Betsy Kalweit, CTM
President

Robert Corbin, CTM
Vice-President, Education

Leo Pfeiffer, CTM
Vice-President, Membership

Shannine DiMora, CTM
Vice-President, Public Relations

Arthur Drummond, ATM-B
Secretary

Lois Watkins, CTM
Treasurer

Arnold Krueger, DTM
Secretary, Awards

Awards Presentation Planned



Educational Vice President Bob Corbin is planning an awards ceremony to be held during the September 10th meeting. Members who have completed requirements for CTM, ATM Bronze and ATM Silver will be honored for their recent accomplishments.

Those receiving CTM's are Arnold Krueger and Betsy Kalweit. This is the third time Arnold Krueger has completed his CTM. In the past he has earned his ATM twice, his ATM Bronze, his ATM Silver, and his DTM. Art Drummond will also be recognized for attaining his ATM Bronze, and Liz Logan, for her ATM Silver.

Join us in applauding the successes of these members, and encouraging others among us to reach their own goals for the upcoming year. Invite a guest to attend this very important meeting with you as we begin another season of personal growth and new challenges in Toastmasters

A Full Harvest

by Betsy Kalweit, CTM, President of Lilac City Toastmasters Club

Living in the Northeast has its advantages, one of these being the opportunity to enjoy the magnificent landscape each fall as the leaves turn colors. Those beautiful colors in the leaves were there all summer long, but the chlorophyll present during the growing season blocked them from our sight. As fall approaches, and the trees prepare for winter, a protective layer of cork cells form at the base of each leaf stem, preventing the formation of new chlorophyll. As this happens and the old chlorophyll begins to deteriorate, other pigments that were there all the time, but hidden, become visible.



Just as the chlorophyll blocks the leaves' true beauty, we often hide behind barriers which keep us from expressing ourselves. Sometimes an embarrassing experience with public speaking can prevent us from trying it again. Or maybe we struggle with shyness or self-confidence. Worry over what to talk about or how to write and present a particular speech may plague us. Whatever the reason, Toastmasters can help because within each of us lies the ability to become an effective communicator.

As the arrival of fall brings out the inherent beauty in the leaves, Toastmasters can bring out our best and help us to overcome those obstacles preventing us from developing better communication with others. Participating in Toastmasters gives us the opportunity to practice and to reinforce what we are learning, keeping those skills fresh for whenever we need to draw upon them. It may be, for example, to express an opinion or to take a leadership role in a community issue. It might also be to hold onto a present job or to get a new one. Members in our club have discovered that Toastmasters was a help to them in interviewing for jobs, besides being a positive addition to their resumes.

During my involvement with Toastmasters, I have had the privilege of witnessing the growth of many different members. I've also observed that the people who get the most out of Toastmasters are those who continue with it for many years. In fact, it has been said that if you want to get the most out of Toastmasters, you'll never get out of Toastmasters! Our minds and bodies need stimulation and exercise to keep healthy and fit. Likewise, to keep our speaking skills in tune, we need to regularly exercise what we are learning and profit from our fellow Toastmasters' evaluations.

Many of the members of our Lilac City Toastmasters Club, the second oldest club in the Rochester area, already realize the importance of persistence in pursuing better communication. I feel honored to serve with them and to profit from their years of experience and dedication.

As we begin a new season this September, I commend our members for the time and energy they have already invested into making Lilac City Toastmasters the club it is today. I encourage our membership to continue reaching out to potential members so they can also enjoy the rewards that come from learning to speak well. If each of us sets a goal to bring at least one guest during the course of this year, just think of the possibilities! In 1999 The Lilac City Toastmasters Club will celebrate its fiftieth anniversary. Let us all work together to increase our membership and make that occasion a full harvest.

Speak for Success

by Arthur Drummond, ATM-B, Secretary of Lilac City Toastmasters Club

According to the experts, a majority of people fear public speaking, second only to death. Yet every one of us give public speeches day in and day out. We speak to the public during telephone conversations, at meetings with friends, while at shops, and at our place of work. "Oh, that's different," people say. Not really; you speak to impart information, to persuade, to sell an idea, or to pose questions.

It is important for you to become a better speaker. You may never mount a podium or run for office, but what you have to say will be more acceptable if you can speak well. It doesn't take a college education to make you a better speaker. In fact, many college professors are inept communicators. Since nearly all of your speaking will be to ordinary people, it is that sort from whom you can learn the secrets of better speech. These are ordinary citizens who have bonded with Toastmaster club members to help others as they help themselves.

They learn how to eliminate those distracting speech faults, such as the over-use of "Ah", "Um" and other vocal pauses. They learn how to outline a talk when a talk may be required at a meeting, be it PTA, book club or at work discussing a project. They learn the power of persuasion. They will come to learn that an audience of any size can be addressed as a single person. They learn how to use eye contact and body gestures effectively. They do this with the help of fellow members. Manuals are supplied, and from them, members get the guidance they need on matters regarding speech and, even more importantly, on how to evaluate each other. Merely reading about better communication will not make you a better speaker. You have to do it and listen carefully to the suggestions your fellow members offer. These are not biting, sarcastic remarks. They are helpful. Since

all Toastmasters have gone through this experience, they are compassionate in their remarks.

Some people believe they can become better speakers by taking expensive, professional speech courses. While such courses may boost your confidence and leave you feeling better about yourself, they do not automatically make you a better speaker. Once finished with the course, many people soon forget what they have learned since learning to speak well requires continual practice. Toastmasters provides a regular opportunity to develop and maintain your speaking skills. We at Lilac City Toastmasters enjoy this experience on the second and fourth Thursdays of the month. Meeting 7:00 PM at the Immanuel Lutheran Church in Webster, we not only learn to speak more effectively, but have also developed friendships.

Guests are always welcome. While we are grateful to the church for the use of their facilities, this is not a religious organization. There are no barriers to membership, such as race, religion or sex. You can get more information from:

Shannine DiMora (315) 524-3876

Leo Pfeiffer (716) 544-6259

Arnold Krueger (716) 872-7335

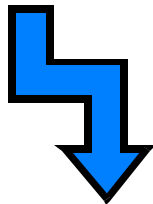


Calling All Comedians and Evaluators!

It's not too early to start thinking about the fall Area Humorous Speech and Evaluation Contest. Participating in these contests is a valuable experience, as anyone who has done so will tell you. Our club will hold its Humorous and Evaluation Contest on September 24th. The Area Contest is scheduled for October 17th.

The Humorous Speech is 5-7 minutes and the Evaluation speech is 2-3 minutes. To participate in either contest, you must be a member in good standing of a club in good standing. Many members of Lilac City Toastmasters have an excellent sense of humor. We're sure this can be put to good use in representing us at the Area Humorous Speech Contest. Practice your funniest story and share it with us. You may then be voted winner and go on to compete at the Area.

One advantage of participating in the Evaluation Contest is that there is no preparation. You simply bring the skills you have developed in doing evaluations at club meetings and in listening to your fellow Toastmasters do theirs. During the Club and Area Contests, participants will evaluate a target speech. Please let Bob Corbin know as soon as possible if you have any further questions about these contests and if you plan to participate.



Important Notice:

Toastmasters International's new area code for World Headquarters is **949**. Below you will find their current address and phone numbers:

Toastmasters International
PO Box 9052
Mission Viejo, CA 92690

(949)858-8255 (Voice) ☎ (949)858-TALK (Voice)
(949)858-1207 (Fax) ☎ (949)858-4185 (Faxback)

Attention!

Semi-Annual dues will be collected during the month of September. They must be in Treasurer Lois Watkins' hands before the first of October so they can be mailed to International Headquarters. Details will follow at the August 20th meeting.

Agenda for August 20th meeting:

Theme: Summer Family Fun

	Assigned
PRESIDING	Betsy Kalweit
OPENER	Lois Watkins
INVOCATION & PLEDGE	Betsy Kalweit
TOASTMASTER	Leo Pfeiffer
TABLE TOPICS	Robert Corbin
WORDWATCH	Robert Corbin
AH COUNTER	Edna Krueger
GENERAL EVALUATOR	Liz Logan
TIMER	Erwin Nunlist
SPEAKER 1	Shannine DiMora
SPEAKER 2	Arnold Krueger
SPEAKER 3	Arleen Roth
EVAL 1	Art Drummond
EVAL 2	Erwin Nunlist
EVAL 3	Lois Watkins
TABLE TOPICS EVAL	Robert Corbin
CLOSER	Art Drummond

