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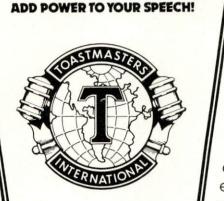
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# The Toastmaster

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# **FEATURES**

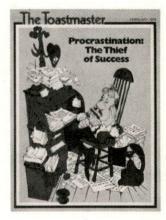
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# COVER

Most time management experts agree that there's little harm in occasionally delaying a difficult or unpleasant task. But when you start making a habit of putting off what you can do today until tomorrow, the consequences may be serious. Procrastination is more than "the thief of time." It also is the thief of success and accompanying selfrespect. Don't let it steal your future. You can kick the habit. The important thing is to begin. . .





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# Letters

# Enjoying Life as a "Total" Toastmaster

I was shocked by the letter from Toastmaster Ditkoff that appeared in the October issue of *The Toastmaster*. He says he doesn't have time to take former President Durwood English's advice and become a "total" Toastmaster. I hope he is in the minority of District 36.

It is a shame that he is so rushed that he misses the social aspects of Toastmasters and the thrill of cheering a friend to victory at a contest. It's too bad a person as busy as he is takes a space as an officer from others who want to be "total" Toast-

masters

I'm sure every Toastmaster has many other activities and commitments outside of this organization. Sometimes we all have to decide what is most important for us at the moment. But I feel Mr. Ditkoff is missing out on the full share of training and relaxation offered by District 36, and for this I feel a deep sorrow.

A "total" Toastmaster has the best chance of becoming a total, well-rounded person who will enjoy life to its fullest.

Mary M. Olds Larton, Virginia

# Slipping Out the Back Door

Are you aware that a number of relatively new Toastmasters are slipping out the proverbial "backdoor" — unnoticed, for whatever reason — and joining the ranks of nonmembers before really getting involved?

Perhaps we are much too concerned with the "front-door" and not sensitive enough to the needs of those already within, especially those newly joined.

Some, if initially left to their own devices, have a tendency to roam aimlessly — ultimately toward the "back-door." We may be failing to get these new members quickly involved.

Each month the pages of *The Toast-master* contain many ideas to help us conduct a variety of club activities. When supplemented with the myriad of materials from World Headquarters, we have the substance for year-round effective programming to meet all the individual Toast-master's needs.

But only when continuous, effective and timely efforts are taken to meet those needs will the exit to the "back-door" be narrowed.

We probably never will be able to entirely close the "back-door" — nor would we want to — but we, you and I, should not be the wedges keeping it wide open.

Michael L. Wardinski, DTM Alexandria, Virginia

# The Worst Put-down

The October article titled "How to Handle the Put-Down" by Peter B. Wylie and Mardell S. Grothe was so great that we decided to use it as a topic for discussion in our Breakfast Club. I wish to report on the three major ideas brought forth:

1. Without a doubt, this is the best article we've found for help and advice in handling put-downs.

2. The put-down of one's self is probably the worst put-down of all.

3. For those of us who make unfortunate use of the put-down, have the authors any suggestions on how to stop?

Please continue making *The Toast-master* a worthwhile magazine to read and retain. Your fine selection of articles is just what we need.

Fred Eboch Cincinnati, Ohio Toastmaster Objects to Magazine Policy

I have long been disappointed in The Toastmaster for running articles submitted by freelance writers. We have far more talent in our organization than you'll ever find outside And these commercial articles promote the professional interests of these authors, not the advancement of Toastmasters. Also, the professional article (a story written for profit) is very seldom written by an individual who has the expertise to speak as an authority.

The Toastmaster should be the organ of the membership and you are doing each of us a disservice under the present policy of printing articles that are not authored by Toast-

masters.

If you are looking for more articles, I can supply you with an overabundance from Toastmasters in this Area and a number from other

Areas in this District. Elmer E. Hunt, Jr., ATM

Boise, Idaho We're very interested in publishing article from Toastmasters in the magazine. So please encourage anyone who may want to submit an article to start writing. You may want to aim for our upcoming special issue on leadership and management, which is scheduled for July. There's also plenty of time to submit an article for the November special issue on developing assertiveness. Remember, we like the strong "how to approach. Thanks for your interest! —Ed.

All letters are printed on the basis of their general reader interest and constructive suggestions. If you have something to say that may be of interest to other Toastmasters, please send it to us. All letters are subject to editing for reasons of space and clarity and must include the writer's name and address.

# **Goal Seeking Gets Results**

I consider goal seeking one of the most significant functions of an effective leader. To set goals is important, but goal seeking focuses on achieving specific results. Keeping one's eyes glued on a picture of the expected end results creates a mental image of fulfillment before the event actually occurs.

Today many organizations follow a Management by Objectives Program, a planning system or some type of goals program. In my experience, I have found that many managers have great intentions when they set goals for their organizations and themselves. Unfortunately, before the ink is dry, the paperwork on well-laid plans often sinks to the bottom of the desk drawer and good intentions fade.

To achieve goals, you need a guidance system that will help you keep projects on track. The successful landing of man on the moon was achieved through the intricacies of a complex guidance system. Today's communications satellites couldn't be launched in space without a guidance system.

Personal and organizational goals can be achieved and Toastmasters clubs built with equal success, but each requires an effective guidance system.

The most simple guidance system format I have found involves the use of mnemonics or acronyms that form word pictures. This procedure is simply a method of using well-known memory-by-association techniques. These techniques will help you create a mental image of the end result you are seeking. The image or picture tends to become a selffulfilling prophecy. It establishes an air of expectancy.

The guidance system I use involves a procedure that I remember by relating each step to a letter in the acronym GOALS. Here's how it

- GATHER data needed to pursue the goal including marketing information, materials, manpower and money.
- ORGANIZE various personnel functions to carry out specific parts
- ACT to provide guidance, time targets and control for each phase of the project; keep wheels in motion.
- LINK activities of all participants to a common communications network. Make the process of reaching the goal a team effort.
- SEEK frequent status reports, make target checks, always painting a daily sequential picture focusing on expected end results.

You will be able to prevent your goals from sinking to the bottom of the desk drawer if you apply the simple memory act of association to the guidance system and form mental pictures of your goals as you progress.

Now, use this guidance system to erect a multi-story building, to build a Toastmasters club or pursue a personal goal to become an effective communicator and leader. The system will work on small or large projects because goal seeking always gets results!

And Harbson



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FEBRUARY 1979

# Procrastination: The Thief of Success

by Robert Montgomery

hen you have a deadline to meet for a project at work, do you often fall behind schedule and find yourself making excuses for delays you know you could have avoided?

Do you put off writing letters to distant relatives for so long that you feel you have to start the ones you do write with excuses for not keep-

ing in touch?

If your answer to one or both of these questions is "yes," you qualify for membership in the National Procrastinators Club of America. The club's motto is, "Never do today what you can put off until tomorrow." And its members promote that philosophy by observing "National Procrastination Week" — whenever they can get around to it.

Procrastination, whether in business or personal life, is a habit that's easy to excuse away and laugh about. Almost everyone is willing to go along with the joke. Newspapers and magazines occasionally run humorous articles on the subject, suggesting that we are a nation of time wasters and often ending with tongue-in-cheek apologies for the delay in publication.

Yet we know procrastination is bad. Our consciences won't let us forget that to waste time is to waste life. Why, then, do we continue to make light of a serious subject? When we fail because of inaction, why do we accept our behavior as an unchangeable part of "human nature"?

Losing Satisfaction

The truth is procrastination is much more than "the thief of time"

Procrastination probably does more than any other habit to deprive us of happiness and self-satisfaction. But there are ways to overcome this barrier to success. The important thing is to begin. . .

Edward Young called it more than 200 years ago. It also is the thief of success and accompanying self-respect — and that's no laughing matter.

As suggested in an essay from *The Royal Bank of Canada Monthly Letter*, procrastination probably does more than any other habit to deprive us of happiness and satisfaction. We allow it to rob us of success by letting it linger until it's too late to catch up, too late to do our best.

And we hurt more than ourselves when we procrastinate. Our lives are intricately interwoven with those of family, friends and business associates. They suffer when we shirk. They have to work harder and longer when we fail to act. They are forced to make excuses when we break promises. They learn to endure when praise is deserved, but not given.

They also might become procrastinators. Especially in business, one procrastinator can bottleneck a group. By stopping the flow of work, the procrastinator forces everyone else to wait. Eventually, the others tire of waiting, tire of fighting and become time wasters,

Falling Behind

Time management experts often turn to government for the most blatant examples of contagion procrastination. Expanding burea cracy has spawned legalism, corpromise and reappraisal, all of white prevent hasty decisions and allo officials more security with learnesponsibility.

"The Social Security problem, the energy crisis, both were caused to government not taking action unit was too late," suggests Dr. John W. Lee, time management expersom Tallahassee, Florida. "Whe you procrastinate, you're alway behind. And the problem you're afraid to face today can only governe tomorrow."

Those who aren't afraid are to ones who succeed.

We shouldn't fear that procrast nation is an unalterable humal condition. It is a definite problem but it has a definite solution. The solution requires awareness as we as action.

Delay Can Be Good

You'll suffer less anxiety or delays if you're aware that it's nalways bad to be late. Remember these maxims and you'll know wheyou have a good excuse for delay

 Delay until tomorrow the which by tomorrow might not have to be done at all.

 Don't do today what can better done tomorrow because better preparation.

 And, for those of us who ope ate best under pressure, delay un what we have to do must be do well the first time around.

We mustn't try to justify all d lays, however. Most are a needle waste of time and life. And if we don't face that, we may find we hat failed where we could have su

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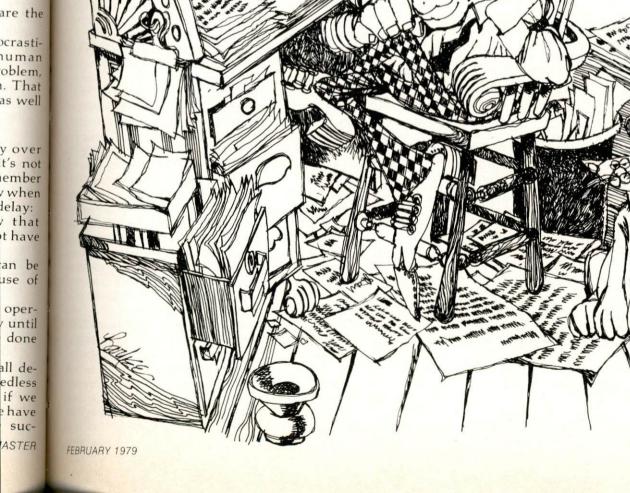
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ceeded, lost where we could have gained.

Former President Woodrow Wilson recognized that danger with a variation of an old quote: "All things come to him who waits - provided he knows what he's waiting for."

Overcoming Inertia

Humans are not perpetual motion machines. Sometimes, we must rest. But we should rest, not rust. It takes more effort to start than to keep going, and it is easier to stop than to continue. To enjoy continuous success, we must constantly struggle to overcome the law of inertia. We must keep moving, growing, thinking.

We can think of many reasons to avoid getting started. We tell ourselves we don't have time for the task we're postponing or we may decide there's no pressing need to get the job done. Often, the truth is that the job is one we just don't want to do because we don't enjoy the work or because we aren't convinced we can handle the responsibility.

Getting Started

If you've been using excuses like these to avoid tasks that you find unpleasant, don't be discouraged. Procrastination can't be eliminated in a day or a week. Over the years, we have developed an undeniable proficiency at wasting time, and both endurance and determination are required to reverse the process.

It may help you to realize that the. anxiety you are bound to experience when you fall behind in your work can be more unpleasant than the task itself. Once you get started, you'll be relieved to be on your way. And you'll enjoy a sense of accomplishment when you finish the task even if you didn't enjoy the work itself.

Start your program to overcome procrastination by keeping a list of the tasks you have been avoiding. Add to the list as you are assigned new tasks. Then establish priorities and refer to the list often so you won't forget to follow through. Savor the liberated feeling you'll experience as you cross completed tasks off your list.

Also, pay careful attention to the way you start each day. You should do the most difficult — or troublesome — tasks first. Once they're out of the way, you'll find it much easier to get other projects started.

More difficult tasks natural require more effort. But we ca begin slowly, doing a little at a time Soon, the job will be done. Th important thing is to get started.

The perfectionists among us at some of the worst procrastinators They want things to be just s before they start. Consequently they rarely get around to doin anything. It's much better to just begin and work imperfections outa they arise.

Reward Yourself

As progress is made in conquerin procrastination, personal deadline can be set and rewards planned incentives for meeting those dead lines. A secretary or assistant car help keep track of schedules and deadlines.

An awareness of the four "D's also is important.

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- Do what must be done.
- Delegate what someone else can do just as well.
  - Delay what can wait.
  - Drop what is unimportant.

We needn't be slaves to convention to be successful, either. Whi must the mail be opened before important business is taken care of It's much easier to develop discipling when following systems we believe in, even if they aren't established ways.

The Quiet Hour

In office jobs, we should make use of the "quiet hour," a regular morning period for taking care of the day's busy work without interrup tions that may encourage procrastination. Telephone calls, visitors, and conversations with coworkers are to be avoided, if possible, during the hour. Often, the productivity of that brief period carries over into the rest of the day.

Remembering that procrastination isn't a joke is important, too When we laugh at procrastination, it should be because we have conquered it, because we are succeeding not because we have accepted delay and its related failures as part of "human nature."

Robert Montgomery is a former newspaper feature writer and columnist. In addition to working as a freelance magazine writer and consultant, he also serves as communications director for Time, Life & Lee, a time management organization headed by Dr. John W. Lee.

Organizations may vary in type but they all have at least one thing in common - a constant need for improvement. Here are some suggestions on how you can help your organization meet that need.

# How to Put New Life nto Any Organization

by Father James Keller

That can I do to put new life into our organization?" This is a question countless thousands of persons are asking. Groups or associations are in constant need of renewal from within. This applies whether they are civic, religious, educational, business, labor, political, fraternal or any other type of organization.

It is up to millions of rank-and-file members to realize that continual renewal of their organizations is the business of each and every one of

These considerations may help you to do your part:

1. Attend meetings regularly. An 80year-old retired steelworker recentwas honored for his attendance record. During 51 years as a member of his local school board, he had missed only five monthly meetings.

• Make it a matter of principle to attend meetings regularly. You can't participate unless you are physically

• Be more than a joiner or duespayer. If you think a group is worth joining, then it deserves your personal, intelligent, active and continuing support.

 Don't stay away from meetings just because they are not run the way you think they should be. Strive patiently to improve them and encourage others to do the same.

 Remember, you have little right to grumble about meetings if you don't bother to attend them.

**Update** Goals

2. Keep in mind the purpose of your organization. Any group can inadvertently lose sight of its objectives or drift into side issues.

Occasionally review the constitution, bylaws and operating procedures of any group to which you

Persuade fellow members also to stick to the purpose of your or-

ganization.

If certain goals or methods appear to be outmoded, take steps to have them updated.

- 3. Live up to the duties of membership. These are some marks of a good member:
- He willingly fulfills the responsibilities that go along with his
- He knows that what he does or leaves undone — helps or hurts
- · He realizes his limitations but does what is reasonably expected of
- He opens his ears to listen as well as his mouth to speak.
- He carries out decisions promptly and intelligently.

Respect Others

- 4. Show a personal interest. Work in any organization can become quite cold and impersonal unless people go out of their way to inject a warm, personal note into everything they
- · Be cordial instead of distant or hostile.
- Blend gentleness with firmness when you must take a stand.
- Keep lines of communication
- Disagree without becoming

disagreeable.

- Give assurance to those who are frustrated.
- Respect the feelings and viewpoints of others, no matter how much you may differ.
- Listen attentively when others have the floor. Whispering or causing distractions is discourteous, to say the least.
- 5. Think for yourself. It takes effort to be a thinker instead of a perennial yes man. But, unless you take some initiative, you may be depriving everybody of your good ideas.

Study the various aspects of issues so that you can make judgments on your own. Base your views on reason, not emotion; on principles, not personalities; and on the common good, not narrow partisanship.

Be a Leader

6. Develop your ability to communicate. More than one organization has been saved from an embarrassing decision or omission by the voice of a lone individual who stood up and made his voice heard.

Know what you are talking about in the first place. Then if you want to share your good ideas, you will work hard to develop the skill of speaking to a group, presenting proposals clearly, making concise summaries, giving concrete examples ... and mastering the basic principles of parliamentary procedure.

Unlock your own powers of leadership, and everyone will profit.

7. Promote a spirit of teamwork. The English writer George Crabbe summed up the harm done by a faction when he described it as "the demon of discord armed with power to do endless mischief and intent

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only on destroying whatever opposes its progress.

Any organization can be crippled when the membership splinters into uncooperative or hostile cliques.

But there is always hope. Even one person, by fairmindedness and objectivity, can bridge the gap between opposing sides.

No matter how diverse their backgrounds, ideas and personal interests, there usually is some common ground. And, for those interested in the truth, discussion is always possible.

## Motivate Others

8. Stir up listless members. A few dedicated persons made up their minds to do something about the apathy in their organization — with heartening results.

"Many of us were unhappy," wrote one member, "but no one was doing anything but complaining. Then a group of us got together. We reached people who never attended a meeting and had no idea what was transpiring... The results were better than our wildest dreams."

Even if your organization is basically healthy, offer to take reluctant members to meetings.

Remind them, too, that many worthwhile organizations are abandoned by default into the hands of the incompetent, the corrupt or the subversive because members are not on the job.

- 9. Seek the best interests of everybody. This is a "double-barreled" point:
- It means ensuring that all members — and not just a handful share in the benefits of the group.
- It involves taking into account the interests of the public at large rather than the vested interests of

the few.

To modify and improve a measure that would otherwise disregard the rights of a minority requires courage. Even more courage may be needed to forego some immediate group advantage to serve the wider good of the public.

# Be Prepared

10. Do your homework for each meeting. Lack of preparation is probably the chief sin of omission in a poorly run meeting. It leads to situations in which problems outrun solutions, resulting in confusion or hasty action.

Take the time to be aware of current events as well as items and activities on the coming agenda. If you intend to talk on a particular point, consult with other members, formulate your thoughts beforehand and come ready to speak in a clear, brief and organized way.

11. Be a peacemaker. A sign hangs on the wall of one dedicated official who is often caught in the middle of various opposing groups. It reads, "Blessed are the peacemakers — for they shall catch the devil from both sides!"

When misunderstandings, disputes and clashes arise, you can help clear the air by trying to reach a peaceful accord.

You may not succeed completely. But you can at least reduce tensions and prevent the spread of strife.

12. Don't lose your sense of humor. People who take themselves too seriously and others not seriously enough throw sand into the gears of any organization.

By keeping your sense of humor in the midst of vexing situations,

you lighten the burden for everyone, including yourself.

During the dark days of the Civil War, Abraham Lincoln confided to friend: "With the fearful strain that is on me night and day, if I did not laugh I should die."

The devine source of this quality was aptly described by Thomas Carlyle in 1827: "True humor springs not more from the head than from the heart; it is not contempt, its essence is love."

### Praise Others

13. Give credit where credit is due. Few persons cause more annovance than the "credit grabbers" who are first in line when it comes to taking a bow but nowhere to be seen when responsibility must be shared.

On the other hand, if you are truly concerned with the work to be done - regardless of who gets the bouquets — you will be rendering no small service to your organization.

Don't hesitate to praise a fellow member for a job well done. Your continuing effort to be balanced in evaluating the contributions of others makes organization work that much smoother.

14. Prevent meetings from bogging down. Meetings that drag are a big reason for poor attendance. Furthermore, they paralyze vital work

Help keep things moving by making a clear distinction between essentials and nonessentials.

Be selective, too, in the choice of resolutions. Because of time limitations, only those that are important practical and relevant should ordinarily be proposed.

15. Persuade capable persons to run for office. Leaders seldom rise much above the level of those who takes hand in choosing them.

 Point out to individuals with the capacity and motivation what great good they can do by serving in positions of leadership.

 Insist on the secret ballot in all elections of important officers.

· Find out beforehand their qualifications: Do they represent the best thinking of the group? Will they move ahead prudently or res on their oars? Can they get alone with people? Do they have vision the I and initiative? Will they train new persons to understudy them? Are plain they persons of moral character?

Act on the basis of such qualifi-

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• Stand by them once they are exted.

Be Cooperative

16. Give your official representatives spect and cooperation. Even if persons whom you did not support are elected to office, they represent you. They should get the wholehearted telp you would expect if you were in their place.

Offer constructive suggestions.

• Don't tell them only what you hink they want to hear.

• On the other hand, don't keep grying up critical complaints.

 Speak well of your officials to utsiders, or at least refrain from medlessly publicizing defects.

17. See that officers stay within the mits of their authority. The constitutions of most organizations set definite limitations on the areas in which officers can legally act.

As a committee of one, or along with others, you can tactfully remind the leadership when they may be exceeding their bounds.

But be sure of your facts. Base your actions on a desire to be of service, rather than on pique or pettiness.

As a member of the loyal opposition, one person like you can do much to protect the rights of all.

18. Don't dodge thankless jobs that must be done. The success of any organization depends largely on the "behind the scenes" work of individuals who seldom get recognition or acclaim.

Your rights as a member imply corresponding responsibilities. Instead of seeking only jobs that you like, be willing to accept those which —however distasteful — are essential for the good running of the group.

Moreover, small jobs well done prepare you for bigger ones. People whose invariable response is "Why me?" seldom get tapped for positions of greater responsibility and opportunity.

Think Positively

19. Encourage, don't discourage. A "wet blanket" is defined as: "A person or thing that quenches or dampens enthusiasm, pleasure, or the like."

• Wet blankets are quick to complain about a situation, but slow to do anything about it.

• They are more interested in FEBRUARY 1979

fault-finding than in fact-finding.

 They are accustomed to speak of the group as "they" instead of "we."

Don't be a "wet blanket." Be a "candle-lighter," more anxious to improve than disapprove, more interested in getting action than fixing the blame for inaction, more concerned with winning cooperation than winning arguments.

20. Back up words with deeds. It is a common delusion of many groups to jump to the conclusion that, because they have talked at length about a problem, they have somehow solved it.

The 17th century philosopher, Francis Bacon, put it this way: "Good thoughts, though God accept them, yet toward men are little better than good dreams except they be put in action."

Discussion is needed to reach mature decisions. But resolutions should be translated into performance instead of remaining a "dead letter."

21. Keep expenses under control. Bankruptcy faced one fraternal organization not long ago because it was, by its own admission, living beyond its income.

"We are having to sell our investments to meet day-to-day costs," a representative said. "The plain fact is that we are spending more than we get in contributions — and that's the road to ruin."

Many a worthwhile group has had to close shop or severely curtail its activities because of ineptitude or mismanagement of funds.

Those who pay dues have a right to a strict accounting for the use of moneys. If you take care of the finances, the finances will take care of you.

Plan Ahead

22. Keep long-range goals in mind. Many organizations wither and die because they let themselves get caught up in a mass of details and fail to lay long-range plans for the future.

Remind others of such questions as these: Where are we headed? Is the organization fulfilling its purpose? Do new conditions require a change of direction? Do present methods meet current and future needs?

Insisting on long-range goals may not make you popular. You may even feel like John the Baptist, "a voice crying in the wilderness." But your ability to look ahead — and to express your views — may avert needless headaches and even tragedies.

23. Persevere amidst shortcomings and difficulties. "Great works are performed," said Samuel Johnson 200 years ago, "not by strength, but by perseverance."

"Persevere" is defined as "persisting in any enterprise undertaken, in spite of counter-influences and opposition."

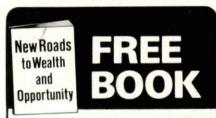
It comes from the Latin "per," (through) and "serverus" (strict or difficult).

If you are working for high goals, then they are worth suffering for. Stay in the thick of things until the very end.

• Expect frustration and difficulty. You won't be disappointed!

 Be ready to start — and start again.

Keep striving to strengthen your organization, despite apathy, misunderstanding or ingratitude. Your willingness to keep going will benefit both you and your group.



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# Say It In Threes

by Thomas Montalbo, DTM

ne of the most effective devices in speechmaking is probably the easiest to use. Intended to achieve clarity, force and grace, the device applies to ideas, people, animals or events and can be used in any linguistic form words, phrases, clauses, sentences, paragraphs, even entire speeches.

What is it? Call it the "triadic approach" or, more briefly, the "triad." Simply say something in a series of three. Consider three points, three qualities, three categories, three reasons, three whatever. The effectiveness of saying something in triads can be judged by well-known examples such as the

 "For thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory." (The Lord's Prayer)

 "We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable rights, that among these are life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness." (The Declaration of Independence)

 "But, in a larger sense, we cannot dedicate — we cannot consecrate - we cannot hallow - this ground." (Lincoln)

By grouping thoughts in threefold fashion, these quotations attract attention, create rhythm and facilitate remembrance. They sound like the musical triad, a chord of three tones, all agreeably related and pleasing to the ear.

Strengthening Your Message

But harmony isn't the only special effect the triad achieves. By its cumulative effect, the triple recurrence strengthens the ideas expressed. Telling once, then again and yet again compels listeners to understand and remember.

Let's take, for example, the above quotation from Lincoln. He used the words dedicate, consecrate and hallow as precisely as a mathematician uses numbers. Although all three words mean to set something apart for a particular purpose, they don't express exactly the same thing. An added implication differentiates them from one another.

"Dedicate" means solemn and exclusive devotion to a sacred or serious use. "Consecrate" even more strongly than "dedicate" implies endowing something with a richer quality. And "hallow" is a still stronger word implying inherent holiness, as in The Lord's Prayer.

Lincoln confirms these meanings in subsequent sentences. While honoring the heroic dead, he acknowledges the need for "the living to be dedicated here to the unfinished work . . . that from these honored dead we take increased devotion to that cause. . ." If he had said in the preceding sentence only "dedicate," he would have implied exclusive devotion to the battlefield's use as a burial ground. But by adding the stronger "consecrate" and yet stronger "hallow" and by pausing between the three synonyms, he gave special prominence to each word and greater significance to the solemn occasion at Gettysburg.

Interestingly, almost everybody misquotes the famous Churchill quotation, "blood, sweat and tears." He actually said, "I have nothing to

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offer but blood, toil, tears an sweat," and that's how it reads printed copies of the speech. No only have people transformed hi original four-part series into three parts by dropping "toil" but they's also transposed "tears" and "sweat

Pleasing the Ear

The fact that the quotation wa changed from four parts to three attests to the triad's powerful ap peal. "Toil" is unnecessary because conveys the same idea as "sweat The acoustic effect produced by "blood, sweat and tears" pleases th ear better than "blood, tears an sweat." Say both combination aloud and compare for yourself.

Although Churchill's speeche include other four-part sequence he certainly knew about the trial and used it often. Many times h even intensified the impact of the three-part series by omitting cor junctions, as he did in thes

 "The heroes of modern war! out in the cratered fields, mangle stifled, scarred. . . It is mass suffer ing, mass sacrifice, mass victory."

 Civilization will not last, free dom will not survive, peace will m be kept, unless a very large majori of mankind unite together to defer

Note how in the above example all the three-part groupings flo evenly, uninterruptedly, harmon ously. Add to or remove from the and see what happens. Chances at the meaning changes or the caden vanishes. Certainly the total impa is diminished.

Besides the old masters of speed today's public speakers frequent use the triad. Plenty of example appear in "Vital Speeches of t Day," which twice a month prin complete texts of current speeche

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Here are a few excerpts from recent

• "We want . . . TV to be lively, entertaining and informative."

• "I act, think and vote independently."

 "Contradictions, paradoxes and dilemmas will be constant realities."

· "We have wastefully frittered away resources, opportunities and time with divided counsel, faint hearts and ineffective leadership."

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Based on a "good, better, best" hypothesis, one word, phrase, or clause may be enough to generate a little interest; two would be stronger; but three would allow you to reach the highest point of rhetorical intensity. Presenting three strong points impresses more than six weaker ones.

Three in a series, arranged in order of increasing importance, show a gradual progression in which the parts rank consecutively as do the numbers 1, 2 and 3. This interpretation may explain, for example, why plays and operas generally require three acts for highest drama.

The triad isn't merely a mode of expression, used solely for rhetorical effect. It's also a way of thinking. It helps you think and develop ideas. For example, suppose you were to prepare a speech about a community problem. You must diagnose the problem and find a way to solve it. So ask yourself three questions: Why is it a problem? What caused it? How can it be solved? Answers to these questions should stimulate thinking, crystallize ideas and provide your material.

Organizing the Speech

Moreover, the triad cannot help but organize the speech for you. "A whole is that which has beginning, middle and end." So said Aristotle, the Greek philosopher and master of the theory of public speaking. The three questions you asked yourself about the community problem become the framework around which you build the introduction, body and conclusion of the problem-causingsolution type of speech.

The triadic approach works just as well in other types of speeches. In the classic "tell, tell and tell" type, first, tell them what you're going to say; second, tell them; and third, tell them what you said. In the pastpresent-future type, first say, "Looking back. . ."; second, "Now, today. . "; and third, "As we look

A Magical Number

Like magic, the number three seems irresistible. From the beginning of time it has cast spells on people throughout the world, delighting them and compelling them to respond. The ancient Greeks supposed the world was ruled by three gods and speculated on three stages of man's technological development. The Hindu Trimurti is comprised of three gods. Christians believe in the Trinity by which God exists in three persons. Faith, hope and love are the three Christian graces. Three wise men paid homage to the newborn Jesus and brought three gifts — gold, frankincense and myrrh.

Three dimensions form the physical world itself: earth, sea and air. Man himself has three dimensions: body, mind and spirit. To mark the boundary line of a state's territorial waters, the "three-mile limit" is prescribed. Triumvirates are ruling commissions of three persons.

The charm of the number three starts in childhood with nursery rhymes and fairy tales: "Baa, baa, black sheep/Have you any wool?/ Yes sir, yes sir / Three bags full." Children also learn the three R's and enjoy the three-ring circus.

Fascination with the number three continues into adulthood. Tom, Dick and Harry are tall, dark and handsome. Some people see no evil, hear no evil, speak no evil. In baseball a batter is out after three strikes. Club sandwiches are "threedeckers." U.S. citizens shout three cheers for the red, white and blue.

Writers of books, plays, movie scripts and articles, as well as public speakers, often use the magical number three or three elements in their titles. Many examples can be cited: "Three Lights in the Tower"; "Manias, Panics and Crashes"; "Liberty, Leadership and License"; "Three Coins in The Fountain"; "You Can't Fool Any of the People Any of the Time Any More"; "Priests, Prophets and Politicians"; "Three Nightmares"; "Noah, the Flood, the Facts"; "Prices, Profits and Taxes."

The Humorous Triad

The triad also works well in constructing humorous and witty expressions. Here's how Ambrose

Bierce, author of The Devil's Dictionary, used three phrases to define a lecturer: "One with his hand in your pocket, his tongue in your ear and his faith in your patience."

Here's an example consisting of three single words: This man doesn't chase after women because he's

moral, modest and old.

The humorist Mark Twain used three clauses to say: "The only way to keep your health is to eat what you don't want, drink what you don't like and do what you'd rather not."

Wit or humor in the three-unit series also can be expressed in numerical order, designating first, second and third. Somerset Maugham, the English writer, once said: "The first duty of a woman is to be pretty, the second is to be welldressed and the third is never to contradict." Sometimes the numerical order takes the one-two-three form, as in these words of historian Henry Adams: "One friend in a lifetime is much, two are many, three are hardly possible.

A Handy Tool

These and many similar examples of how the triad is used in humor follow a formula. The first item in the group of three establishes a pattern; the second repeats it, thus fixing it more firmly in the mind of the listeners who now know what to anticipate; and the third surprises them with an unexpected twist.

This triadic construction can be used in jokes, where the punch line comes after two brief build-up lines, or in comic stories, which follow the same three-part arrangement but involve fuller development of incidents, ideas or characters.

As you have seen, the number three has always had a strong psychological appeal. And the triad is a handy tool for speakers. It helps them to think and organize their material in an orderly fashion and to express themselves in a symmetrical and rhythmic manner. Because the listener must pick up the words out of the air, he can understand more readily and remember what he hears longer when the speaker says it in threes.

If you seriously want to give better speeches, why not try the triad? It's one of the most useful devices available to help you improve your communication skills. .



# Can You Take Criticism?

If you shudder at the thought of having your speech analyzed by someone else, you may be able to overcome your fear of criticism by learning how to evaluate yourself. It's an important lesson for any Toastmaster who wants to improve his speaking skills.

by H. Michael Mogil

our speech is over, the thunderous applause carries you back to your seat and you collapse from the sheer exhaustion of having finally delivered it. Your evaluator steps forward, congratulates you on a job well-done, perhaps briefly mentions one or two things you did incorrectly, reiterates his praise and then leaves the podium You beam and look forward to your next Toastmasters project - fully confident that you've arrived because your evaluator couldn't find very much to criticize about your presentation.

This scenario happens, at least to

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ome extent, at many Toastmasters neetings. But it also happens to an ven larger degree in nearly all of our activities outside of Toastmasters. Why? The answer is simple: We are not generally condiioned to giving constructive critiism and, generally, don't want to be riticized by others. Yet construcive criticism is what every Toastmaster should crave. If this criticism sn't provided, how can we really know how well we are doing? If this constructive criticism and suggestions for improvement aren't there, how can we improve ourselves?

**Growth Opportunities** 

One solution, of course, is that each Toastmaster should assume the responsibility for always getting the best possible evaluation. To insure this within Toastmasters, it may be necessary for the master evaluator to critically evaluate the evaluator and make the members aware of any deficiencies in the evaluation process.

Outside of the Toastmasters club environment, it may mean requesting reviews for presentations, papers, letters and other communications activities that you are involved in. It may mean asking a colleague to evaluate your oral

presentations.

But there's also a way of improving your speeches that doesn't require you to seek help from others:
Learn to evaluate yourself objectively. Of course, it will be difficult—and perhaps impossible—for you to be as objective as others can be. But if you give it an honest try, you can speed up your progress by becoming a self-critic.

Self-evaluation is really very easy. It can be done at any time and for any type of activity. It can be our most constructive form of feedback and offers exceptional growth opportunities, too. However, it can suffer from the same liabilities as any external evaluation. So, to be effective, it must be done sincerely by a person who really wants to improve himself.

As a meteorologist, I am keenly aware of the need for self-evaluation. This is because a meteorologist must communicate and interact with the public and local officials frequently. Yet, when a forecast goes awry, the public is usually hypercritical of the meteorologist.

One only has to read the newspaper or listen to the radio to ascertain this. At other times, there is rarely any opportunity for feedback. So the meteorologist must turn to self-evaluation to determine if his forecasts communicate what he wants them to or if his talks to local groups could be improved.

Destructive Criticism

The situation is similar at home. As a husband and father, I find that self-evaluation is frequently needed. This is because feedback within a close-knit family structure often can be charged with emotion. This prevents objectivity from prevailing and permits "destructive" criticism to occur.

How many times have you heard the disparaging remarks such as "Is that all you have time for?" or "What about the painting, laundry, cooking and kids?" Insert the appropriate expletives and you have some very powerful negative medicine to swallow. Your reaction to this will probably be negative, too. As a result, I've turned to self-evaluation. This has helped me to see what I am doing right or wrong and how to correct myself.

Recently, my 11-year-old daughter had to prepare a short speech for her sixth grade language class. She chose her own topic, outlined and wrote her speech and selected her visual aids. Then it was time for rehearsal. "Dad," she said, "please listen to my speech and tell me what I'm doing wrong."

While this was an honest plea for help, I knew what would have happened once the criticism was given. So I offered to tape her speech and let her evaluate herself. Since she has been my understudy for nearly six years (since I joined Toastmasters), I felt confident that she would know what to look for.

It was a success! She caught all of her "ah's" and "and's." She recognized that she was speaking too softly. But most importantly, she readily accepted her self-evaluation and did something about it. And her speech was very well received by her classmates.

# Be Sincere

If you are convinced that selfevaluation isn't reserved strictly for the Toastmasters program and that it may help you to overcome any deficiencies you may have, then you are ready to learn just a few of the many ways to accomplish the task. Specifically, to be effective, selfevaluation must:

• Be Sincere — Are you really interested in improving yourself? If you are, the self-evaluation will help you.

 Be Objective — Pretend that you are evaluating someone else. Don't be blinded by your own ego or your lack of one. Evaluate yourself the way you would like others to evaluate you.

• Be Critical — Impose a tough but realistic standard of excellence on yourself. If you feel that you did well, then tell yourself so; but, if you feel that you could have done better, tell yourself that as well.

• Be Constructive — Criticism alone is insufficient. You must suggest improvements for yourself, too.

Be Constant — Evaluation opportunities present themselves daily.
 Get into the habit of regularly using these to improve yourself.

Constant Feedback

In addition to work situations and the Toastmasters program, many management development courses frequently ask their participants to evaluate themselves. Most recognize that a properly used, selfmotivated personal evaluation can insure constant and constructive feedback that will accelerate any self-improvement effort. It also can serve another purpose: It can be an important adjunct to our usual Toastmasters evaluation process. If learned and practiced properly, it can improve the way we evaluate others. And that can help all of us.

I would, therefore, encourage each Toastmaster to try self-evaluation, both within and outside the Toastmasters program. I have been using this self-evaluation process for years and I feel that it has helped me to become a better Toastmaster and, more importantly, a better person. So, try it whenever and wherever you can. If my experience is a worthwhile barometer, you'll find that you'll not only enjoy it, but you'll like the results, too.

H. Michael Mogil is a meteorologist with the National Weather Service Headquarters, Silver Springs, Maryland. He has been a Toastmaster since 1972 and is currently a member of the Science Center Club 2133-36 in Rockville, Maryland.

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# **Conversing With Your Audience** The Natural Way to Deliver a Speech



# by Vivian Buchan

efore I called my public speaking classes to order when I taught at the University of Iowa, my students typically were talkative and at ease. Some were animated and expressive; others were downright clever and amusing. But the minute class started, they became different persons. When called on to recite, they were stilted and self-conscious.

Worse yet, they resembled storewindow mannequins when they stood behind the podium with their eyes riveted to the ceiling or the back of the room. Even the students who were most comfortable in front of an audience adopted an unnatural pose, which they considered to be proper for delivering a speech.

Why? What is there about a speaker's platform that turns an animated and interesting person who sparkles when talking with friends into a pompous and stuffy "public speaker"?

Why should there be much difference between making a good speech and making good conversation? There shouldn't. Tradition, however, has conditioned us to think that when we're making a speech at so-called public functions, we must become stilted and oratorical.

# A Grave Injustice

If my students spoke in someone's living room as they do on the speaker's platform in class, the guests would either drift away or go home.

Why does a person who wouldn't stand up at a party and address the guests in high-flown language do so when making a formal speech? Pomposity is just as inelegant on the platform as in a living room.

Speech teachers who train their students to use stiff and stilted gestures do them a grave injustice. Fortunately, most teachers today are encouraging their students to be natural and unaffected when they're speaking before an audience.

But not all are doing that. I was appalled at the teaching methods I

observed when I was invited to be a critic for a high school public speaking class. The teacher was coaching the valedictorian of the senior class on how to deliver his speech. It was obvious that the young man was distressed. Every time he came to a certain place in his speech, his teacher interrupted him: "Rudy, why can't you remember that when you come to 'my friends' you take two steps forward and hold out your arms to the audience? Now start that last part over and don't forget to make those gestures this time."

Rudy began again but when he reached "my friends," he stopped. Then he awkwardly took two long steps forward and held out his arms. I'm sure he felt as foolish as he looked. Rudy had no inclination to step forward. When he followed his teacher's instructions, he felt unnatural and stagey — and rightly so. Gestures should be made only when a speaker feels comfortable using them.

Inexperienced speakers like my

beginning students worry about what to do with their hands. I tell them, "Just let them hang on the end of your wrists. If you feel like moving them, move them. But don't worry about what to do with them. They'll take care of themselves when you're giving a speech just as they do anywhere else. Get excited about your subject and you'll gesture naturally because you're involved with what you're saying."

Speaking Naturally

A good conversationalist is usually a good speaker on stage, too. What does a person do at a party that makes him the center of attraction? He's probably doing the same things he does when he's making a speech. He chooses a subject he knows the other guests are interested in. He knows when to talk and when to be silent. He uses simple sentences and gestures naturally and easily. Because he's interested in the people he's with, he establishes good eye contact and relates to them in a natural and unaffected manner. I know a popular public speaker who gives and goes to lots of parties. I've analyzed his personality both on stage and off to see just what makes him such a sparkling speaker wherever he is. When he's in an informal situation, he tailors his conversation to the interests of the other guests. Sometimes he talks about his last trip to Haiti, his newest book, his hobby of collecting cruets, the antics of his schnauzer, Otto.

Sometimes he does outrageous things like standing on his head to demonstrate his latest achievement. Or he tosses out a controversial statement that will start a lively argument. He sparks the imaginations of his listeners. And he's completely natural and unaffected.

Of course, he's not going to stand on his head during a speech, but he still retains that direct, genuine, isn't-this-fun attitude before an audience. He talks to his audience as simply and sincerely as he talks to his friends.

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The Importance of Timing

Another quality a good speaker and conversationalist possesses is a sense of timing. Without good timing, a speech that could be good remains mediocre. With it, a mediocre speech can become good. An acting coach once told me that timing is something you're born

with. "You either have it or you don't," he said.

I disagree. I think you can learn to use good timing. It's just a matter of responding to the audience's cues.

The audience plays an important part in making a speaker good. An attentive and responsive audience makes an actor or performer aware of how he's coming across. A speaker needs listeners to know whether he's stirring their minds and emotions. When your audience is amused, curious, excited, or resentful, you relate to those responses. Your timing will be determined by the reactions you either see or sense. And if you're on target, you'll deliver a good speech.

Take Charge

A speaker should take charge of his audience just as a conductor, a cheerleader or a sergeant would assume command. Keep in mind that leaders are skilled and competent and they know what they're doing.

To be a good leader, you have to be prepared. You must write out your speech and then revise, revise, revise. Writing is hard work. Ask any writer, and he'll tell you that it takes countless revisions to produce good work. After you've arranged your ideas logically, selected and rejected material and read it over and over, you'll be at home with it.

That doesn't mean, however, that you should memorize it. That's a fast and sure road to failure because you'll be in deep trouble if you forget one cue or one sentence while you're on stage. You should become so familiar with your subject that you can talk about it in a relaxed, conversational manner. A few notes or cues should be all that's necessary to keep you moving along.

Furthermore, if you don't memorize your speech, you'll still have the opportunity to add or reject something that you sense would be appriate or inappropriate to your audience. Many times an anecdote you hadn't thought about before will pop into your mind as a good example of something you want to emphasize. And many times you'll want to delete one you'd planned to use because you feel it wouldn't go over as you thought it would.

Some of my students thought that memorizing their speeches would help them overcome stage fright. Even though I warned them against doing this, some of them simply couldn't believe that memorization could be a liability.

After a few weeks, I decided this bad habit had to be dealt with. So, when one of the girls who was less timid and sensitive than the others began her memorized speech, I let her continue for about two minutes. Then I stopped her, saying, "Marilyn, I'm afraid your speech will run over the time limit, so will you please move into the conclusion in the next few seconds?"

What did Marilyn do? She stopped. She couldn't remember the sentence that would lead her into the conclusion because she had forgotten her cue in her attempt to shorten her talk. She had to abandon her speech.

That was the last time she or any of the other students used memorized speeches. Before long, they were speaking in a natural and direct way without the canned sound that memorization creates.

Analyze Yourself

My students had learned that a good speaker is a good conversationalist who talks to his audience in a natural and unaffected way. He chooses subjects that will interest his audience or, if he's assigned a topic, he becomes well informed so he can handle the material with ease and fluency. He avoids pomposity and oratory and uses everyday language.

It's a good idea to use every opportunity to improve your skill at making conversation and to read widely so you'll always be able to discuss subjects that may come up at a meeting or a party.

Take an objective look at yourself. Analyze your gestures, your manner of speaking and your ability to get and hold attention.

You'll find that the better you become at making conversation, the better you'll become at making a good speech.

Vivian Buchan received her bachelor's degree in English from Coe College in Cedar Rapids, Iowa, and her master's from the University of Illinois. A frequent contributor to The Toastmaster, Ms. Buchan is a former member of the faculty of the University of Iowa, where she taught expository writing, public speaking and literature.

There is an alarming trend developing within Toastmasters that may well have a great impact on the very future of the organization.

Fortunately, there is something we can do about it.

# Gutter Jargon: Have You Crossed the Blue Line?

by Ray Floyd, ATM

A rose is a rose is a rose. Blue is blue.

A rose by any other name would smell as sweet.

Blue is blue? What in the world does that mean? To put it into its simplest terms, I have noticed an alarming trend within our fine organization. I have heard speeches and seen presentations going beyond the fine line of decorum, beyond implication, to the explicit in terms of questionable language. Before you take pen in hand to spear this dinosaur, this throw-back to the dark ages (me), let me provide examples to back my conjecture.

Within the past four years I have had opportunities to visit clubs in several districts and have heard many speakers. In that period, I have noticed a gradual trend towards implicit references to material that is of questionable taste (light blue) to material of such explicitness that the best analogy would be for it to be described as navy blue.

Avoiding Gutter Jargon

Many speakers seem to forget that the subtle use of off-color material — the play on words, a misplaced emphasis directing listeners to a hidden meaning — can be just as offensive as a remark using blatantly obscene or profane language. In either case, you run the risk of losing your audience's attention and respect if you use material of questionable taste.

The standards I have used to evaluate speeches are not those of a prude or a religious fanatic, but rather of an individual capable of expressing his thoughts without using gutter jargon. Just as importantly, I place pride in myself as a member of Toastmasters who believes in the ideals held by that organization.

I believe those ideals frown on the use of offensive language, though the speech contest rules now used by Toastmasters don't require judges to penalize speakers for using off-color material. Those rules leave the choice of appropriate language up to the individual speaker. But with the recent rash of language violations, we may find we do want to include penalties for off-color remarks in the speech contest rules. Why? Because we haven't got sense enough to govern our own language.

I have heard speakers use material of questionable taste in a variety of situations. At a recent convention I attended, I found that many educational sessions made further inroads in varying shades of blue. Why? Is it possible that we have run out of words that can describe the events we wish to portray? Have we become so insensitive, so liberal, so uncaring that we are willing to accept these insults? I hope not!

Losing Potential Members

How many potential members have we lost because of a "joke" that needed telling, but by any definition one wishes to apply was a flagrant violation of good taste? Perhaps it could be argued that we may also gain members because of the same "joke," but are these the members we need and want?

I will be the first to admit that I laugh at many stories of the locker-room variety, but that is where they

should be kept, not up front for public consumption.

When my wife and family accompany me (and they frequently do), don't want them to be subjected to such remarks, and I seriously doubt that my thoughts for my family and that much different than those to other Toastmasters today. With this in mind, I ask again, why are we allowing this to happen? And if wear willing to recognize the symptoms what can we do about it?

Perhaps the first question — Whare we allowing it to happen? — it the easiest to answer. I think it is simply because individuals are reluctant or unwilling to speak ou against the use of such language. It speak against such language immediately singles you out for remarks that label you "old-fashioned or "prudish."

These remarks can be just as sarcastic and unfeeling as those that prompted your original comments and seldom does anyone rush to your defense. It takes a dedicated Toastmaster to fly into the face of such adversity! We must, however voice our concern and, at some point, stand up to be counted or face a future that no longer embraces the Toastmasters program as we know

The next time you are in such situation, as the speaker completes story or a joke and you feel some twinges of embarrassment, look around you and see how many other furtive glances you see. You will be surprised at the number of people who, just like you, are embarrassed by the situation but won't speak our against the use of offensive language.

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te. On rare occasions, people will tenset enough to speak up or walk out of the meeting place. Bravo to

Stopping the Trend

Now, if you also have noticed this trend, what can we do about it?

To begin with, we must stop this movement at the club level. Each time a speaker slips across that blue line, he or she must be told in no uncertain terms that such language, words, innuendos and the like have no place within the Toastmasters program. If this language check is continued, the members of the club will recognize the worth of the comments and they'll stop using questionable language very rapidly.

At club-level speech contests, if a member uses off-color or objectionable material, the judges should note this fact and score appropriately in the language section of their ballot. Most importantly, the judge should tell the offender why the points were deducted. Obviously, if such a plan were to be followed at the club level, then it would filter its way through the other various levels of Toastmasters as well.

It also would be a positive step to rewrite the various speech contest rules supplied by Toastmasters International to include comments on the inappropriateness of off-color stories and remarks. With direction from the top and emphasis from the bottom, we can curb this growing trend.

If we start now, we can return to the program started many years ago by Dr. Ralph Smedley. I believe it is important for us to always keep in mind that in all types of communications and in leadership, it is inappropriate to use language of questionable taste. If such language is inappropriate at your place of business, church or other functions, why should it be any less inappropriate in your Toastmasters programs?

When you stop and think about it, "blue — of any shade — is still blue!"

Ray Floyd, ATM, is a member and past president of the Deerfield Beach Club 3299-47 in Deerfield Beach, Florida. A development engineer with IBM in Boca Raton, he currently serves as District 47's Area 4 governor and is a frequent contributor to The Toastmaster.

# The Idea Corner

# Viewing Your Performance Through the Camera's Eye

Have you ever seen yourself on television? If not, you're missing an opportunity that can help you make significant improvements in your performance as a speaker. At least that's what one Toastmaster in Kenilworth, New Jersey concluded after being on television for the first time.

The show that Carol Gleason, of Gavaliers Club 2311-46, appeared on was never broadcast on the air for a television audience. But that didn't matter to Ms. Gleason or the four other Toastmasters who spoke before the camera. They were interested only in examining their speaking performances.

The club's corporate sponsor, Schering-Plough Corporation, gave the Gavaliers Toastmasters that opportunity. The company has an audiovisual training program through which sales representatives are coached on how to communicate effectively with clients. Often, the coaching sessions involve role playing on the company's closed circuit television system.

When members of the Gavaliers Toastmasters Club asked to use the television facilities, the company readily agreed to provide the technical assistance they needed.

The five club members who were selected to participate each prepared a brief speech for the occasion. While on camera, each concentrated on looking into the camera as though he was speaking to another person, a technique that was particularly helpful to those who were nervous. Once all the speeches were given, the Toastmasters reviewed their performances by playing back the videotape.

Ms. Gleason describes their reactions this way: "The initial shock of seeing oneself on television is startling, similar to that of hearing your voice on tape for the first time. But after that, you begin to enjoy yourself. Television adds an exciting new dimension to the skill of communication — that of seeing. There was no need for an evaluation session; the camera said it all."

Ms. Gleason said the television session was so successful that the club decided to set up another shooting date for other members. Perhaps your club can do the same if you have a corporate sponsor that uses a closed circuit television system. Or maybe you can use the television facilities at a local university. Explore the possibilities. You may not become a television star, but there's a good chance that your on-camera experience will make you a better public speaker!

# 'Gems' to Make Your Table Topics Memorable

If you and your fellow club members have been watching the clock during table topic sessions, you may be ready for a change of pace. *Thomas Booz, ATM,* of West Broward Toastmasters Club 2903-47 in Ft. Lauderdale, Florida, found a very simple way to revive interest in table topics. He suggests that club members be allowed to prepare "gems" for those sessions.

A gem, as Booz defines it, is a poem, a story or joke, a touch of wisdom from the ancients or a description of a personal experience. It's a brief, well-prepared and pre-rehearsed presentation that provides a break from the standard impromptu format of the typical table topic session.

Booz says members of his club have enjoyed preparing as well as listening to gems. "You will find that gems can bring intellectual richness to your table topic sessions and stimulate imagination," Booz explains. "They give every member a chance to shine..."

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# Make Your Club Anniversary a Public Relations Even

Don't let your club's anniversary go by without considering this method of attracting new members. Start thinking about it today. You've got to plan ahead if you want your public relations event to be a success.

# by Malcolm E. Lumby

An anniversary is a special event, and when a Toastmasters club has been active for two decades, the event deserves careful planning. Twelve months before Auto Club 2681-1 in Century City, California marked its 20th year, its members started preparing to make it a successful public relations event.

The success of any public relations campaign requires, first of all, the wholehearted support of all club officers and members. You also need backing and assistance from former members. The primary target of our campaign was the prospective member. With enthusiastic members and support from the local chamber of commerce and newspaper editors, we felt sure our membership would increase if we made our anniversary a public relations event.

Developing Pride

The first long-range goal set by club officers for the anniversary year was to develop a greater sense of pride and accomplishment among club members. We concluded that this objective could be achieved, in

part, by scoring high in the Distinguished Club Plan. Prospects for success looked good because manual completion had not been stressed for some time. In fact, several members had been giving "extra" speeches rather than fulfilling manual requirements. The executive committee's purpose was to complete as many of these manuals as possible and to achieve a new standard of excellence in meeting programs.

The next step in the club's anniversary action plan was to obtain congratulatory messages from influential people, including civic and

political leaders.

Some of the other steps taken to make the anniversary a success were quite simple in themselves, but collectively they had a positive additive effect.

A new masthead was designed for our weekly information bulletin, which is sent to each member's home or office. Between the Toastmasters and our corporate sponsor logos we added the following: "1958 IN OUR TWENTIETH YEAR 1978."

The anniversary theme also was

used at our officer installation bar quet. During the banquet, Ke Himes, who at the time was Distri 1 Educational Lt. Governor, delivered an encouraging speech abor our club's past accomplishments and future plans for communication and leadership programs to be developed by Toastmasters Internations foll

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At the close of the banquet, or gratulatory messages were read the incoming president. Thes greetings came from Durwood English, then president of Toas masters International; Edmund Brown, Jr., governor of Californiand President Jimmy Carter. To Bradley, mayor of Los Angeles, see a beautiful commemorative citatic embossed with the gold seal of the city of Los Angeles.

**Building Momentum** 

Collectively, these awards, citations and congratulatory message made our anniversary installation event newsworthy, so we sent human interest story about the clu and its anniversary messagest eight local newspapers.

We started building the momentum of club interest during the

THE TOASTMASTE

ollowing week's regular meeting by teaturing speeches that traced the history of Toastmasters International. There also was a speech on the founding of our club in Century City.

The meeting ended with a surprise for club members. The president of the Century City Chamber of Commerce, Vincent G. Maher, presented the "Community Builders" award to the club for its contributions to the Century City business and civic community.

The next phase of our action plan was a breakfast meeting, which was hosted by the club's sponsor to demonstrate continued executive

support for the program.

To express appreciation for two decades of corporate support, club officers presented Harry V. Cheshire, Jr., president of the Automobile Club of Southern California, with Toastmasters International's "Communication Achievement" award. An in-depth feature based on the club's anniversary and award presentation to the Auto Club was printed in *Clubways*, which is distributed to more than 5300 Auto Club employees.

Accomplishments

Through this effective step-bystep public relations plan of action, our club made two major accomplishments: Membership increased and attendance at our regular meetings improved.

The long-range public relations goal was achieved when the club earned more than 4,000 Distinguished Club Plan points, marking another first-place ranking in the

50-club district.

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The final step in our action plan was to get credit for a public relations job well done, and this article in *The Toastmaster* achieves that goal.

By carefully planning a series of imaginative events designed to gain support from several individuals and groups in the community, we made our anniversary celebration a spectacular success — one sure to be remembered for many years to come.

Malcolm E. Lumby is a public relations representative of the Automobile Club of Southern California and a public relations instructor at the University of California at Los Angeles. He's a member of the Auto Club 2681-1 in Century City.

# Say It Your Way in a Classified

The Toastmaster is now offering you an exciting new opportunity to communicate with readers who share your interest in public speaking, self-development and leadership. Your message will reach thousands of readers throughout the world. Say it in a classified. It's a fast, easy way to get ahead.

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	Speaking resources
	Services
	Personals

# People

# Toastmasters Loses a Pioneer: J. Clark Chamberlain (1895-1978)

Toastmasters International lost an extremely dedicated and highly respected leader when J. Clark Chamberlain, the first international president of Toastmasters, died in December at the age of 82.

Mr. Chamberlain, perhaps more than any other individual, was responsible for making Toastmasters what it is today. More than 50 years ago, he started the work that turned a fledgling public speaking group into a dynamic organization of communication and leadership clubs that has become truly international, with representation throughout the free world. And he never lost interest in the organization he helped to create.

Mr. Chamberlain's vision of Toastmasters International had no horizons; the cliche "ahead of his time" describes him well. He visualized an organization similar to the



Toastmasters International of today when he led the movement in the early 1930s to incorporate and apply "international" to the title of what was then a small group of clubs just beginning to spread from Southern California into other western states and Canada.

Mr. Chamberlain wasn't content to simply sit back and watch the organization grow. He participated fully and, in his own words, "grew with the organization." For 54 years, he remained involved in club, district and international affairs. He not only attended the meetings of his own club, San Diego 7-5, he also visited other clubs during his travels. And he became a primary leader in District 5.

Mr. Chamberlain continued to "drop in" on board meetings and international conventions and to visit World Headquarters until his health began failing in recent months. Perhaps the best example of his dedication to the organization is the achievement for which he was recognized at the 1977 International Convention in Toronto.

At that time, at the age of 81, he accepted his ATM award. He said it was something he just never got around to doing before.

Toastmasters International and individual Toastmasters everywhere were stirred by Mr. Chamberlain's profound dedication and keen personal interest in individual development. Toastmasters International extends its sincere sympathy to his wife, Katherine, and other members of his family.

# Toastmaster Speaks Before Congress of War Blinded

Bad Berleburg, West Germany -When Dr. Dennis R. Wyant, DTM, received his invitation to participate in the recent two-day International Congress of War Blinded, he thought it to be an ideal challenge for a seasoned speaker such as himself. After all, as a member of the Veterans Administration Gavaliers Club 2920-36 in Washington, D.C., he had already won over 25 Toastmasters speech contests. Speaking to representatives from 10 countries who had come to Bad Berleburg, West Germany, to discuss the plight of the blinded veterans of each country surely couldn't be nearly as tough an assignment.

Or so he thought.

"I was uneasy about this speaking

assignment," said Dr. Wyant, who is the special assistant to the administrator of Veterans Affairs and immediate-past national president for the Blinded Veterans Association, "as uneasy as I was when I gave that first speech out of college with my new employer — the speech that encouraged me to join Toastmasters almost ten years ago. Many thoughts went through my mind. It was the Americans and the Germans who were at war with each other, so what could I say? We were the ones that had inflicted the blindness on those that I would be addressing. By the same token, what could I say about all blinded veterans in America?

"As an experienced Toastmaster, I knew that I was going to have to be very careful in the selection of my comments. And I could only hope

that they would be interpreted as! meant them to be."

According to Wyant, representatives attending the two-day conference were primarily concerned with the pension system for their war blinded, and were particularly interested in America's concept of the total integration of the blinded into the society. Other issues ranged from the service delivery system for blinded veterans to the newest prosthetic and sensory aids developed by each country.

Fortunately, each meeting participant was provided with a translator to iron out whatever language barriers existed. But, said Dr. Wyant, there were some unique problems.

"Having spent most of my life on the Kansas plains and in the Ozark Mountains, I am full of colloquialisms — those old expressions of local Dan

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mor. For example, after my speech, blegates came up to me and, brough their interpreters, asked treatly what I had meant when I bled about 'biting the hand that beds you, or, in certain programs, beleft hand not knowing what the bleft hand into knowing what the bled about 'the blind leading the blod,' they actually thought that I was talking about a mobility program where two blinded people were leading each other around.

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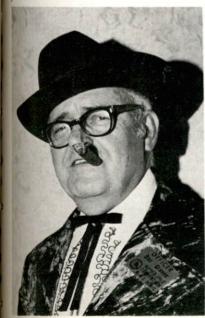
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ocal TER "After a few of these encounters, I reviewed all of my outlines and motes and was careful not to make this same mistake again!"

# Graves Recruits TI Members m the Speaking Circuit

Dayton, Ohio — "Whenever I meet a person of potential who wants to rise in industry, the military or government, I always recommend that he join Toastmasters International."

That's what Dan Graves told 3,000 people, speaking from a head banquet table that included four United States senators, one congressman and a whole row of admirals and generals of the Army, Air Force and Marine Corps. The banquet was the annual awards dinner of the 8,000-member Association of Old Crows, an international society of professionals in the field of electronic warfare. It was only one of several such meetings Graves chaired that year.



Dan Graves
FEBRUARY 1979

He works for the Electronic Warfare Office of the Air Force Avionics Laboratories, where he "helps unsnarl the procurement process" by getting the right people in industry, the military and government to talk to each other at the right time to assure the timely development of new types of military electronic equipment.

That's a job Graves can do well because he knows just about everyone in the business from his extracurricular duties as a public speaker. In addition to serving as toastmaster of semi-official functions like the Old Crow awards banquet, he has presided at the retirement luncheons or dinners of more than 800 Air Force officers and personnel.

He belongs to five different speakers bureaus and tries to meet the personal goal of giving 125 talks

For 12 years, Graves was a member of the East Dayton Toastmasters Club 2838-40, in Dayton, Ohio. And he's still an active recruiter for Toastmasters. By his own count, he has brought more than 250 persons into Toastmasters over the years, but those who have worked with Graves say that's a conservative estimate.

Why does Graves feel Toastmasters is so important? He explains: "When you first encounter a person you have not met before, 90% of his body is covered with clothing. So, your initial judgment of that person is based on the 10% of him you see and 100% of what he says and how he says it. Since we just get one chance at that all important first impression and can't do much about how our faces look, it seems worthwhile to spend some real effort developing our speaking ability.

"Second, the world belongs to the salesman; the rest of us just work here. This is true in government, in the military, in industry, in all of life. Those who can sell their ideas and sell themselves rise to the top in any endeavor, and that requires speaking ability. You naturally have to have some other good qualities, but unless you sound good you probably won't get the promotions you deserve.

"So, if you want to succeed, pattern yourself after someone who sounds good . . . like the people you find in Toastmasters."



Sherry Angel

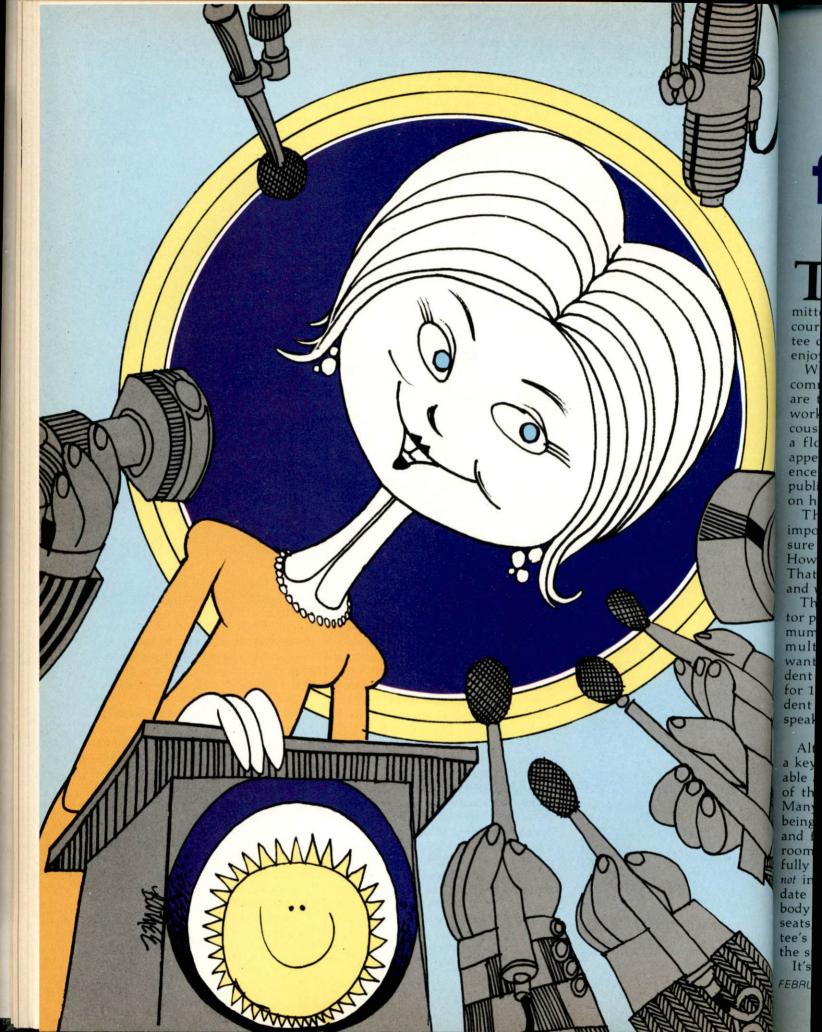
# New Magazine Editor Joins World Headquarters Staff

Thorough readers of this magazine may have noticed the masthead change effective last issue. Sherry Angel has assumed the duties of editor of *The Toastmaster* and will serve as manager of publications and communications for Toastmasters International. Ms. Angel succeeds Michael Snapp, who has become editor of *Western Landscaping News*.

A graduate of California State University, Fullerton, where she received a B.A. in journalism, Ms. Angel previously worked as a reporter for the Santa Ana Register. As a student, she served internships with the Los Angeles Times, the South Coast Daily Pilot and the Anaheim Bulletin.

Ms. Angel has won top awards in a number of reporting competitions, including first place in the national newswriting contest sponsored by the William Randolph Hearst Foundation. In 1977, she was named the top college journalist in the United States by the Sigma Delta Chi-Society of Professional Journalists. And in June 1978, she received the President's Associates award, which goes to the top graduating senior at California State University, Fullerton.

Ms. Angel also has written several freelance articles for magazines, including one recently published in *Redbook*.



# Winning the Battle for Media Exposure

by Robert McGarvey

The invitation to speak is extended and accepted. The guest speaker is firmly committed and now the ball is in his wort. The members of the committee can simply sit back and wait to enjoy the speech, right?

Wrong! If you're on the program ommittee — and particularly if you are the publicity chairman — your work is just beginning. A speech is out to a play: If no one comes, it's a flop. And if a guest speaker's appearance flops because the audience turnout is inadequate, it's the publicity chairman who wears egg on his face.

The publicity chairman's most important responsibility is to make sure the speaker has an audience. How big should the audience be? That depends on who is speaking and where the speech will be given.

The staff of a United States senator probably would insist on a minimum of 1,000 people. The head of a multinational corporation might want no fewer than 500. The president of a small college would settle for 100. And a corporate vice president often leaps at the chance to speak to 50.

Selecting a Site

Although the speaker's prestige is a key factor in determining acceptable audience sizes, the dimensions of the room are just as important. Many a speaker has a horror story of being booked into a 1,000-seat hall and finding only 100 people in the room. The turnout may have been fully acceptable to the speaker, but not in a hall designed to accommodate 10 times as many people. Nobody likes to stare at rows of empty seats, and it's the program committee's responsibility to fit the hall to the speaker.

It's the publicity chairman's job to

fill the seats. You don't have to be a magician to succeed, but you do have to know some basic publicity techniques.

First, you should define your objectives. Ask yourself, "Why are we publicizing this speech?"

You'll find that there are many possible — and valid — answers. You may want to publicize the speech so you can draw attention — and new members — to the sponsoring organization. Or you may want to thank the speaker by producing a bundle of press clippings that include his or her name.

One of the most common reasons for publicizing a speech is to build attendance. But you need more than newspaper publicity to attract an audience large enough to satisfy your speaker. To be sure your speaker won't have to face too many empty seats, you also should make telephone calls and send letters to members of your group and anyone else who may have an interest in the speaker or the topic. And don't forget to advertise the event in your club newsletter.

Selling the News Angle

It's important to use all these avenues to reach potential members of the audience because you won't always be able to publicize the event in your local newspaper. You can count on help from the newspapers most of the time, however, if you know how to present the facts in a way that will appeal to editors.

As a guideline, remember this old journalism saw: "Dog bites man" is not news; "man bites dog" is. Tired as that line is, it still has an important message for publicity chairmen: The event to be publicized must be news if the goal is to attract an audience through the mass media. The item must intrigue nonmembers as well as members.

Oil companies, for example, rou-

tinely make middle-level managers available to groups as unpaid speakers. Topics relate directly to the energy business, with titles running the gamut from "The American Oil Adventure" to "Zero-Based Energy Budgeting." But little, if anything, that's news is found in these speeches. Journalists will not jump at the chance to give full coverage to these events.

On the other hand, if the speaker is a high-level representative of a company involved in an exciting and evolving chapter of our energy history — say, the Alaskan natural gas pipeline — news may well be in the making. Another newsworthy angle might be a local resident who has put in a tour of duty in Alaska and is now returning to tell his tale of Yukon life. That's not hard news, but it just might contain the germ of a solid feature story.

Writing the Release

The skilled publicity chairman knows how to anticipate the responses of the news media. Editors rarely are the crusty misanthropes portrayed in the films "Front Page" or "All the President's Men," but few like to wade through piles of information on an event that will not interest their readers.

Most editors will, however, help you publicize your event even if it is not of the "man bites dog" variety. Most local papers and many metropolitan ones gladly run lists of upcoming events. Place, time and nature of the event are all included in columns such as "This Week's Highlights" or "West Side Happenings." To get listed, you must make the editor aware of the details by writing a news release.

Releases are the backbone of publicity, but an extensive journalism background is not a prerequisite for drafting a good one. The essential ingredient is adherence to the rule of the five "W's" and the "H"—Who, What, When, Where, Why and How. Answer those questions in your release and, odds are, it will be a satisfactory one. Fail to answer those questions and you probably will have an agitated editor on the phone seeking clarification — or, worse still, your release will wind up in the editor's wastebasket instead of in the newspaper.

Here's an example of a fully ac-

ceptable press release:

Thomas P. Smith, assistant professor of sociology at State University, will speak on "Youth Crime" before the Anytown Toastmasters June 6 at 8 p.m. in Room C of City Hall. The public is invited.

It's short, but all necessary questions are answered. The reader knows what the event is and where to go if he wishes to attend.

A bit of practice can turn that release into an even better one:

"Has America's Youth Gone Wild?" Thomas P. Smith, assistant professor of sociology at State University, will answer that and other vitally important questions in his talk on "Youth Crime" at the Anytown Toastmasters meeting June 6 at 8 p.m. in Room C of City Hall. The public is invited.

What we've done is inserted a "teaser" based on the subject of the talk. True, this version is longer, but it's not too long. Many newspapers impose a 50-word limit on advance notices and our second version is still within that limit.

## Meeting Deadlines

Deadlines are another just as important kind of limit. All regularly published periodicals have deadlines — closing dates for submission of information — and they are inflexible. A rule of thumb is that weekly papers close all but the front page and the lead sports page two days before publication. Daily papers, too, have deadlines, and they're not always on the previous day. Many events columns close several days prior to publication. Editors happily provide this information.

Should press releases be mailed or phoned in? Typically, releases are mailed. That allows the editor to review the information at his leisure. It means more work for you, however, because your mailing list must be updated regularly. One large corporation neglected that task and, over a period of two years, its list became more and more out of date. The result? Most of the com-

pany's releases were returned or simply discarded. No editor appreciates submissions that misspell his name, and female editors hate to receive mail addressed to "Mr. Frances Smith."

# Use Photos For Impact

Whenever possible, an 8 x 10 inch, black and white glossy photograph of the speaker should be included with the release. Often, the editor won't use the picture. But in those rare instances when he does, the impact of your publicity is magnified many times. Instead of a small item in a list of 50 upcoming talks, your speaker and club are prominently displayed and your release serves as the picture's caption. Ask the speaker to supply the photographs. If none is available, cost considerations may preclude the use of pictures with the release. Even a short photo session can cost \$50, \$100, or

Another way to improve your chances of publicizing your club's speaking event in the newspaper is to learn about your audience. Often the speaker is unknown to the community at large, but influential residents may be well aware of his work and be interested in attending. Get commitments, if possible, and inform your editors. If the mayor or a city councilman or a college president is joining the audience, it may carry substantial weight with an editor, even one who is personally unfamiliar with the guest. Include this information in the press release it may yield a more prominent display in the newspaper. And, as a result, the turnout may be better than you expected.

# Touch All Bases

Finally, don't neglect the electronic media in the pre-speech publicity campaign. Few television stations use such information, but some do — especially in smaller communities. And many radio stations regularly provide airtime for lists of upcoming events.

Touch all bases initially. As you gain experience, eliminate media outlets that consistently fail to carry your material. *Don't* do this out of anger. Do it to save your time and the editors'. When you do have a major event slated, an editor will be more inclined to listen if you haven't plagued him with requests for coverage of events he doesn't consider

newsworthy.

And never complain about inat quate coverage. The editor kno his space limitations — that's his of the space limitations — that's his of the space might have been especially to the space might have been especially to the editor may not the event has news value. It's the editor's job to make these decision and no one, editors very much cluded, likes to hear complain about his job performance.

Follow Up

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The publicity chairman who is covered all these bases is well on way to scoring a homerun. Buth not safe yet. There's still posspeech publicity.

Why publicize an event after over? Strange as it might sow some of the best — and most efficiency in the speech is given. It's too late boost attendance, of course, but speaker still can be honored and sponsoring organization publicize

In many ways, the job of thepo speech publicist is easier. He has prepared text, the speech, to wo with. Always ask the speaker for advance copy of the text. He's abound to follow it verbatim—m polished speakers don't—but it fair bet he will stick closely to subject.

With the speech in hand, prepample copies for the media resentatives you expect to attend talk. Prepare extras for mail tribution to receptive media out. At the same time, work up anot press release, a longer one. I time, include a few quotes from talk — highlights and cent themes. Zero in on the snapp parts and weave them into release. But stay within 100 wo unless your local editors indict that longer releases are acceptal Here's a sample post-speech release.

"Has America's Youth Gone Wi Thomas P. Smith, assistant profess sociology at State University, says, "Na many young Americans are turning drugs and sex and, in time, crime." Co data developed during a three-year state Smalltown's teenagers, Professor Smith the Anytown Toastmasters at their Ju meeting that "youth crime is a perpla and disturbing phenomenon — one defies standard solutions, since the ma tions often lies outside the traditional or

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MASTER

The Toastmasters meet weekly at City
Hall...

This release provides the key facts, the Who, What, Why, When, Where and How. It gets the speaker's name into print again and, just as importantly, garners another mention of the sponsors.

But remember to provide a copy of the text along with the longer release. Some editors may want to dig a bit. The release may even motivate an editor to do a full-length feature story on the speaker.

The Taped Release

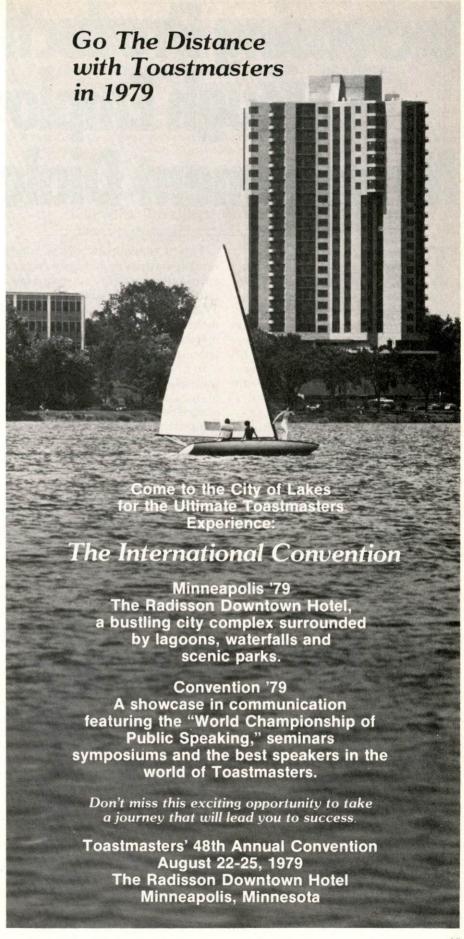
During the post-speech publicity stage, it's also time to touch base again with responsive electronic media outlets. Audio clips — cassettes of brief portions of the actual talk — can be inexpensively supplied tolocal radio stations along with the release and text. Many smaller stations happily use these cassettes in news programming.

Some stations may even want to broadcast entire talks, either live or recorded for delayed broadcast. Thousands of small stations across the nation are eager to find informative and exciting "public affairs programming." They may be interested in your meetings. If no station makes a commitment to regularly broadcast your program, some may wish to carry special speakers — and that's still a fine feather for any dub's cap.

A fact of life in dealing with journalists, however, is that more often than not they will turn thumbs down on your request — not just for live broadcasts, but for coverage, too. It's a bitter pill the publicity chairman soon learns to swallow.

Unfortunately, there is no surefire technique to help you overcome that problem. But persistence coupled with scrupulous attention to accuracy — the chief requirement of all contacts with the media — will pay off in longer and more prominent listings, occasional feature stories and perhaps even a few radio broadcasts. That's a record that could make any publicity chairman proud!

Robert McGarvey is a freelance writer who lives in Santa Monica, California. His work has appeared in the Los Angeles Herald-Examiner, Boston Campaign Insight, California Journal and many other publications.



# Increasing Productivity **Through Employee-Management Dialogue**

This program boosted productivity at Pitney-Bowes. reduced absenteeism and cut the turnover rate in all departments.

by Fred T. Allen

o many corporations, employee communications means using bulletin boards and house publications to tell employees about management's latest policies.

In other companies, the phrase employee communications is broadened to employee-management communications. This is because there is no true communication unless a genuine dialogue is developed between employees and man-

agement.

Our company has been credited with pioneering in what, for those days, were considerable departures from traditional concepts of employee-management communications. Some of our practices have since been adopted by other companies. We believe our own experience over the years has proved the effectiveness of the total communications programs was established in the 1940s.

Improving Productivity

Today, when increased productivity is a national industry watchword, it is appropriate to share with you communications experiences that have indeed helped improve our productivity.

A basic tenet of our company philosophy is simply stated: When an individual or institution invests in our stock, he deserves a regular and complete accounting; the employee who invests his working life in our company deserves no less and conceivably more.

The primary elements of our program are the council of personnel relations and the annual jobholders report and jobholders meet-

Our company more than 30 years ago established what is now the personnel council.

This is a monthly forum where representatives of management and employees sit down to discuss mutual problems and opportunities. This is done on the sectional, departmental and divisional level, with the main council serving as our top tribunal.

It is truly two-way communications. Employees voice their complaints and suggestions to their elected council representatives, who bring them to management's attention at the regular meetings. Management, at the same time, communicates its policies and ideas to employees

Typical Topics

Some discussions bear on company-wide matters of significance.

Others cover irritations that, if allowed to fester, could cause unpleasant consequences.

These are some typical subjects brought up at recent council

meetings:

• What happens to employees transferred or promoted to new jobs who are unable to perform adequately there?

Reply: Every effort will be made to place employees in other jobs, even though it takes time for such jobs to become available.

 Would it be possible to have some pictures placed on the back wall of the newly painted cafeteria?

Reply: Plans are being developed to decorate this large wall space.

Fred T. Allen wrote this article as chairman of the board and president of Pitney-Bowes, Inc., Stamford, Connecticut. The article is reprinted with permission from the September, 1975 issue of Nation's Business. Copyright 1975 by Nation's Business, Chamber of Commerce of the United States.

 Why can't management offer three-week vacations after five years instead of eight years?

Reply: Our employee benefit package includes many elements Among them are comprehensive group major medical insurance personal insurance, a retiremen program and an incentive sugges tion system. We try to balance thes with our vacation policy, taking int consideration similar practices our industry and community.

 How about light-duty overtime for employees recovering from

illness?

Reply: The company physician advises that each case will be con sidered individually. Some person are advised not to work in excess 40 hours per week, so the physcian's decision must be final.

 An administrative employe asks why we are not getting satis factory results from an auto insurance carrier.

Reply: The matter will go to the main council.

 An employee representative asks if it is compulsory to won overtime on Saturday and, if a employee does not, is it considered day of absenteeism?

Reply: Unless otherwise stipu ploye lated at time of employment, Satur day work is not compulsory. How ever, during peak periods and whe other employees willingly won overtime on Saturdays, continue refusal to do so would reflect un favorably on the employee.

Resolving Problems

In a company with more that contr 12,000 domestic employees, the council must operate on seven levels. In fact, we have some 90 suc pany' units on the sectional, departmental wages or intermediate levels.

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fa problem can't be resolved at a tional council meeting, it is remed up the ladder. Finally, at the incouncil, top management must her take positive action on a after or explain candidly why it mot.

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Minutes of all council meetings, at levels, are posted on company letin boards. This is so employees a follow precisely what steps are taken on their behalf.

We also encourage employees to be part in a question-and-answer togram. They can comment or bmit questions, anonymously if the wish, about company policy or ractices. Their questions, along the replies from the responsible unager, also are regularly posted to our bulletin boards.

If he prefers, however, an embyce may have the answer directed him personally.

Keeping Employees Informed

Our jobholders reports and jobolders meetings are equivalent to he annual investors report and the hareholders meeting. In addition, we employees also receive copies of the company's annual report.

Our 20-page jobholders report his year described the company's progress during 1974, cited employees for particular achievements, overed new or expanded employee mefits, discussed the personnel muncil, showed how average pay had exceeded rising costs, explained new sales approaches and challenges, reviewed new financial efficiencies and reported on our foreign operations.

Soon after the jobholders report is published, a series of jobholders meetings begin.

These sessions may run as long as three hours. They are attended on company time by about 250 employees. They are held on a divisional level. Often, in bigger divisions, more than one meeting must be scheduled to accommodate all employees.

The sessions are led by representatives of management. These are the group vice president, employee relations vice president, treasurer, controller and other officers, often including the chief executive officer.

After a brief report on the company's financial health, employee wages and benefits, profit sharing, new facilities and other topics of

# **JOKES for SPEAKERS!**

For Toastmasters, Business Executives, Club Officers, Banqueteers, or anyone who has to talk.

An up-to-the-minute topical Joke-Bulletin with approximately 100 funny one-liners, stories and roast lines. Created by top Hollywood comedy writers. A great source of fresh professional material to humorize your speech for any audience; any occasion. Current issue: \$5.00. Send check or M.O. to:

# JOKES UN-LTD.

1357 Miller Drive, Dept. 0-9, Hollywood, CA 90069

interest, a question-and-answer period follows.

The only questions barred are those that relate to personalities. All other topics are fair game and are answered spontaneously and as fully as possible.

What Employees Ask

Written questions submitted in advance are preferred, but those from the floor are equally welcome.

Here are some representative questions posed by employees during jobholders meetings this year:

 How does top management justify its present high incomes?

Reply: Salaries and incentive bonuses are no higher than in comparable companies in the industry and the community.

• Is there are a plan to lay off employees in the face of a worsening recession?

Reply: The company does not anticipate any layoffs in the fore-seeable future.

• Why aren't mail girls allowed to wear blue jeans when they distribute mail in the dirty shop area?

Reply: Because smocks are provided to protect dresses or slacks from contact with machinery. And since our mail girls circulate throughout the building, they should be neatly dressed to make a favorable impression on visitors.

• If the company's retirement fund is invested in stocks, wouldn't Treasury bills or other safer, highyield vehicles be more productive?

Reply: Yes, in recent years bonds would have been a better investment, but selling the fund's common stocks now would result in a substantial loss. Moreover, such investments are handled by professional

financial consultants whom we retain for their advice.

About 18 jobholders meetings are held each year in our headquarters areas. Then the management team spends part of the next two months holding 100 similar meetings in branches and subsidiaries throughout the country.

Measuring Results

What have been the measurable results of our jobholders meetings? Taken alone, they probably exert little measurable impact. They must be considered in the context of our entire employee communications program.

However, some measurement indices may be cited. Increased productivity is one. In 1974, as measured by revenues per employee, productivity increased 17.3 percent over the previous year.

Also, our average absenteeism rate is three to four percent, while the turnover rate in all departments and in the field averages only 12 percent.

Both figures are low for our industry.

While these results cannot be attributed solely to our communications program, it clearly deserves some of the credit.

Occasionally we are asked: "If your communications program is so effective, why haven't more companies copied it?"

The answer may be simple. The program takes a lot of executive time that other managements may feel could be better employed elsewhere.

It does take time and lots of it. We are convinced that it is worth the time it takes.

FEBRUARY 1979

# Hall of Fame

# DTMs

Congratulations to these Toastmasters who have received the distinguished Toastmasters certificate, Toastmasters International's highest member

Vicki D. Wood

Roseville 623-5, Roseville, CA

John E. Davis

Delavan 3925-35, Delavan, WI

David A. Roberts

Gold Mine 241-37, Concord/Knapolis, NC

Helen Dobson

H.E. Dobson 2005-40, South Charleston, WV

Flias F. Ezra

Broadway 1000-46, New York, NY

Rudy C. Stiefel

Vanderbilt 3061-46, New York, NY

Valene Croskev Ir.

Satellite Beach 3921-47, Satellite Beach, FL

# **ATMs**

Congratulations to these Toastmasters who have received the Able Toastmaster certificate of achievement.

Myra L. Obert

Ontario-Upland 1506-F, Ontario, CA

Moreno Valley 2169-F, Sunnymead, CA

Bruce A. Rummer

East San Bernardino 3820-F, San Bernardino,

Hank L. Barrett

Terminal Island 2548-1, San Pedro, CA

A.J. Richter

VIP-Granada 1772-3, Tucson, AZ

Lucille Molinari

Daly City 1881-4, Daly City, CA

John W. Arndt

Presidio 3012-4, San Francisco, CA

Robert G. Sansom

DLI 3824-4, Monterey, CA

Millie G. Peterman

Tri-Cities 274-9, Pasco, WA

John Connolly

Warsaw 2631-11, Warsaw, IN

Jack P. Mickle Jr.

Columbus 2037-14, Columbus, GA

Raymond D. Spindler

Artesian 3379-14, Albany, GA

Conrad F. Cornell

Key 3723-15, Salt Lake City, UT

Laurance D. Trump

Bacchus 3791-15, Magna, UT

Frank L. Slane

Gilcrease 1384-16, Tulsa, OK

Robert L. Peterson

Boot Hill 429-17, Billings, MT

William L. Dorman

Frederick 1082-18, Frederick, MD

Anthony L. DiPardo

Rotunda 1099-18, Baltimore, MD

Richard Lee Rice

Esquire 2388-19, Des Moines, IA

Dwight S. Scoville

Diplomats 3298-19, Des Moines, IA

Dave L. Hummi

Pioneer 272-20, Moorhead, MN

E. Philip Robinson

Bismarck 717-20, Bismarck, ND

Gene W. Hiller Panama City 531-29, Panama City, FL

Telesphore F. Wilga

Waltham Federal 2566-31, Waltham, MA

Raymond A. Mera

Early Bird 2326-33, Oxnard, CA

Mary L. Bishop

Pentaf 2014-36, Washington, D.C.

Edward C. Hoffman

Triangle 1223-40, Covington, KY

Kathie Pendrigh

Wascana 577-42, Regina, Sask., Can

Larry Bujold

Cool Pool 1959-42, Medley, Alta., Can

Lyle M. Robinson

Tulia 129-44, Tulia, TX

Charles H. Taylor Jr.

Calliope 2821-47, Orlando, FL

Lawrence R. Kirkwood

Winter Park 3674-47, Winter Park, FL

M.W. Bishop

Athens-Limestone 314-48, Athens, AL

C. Clinton Beadlecomb

Birmingham 512-48, Birmingham, AL

Seshan Thiruvengada

Preston Hill 1361-53, Middlebury, CT

Torry Ventura

Mainline 1446-54, Joliet, IL

# New Clubs

2407-4 The Magic Word

San Francisco, CA — Tues., 7 a.m., Castle Lanes, 1750 Geneva Ave. (333-6005). Sponsored by Positive Thinking 949-4.

2887-7 Governmental Gabbers

Vancouver, WA — Wed., noon, Clark Co. ty Regional Planning Conference Room, 1508 Franklin St. (699-2492). Sponsored Area II.

2471-11 Magpie

Indianapolis, IN — Tues., noon, Indiana Office of Manpower Development, 1501 Market St., 7th Fl. (293-1566). Sponsored Northwest 30-11.

1759-17 Magic City

Billings, MT — Thurs., noon, Northern Hotel, Broadway at 1st Ave., North (656-3162).

3374-33 Bachelors and Bachelorettes Las Vegas, NV — Wed., 5:30 p.m., varies (873-6287). Sponsored by I'll Drink to Th

3630-36 Redeemer Speechmasters

Washington, D.C. - Wed., 7:30 p.m., Church of The Redeemer Presbyterian, I & Girard Streets, N.E. (389-3353). Sponsored by V.A. Topicmasters 3273-36.

2340-37 Laurinburg

Laurinburg, NC — Wed., noon, St. Andre College, Highway 401, South (276-0753)

2390-37 Granite City

Mount Airy, NC - Mon., 6:30 p.m., Wes ern Sizzlin' Steak House, U.S. 52 Bypass (786-6111)

2629-39 TYRO

Sacramento, CA — Mon., noon, Wismer Becker Contracting Engineers, 7820 Fol Blvd. (381-3930). Sponsored by Flying! 2134-39.

1561-41 Sioux Valley Hospital

Sioux Falls, SD - Mon., 3:40 p.m., Siou Valley Hospital-Board Room, 1100 S.E. Sponsored by Yawn Patrol 1187-41.

3712-41 Nifty Nooners

Brookings, SD — Tues., noon, Ram Pub. Main Ave. (692-5599). Sponsored by Bro ings 3797-41.

2653-43 Mark Twain

Shelby County, TN — Thurs., 7 p.m., Woody's Restaurant, 2909 Elmore Parkl (377-0664). Sponsored by A-OK 13594

3846-46 ECRO Centurions

Huntington Station, NY — Tues:, 4:151 Allstate Insurance Co., Huntington Qui So., Rt. 110 (752-5319).

2778-53 Connecticut Mutual Life

Hartford, CT - Wed., 6 p.m., Connection Mutual Life Ins. Co., 140 Garden. Spons by Stag 2908-53.

2947-58 North Augusta

North Augusta, SC — Tues., 6:15 p.m. S & S Cafeteria, N. Augusta Plaza (279 Sponsored by Kalmia 1239-58 and Aiker 1358-58.

2325-65 Speak Easy's

1600 N Orang Sabine

Buffal

(883-6 2015-6 3717-7 Ballara Paul's

sored 551-U Vienna Hilton

1194-L Bacolo Plante 2320-L

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RAAF

ralo, NY — Mon., noon, Main Place Mall, wMain St.

81-68 DuPont Sabine River Works nge, TX — Thurs., 4:45 p.m., DuPont one River Works, Farm Road 1006 36326). Sponsored by Golden Triangle

# 17-73 Ballarat

larat, Vict., Aust — Wed., 8 p.m., St. Ws Hall, Victoria St. (053-394524). Sponred by Geelong 2831-73.

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anna, Austria — Tues., 6 p.m., Vienna ton Hotel, Stadt Park (222-9719602).

wood City, Philippines — Mon., 6 p.m., Inters' Den, Sugarland Hotel (2-19-55).

kyo, Japan — Thurs., 7 p.m., Mitsui & 1-2 Ohtemachi, Chivoda-Ku 1271-3258). Sponsored by Tokyo 1674-U.

# 125-U Nijmeegse

megen, The Netherlands — Mon., 12:15 "University of Nijmegen, Institute of perative Dentistry (080-514058).

# **Anniversaries**

lioneer 17-11, Indianapolis, IN

orrance 695-1, Torrance, CA airmont 689-6, Fairmont, MN Norfolk 686-66, Norfolk, VA

Warren 1476-10, Warren, OH Ogden 140-15, Ogden, UT Gikrease 1384-16, Tulsa, OK Acacia 1357-26, Denver, CO Homewood-Flossmoor 1451-30, Chicago ElDorado 1390-39, Sacramento, CA Hub City 1431-43, Jackson, TN Action for Achievement 1095-47, Nassau,

Clay-Webster 1366-8, Springfield, IL

Communicators 1129-11, Louisville, KY Pacific Missile 2930-33, Point Mugu NAS, CA Cape Fear 2879-37, Fayetteville, NC A-R1481-39, Fair Oaks, CA

Golden Rain 3710-F, Seal Beach, CA Nanabijou 2090-6, Fort William, Ont., Can Benton 3722-7, Corvallis, OR Cherokee 3690-19, Cherokee, IA Bergen 2581-46, Hackensack, NJ Pali 3699-49, Honolulu, HI Sarnia 3700-62, Sarnia, Ont., Can

Sioux Sayers 430-6, Burnsville, MN Euphasia 1209-19, Iowa City, IA Eye-Opener 1675-33, Lancaster, CA Towns of York 1609-60, Aurora-Newmarket, RAAP 3633-66, Radford, VA

# 1978-79 District Governors

- F. Don Robinson, DTM, 1807 S. 3rd Ave., Arcadia, CA 91006
- Ken Himes, DTM, 5361 Russell Ave., #212, Los Angeles, CA 90027
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- 3. Juris Kursulis, DTM, 519 N. 72nd Place, Scottsdale, AZ 85257
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- 11. Lowell H. Spalding, 3422 Woldhaven Dr., South Bend, IN 46614
- 13. Charles H. Vondracek, DTM, 4488 Sardis Rd., Murrysville, PA 15668
- 14. T.R. (Dick) Banks, DTM, Box 80804, Atlanta, GA 30366
- 15. Joan C. McNeil, 4657 Loyola St., Salt Lake City, UT 84120
- Stephen B. Peter, DTM, 1920 N.W. 17th, Oklahoma City, OK 73106
- 17. Robert K. Powell, ATM, P.O. Box 1116, Bozeman, MT 59715
- 18. Donald L. Pugh, 127 Fairmont Dr., Bel Air, MD 21014
- 19. Robert A. Jenkins, DTM, 2734 56th St., Des Moines, IA 50310
- 20. LeRoy A. Spilde, ATM, Box 562, Casselton, ND 58012
- R.S. (Dick) Dixon, DTM, 439 E. 16th St., North Vancouver, B.C., Can V7L 2T4
- 22. Woody Allen, ATM, 6514 N.W. Ames, Kansas City, MO 64118
- 23. Coleman A. Richardson, DTM, 9601 San Gabriel N.E., Albuquerque, NM 87111
- 24. Ruth M. Kraft, ATM, 4930 California St., Omaha, NE 68132
- 25. B. Jack Holt, ATM, 6845 Craig, Ft. Worth, TX 76112
- 26. Jack C. Nemmers, 2442 Carr St., Lakewood, CO 80215
- 28. Sharon A. Mohr, ATM, 3548 Glynn Dr., Toledo, OH 43614 29. Birney T. Pease, DTM, 2961 Starfighter, Tyndall AFB, FL 32403
- 30. Henry H. Sharton, DTM, 716 Columbian Ave., Oak Park, IL 60302
- 31. Lew Mutty, ATM, 129 Nimrod Dr., Concord, MA 01742
- 32. Robert Damiano, ATM, 2991 Pickering Pl. N.E., Bremerton, WA 98310
- 33. Don Ensch, DTM, 410 Del Norte Rd., Ojai, CA 93023
- 35. William G. Trottier, DTM, 1213 Meadowlark Dr., Madison, WI 53716
- 36. Toshio Hoshide, DTM, 1993 Milboro Dr., Rockville, MD 20854
- 37. Jay R. Nodine, DTM, 1316 N. Juniper Ave., Kannapolis, NC 28081
- 38. Ginny Goodrum, ATM, 210 Broomall St., Folsom, PA 19033
- 39. Marcia L. Peters, DTM, 1092 Salmon Dr., Roseville, CA 95678
- 40. Rhuel K. Craddock, DTM, 1413 Princess Dr., S. Charleston, WV 25309
- Raymond L. Linder, ATM, 317 Lincoln Lane, S., Brookings, SD 57006
- A.D. (Al) Munroe, ATM, 1300 Princess Crescent, Moose Jaw, Sask., Can S6H 6S9
- 43. Bill M. Williamson, ATM, 4435 Rosemont Dr., N. Little Rock, AR 72116
- 44. Scott A. Edwards, DTM, 6304 Raleigh Ave., Lubbock, TX 79414
- 45. Jack Kiuru, ATM, P.O. Box 2182, Halifax, N.S., Can B3J 3C4
- 46. Elias E. Ezra, ATM, 3 Maxwell Dr., Jericho Gardens, NY 11590
- 47. Robert Gelfand, DTM, 4310 Mangrum Ct., Hollywood, FL 33021
- 48. Earl D. Heath, ATM, 3820 Rouse Ridge Rd., Montgomery, AL 36111
- 49. Doug Kelly, ATM, 1547 Haloa Dr., Honolulu, HI 96818
- James O. Wildes, DTM, 6640 Blewett Ave., Van Nuys, CA 91406
- 53. Marc A. Ruggeri, DTM, 71 Desson Ave., Troy, NY 12180 54. Carl G. Houchins, ATM, 226 Walnut Dr., St. Charles, IL 60174
- 56. James La Prade, 1150 Babcock Rd., #G16, San Antonio, TX 78201
- Lynden F. Davis, DTM, 555 Pierce St., #1305, Albany, CA 94706
- 58. Richard D. Berkland, ATM, Rt. #1, Box 199, Marwood, Rock Hill, SC 29730 60. Doug Barclay, DTM, 5426 Winston Rd., Burlington, Ont., Can L7L 3B2
- 61. Fred B. Coulson, 129 Taywood Dr., Beaconsfield, Que., Can H9W 1B1
- 62. John H. Maclaren, 909 Oak Grove Rd., Jackson, MI 49203
- 63. Marcia A. Taylor, DTM, 164 Walton Ct., Kingsport, TN 37663
- 64. C.J. (Tom) Thompson, DTM, 11 Tod Dr., Winnipeg, Man., Can R2M 1Y5
- 65. Raymond W. Tardiff, ATM, 3238 Winton Rd., So., Rochester, NY 14623
- 66. J. Fred Powell, 905 Carson Dr., Christiansburg, VA 24073
- 68. Elmer H. Wagner, ATM, 108 Prospect, Lake Charles, LA 70605
- 69. Bruce Maddison, 12 Kanangra Ave., Baulkham Hills, NSW, 2153 Aust 70. Chris Veitch, 40 Loquat Valley Rd., Bayview, NSW, 2104, Aust
- 71. Pat Dullaghan, 56 Springhill Park, Killiney, Dublin Co., Ireland
- 72. John A. Fauvel, DTM, P.O. Box 3114, Auckland 1, New Zealand
- 73p. Tony Jessop, ATM, 2 Ellery Ct., Mulgrave, Vic., 3170, Aust

TMASTER FEBRUARY 1979









1901 • 1902 • 1903

1917

1921 • 1922 • 1923

1930

# Develop a Winning Spirit in Your Club!

Your club members will start thinking like winners when their achievements are recognized with these fine awards. The trophies and plaques will motivate recipients to strive for higher goals and they'll soon discover that one success leads to another. The awards are perfect for speech contests, special club meetings and those occasions when you just want to say "thank you." They'll add excitement to all club and district activities. Help your fellow Toastmasters reach the top — and stay there — by giving them the recognition they deserve.

# The Perfect Award

This handsome speech contest trophy makes the presentation worthwhile. Its goltone modern figure sets on a walnut base with polished engraving plate.

1901 11" \$9.75 1902 10" \$9.50 1903 9" \$9.25

# A Gift to Remember

This goltone wreath, handsomely mounted on a beautiful walnut base, makes a welcome addition to any desk or office.

1917 6" \$3.00

# A Very Special Memento

A perfect way to honor the winner in any kind of competition. This goltone figure sets on a beautifully polished walnut base.

beautifully polished walnut base. 1921 12" \$14.50 1922 11" \$14.00 1923 10" \$13.50

# For Winners Only...

In Toastmasters, we're all winners. And this multi-purpose trophy says just that. Its modern figure and lectern rests on an attractive walnut base.

1930 9" \$7.25

# For the Outstanding Toastmaster

An ideal plaque for the Toastmasters who has made an extraordinary accomplishment. The satin bronze plaque is set in a rich walnut frame.

1952 10"x14" \$15.75

# A Symbol of Appreciation

A great way to say "thanks" to that special Toastmaster. This beautiful walnut shield plaque comes complete with a goltone engrav-

ing plate, accented with an elegant with around the TI insignia.

1955 61/4"x8" \$7.50

# For a Job Well-Done

Want to reward the efforts of a club official sponsor or mentor? Anyone would proud to accept this handsome plaque, who comes with a full-modeled gavel, TI insignand goltone engraving plate.

1956 51/4"x71/4" \$6.00

# Recognize with Beauty

This Athenian bronze oxidized plaque will attractive in any setting. And it's suitable any type of special recognition.

1957 8" \$10.75

See the 1978 Supply Catalog for more to and plaque ideas. Allow 8 cents per lette engraving and \$1.25 for packing and ships (Allow three weeks for engraving.) Califoresidents add 6% sales tax. Send allowith your club and district number to: To masters International, 2200 N. Grand Ave., Box 10400, Santa Ana, CA 92711.









1952

1955

1956

195