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Game Plan For Success "PAGE 7

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR



A Great Influence

My compliments on the articles contained in the September issue of THE TOASTMASTER. The mix and balance were such that I'm sure there was something of interest for all our members.

Myra Comiskey's article, "The Feminine Influence," is particularly worthy of comment. I was impressed with the ease and clarity of her description of the needs and benefits of the female Toastmaster.

My own club, Postprandial 3259-65, debated for many months prior to ammending our bylaws. Today, we have five female members and a much stronger and meaningful club. We now relate to people—all people. It's interesting to note that those members who opposed admitting women to our club have since openly admitted that their fears were unfounded. (We all have to do a little hand-wringing at times.)

Keep up the good work. The magazine has come a long way in the last couple of years.

Patrick A. Panfile, DTM Rochester, New York

The Follow-Up

I have been in Toastmasters for the past few months and, at the present time, am enjoying the position of treasurer of the CSC Club 2561-36. I am not, by any means, an accomplished speaker but sincerely believe that my association with Toastmasters has helped me overcome my fear of speaking in front of a group. I have completed four speeches to date but still feel a little nervous before any speaking assignment. But somehow,

I always manage to arrive safely at my seat.

One of the most important things Toastmasters has taught me is the necessity of "following up" in any and all assignments. I have found that leaving it up to the other fellow sometimes means a job half done . . . or not done at all.

J.A. Sweeney Falls Church, Virginia

Speech Topics

As a member of the Greenway Club 2280-56 in Houston, Texas, I receive and read THE TOASTMASTER every month. My compliments to you on the excellent articles you've been running.

My reason for writing concerns a special reference file on "Nuclear Energy and the Future" put out by my company, The M.W. Kellogg Company. We have been distributing this reference material to opinion leaders throughout the nation and it has recently occurred to me that some Toastmasters might be interested in receiving a copy, to be used as a source for speeches.

We have an ample supply of these files and would be happy to offer free copies to any Toastmaster interested in obtaining one. Just write to: Terry Babb, Manager, Special Communications Projects, c/o The M.W. Kellogg Company, 1300 Three Greenway Plaza East, Houston, Texas 77046.

Terry Babb Houston, Texas

It Takes Time

The "letter to the editor" that appeared in the October, 1975, issue of THE TOAST-MASTER on severe evaluation that be-

comes vindictive raises a valid point know a similar club that prides itself oni tough evaluations.

The key to this type of problem i with the Chief Evaluator. Although cannot comment on the speakers (# evaluators already do that), he can con ment on the evaluator's presentation because this is his area of responsibility He can make the analysis one of gene discussion and, therefore, reduce a pressure that may have been built up. done it, and seen it done.

There is, however, one point that ma members miss. We try to put everythin we can find into each evaluation. O the months, each speaker gets a go many evaluations, both written a spoken. It is the cumulative effect, lot ing back over past speeches, that allo the member to gradually improve speaking ability. There is no way we change from one speech to the next a become perfect in each evaluator's eye

Again, evaluation is a cumulat effect. We can't absorb enough in a evening to become superb - it takes ti and repetition.

Thomas S. Booz, A Plantation, Flor Ya

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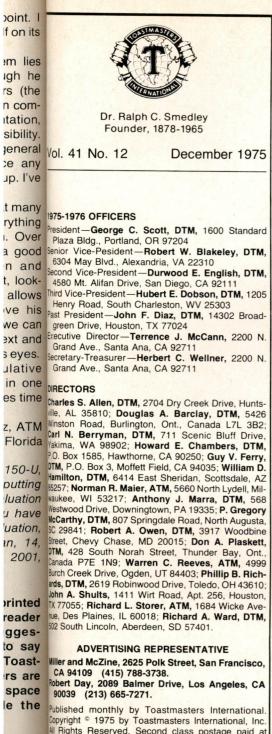
Len Sloan of the CIS Club 1150 Johannesburg, South Africa, is put together a booklet of 100 best evaluat ideas for all Toastmasters. If you h any good or unusual ideas on evaluat share them. Write to: Len Sloan, D.F. Malan Dr., Roosevelt Park, 20 South Africa. -Ed.

"Letters to the Editor" are prin TX on the basis of their general rea num 50 interest and constructive sugg tions. If you have something to that may be of interest to other To: Mil masters, send it to us. All letters Ro subject to editing for reasons of spa and clarity and must include Pu writer's name and address. Co All

TOASTMASTERS INTERNATIONAL is a non-profit, educational organization of Toastmasters clubs throughout the world. First Toastmasters club established October 22, 1924. Toastmasters International was organized October 4, 1930 and incorpor wis

A Toastmasters club is an organized group, meeting regularly, which provides its members a professionally-designed programa December 19, 1932. improve their abilities in communication and to develop their leadership and executive potential. The club meetings are conducte(Re the members themselves, in an atmosphere of friendliness and self-improvement. Members have the opportunity to deliver prepare speeches and impromptu talks, learn parliamentary procedure, conference and committee leadership and participation techniques, No then to be evaluated in detail by fellow Toastmasters.

Each club is a member of Toastmasters International. The club and its members receive services, supplies, and continuing guid^{MA}An, from World Headquarters, 2200 N. Grand Ave., Santa Ana, California, U.S.A. 92711.



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- Ana, California 92711.

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- 5 Game Plan for Success by Jon Douglas



There is a great similarity between a coach's "game plan" and your effectiveness as a public speaker, at the conference table, or in face-to-face discussions with clients. And there are certain tips you can learn from these coaches —even if you've never thrown a football, swung a golf club, or caught a line drive. (Cover photo courtesy of Tennis Illustrated.)

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Giving-It's a Part of Toastmasters

by George C. Scott, DTM International President



The holiday season has traditionally been a time of y when friends and relatives gather together to wish each of well and offer their blessings for the upcoming year. It time of joy and well-being, of happiness and tranquility. it is also a time of giving, a time that is not confined to simple giving of material things, but to the intangible as w

If you're like me, there never seems to be enough time or money —to get all the things I would like to for my far and friends. Decisions must be made, priorities must be and you must somehow find a way to adequately expr your appreciation to those who have helped you in some or another throughout the year.

How do you thank your fellow Toastmasters club m bers for all the help they have given throughout the past w The question is not an easy one. How can you adequa thank someone who has given you confidence in yourself, in your ability to communicate your thoughts and ide While the problem is not an easy one, there is a solution

Like you, your fellow club members improve themse through the active participation of others in the Toastmar program. This includes, among other things, regular at dance at club meetings, the willingness to serve as a leader, and dedication to effective club programming.

Since the Toastmasters programs are especially designed for use by non-professionals, effective club programming the responsibility of each Toastmaster. The heavy burde making sure that his needs and goals, as well as the main and goals of others, are being met is no easy task. You not expect it to be. But once achieved, effective club gramming can turn into a habit—a habit that will cont to grow and prosper for as long as you want it to.

The only way you are going to get anything out ofplan. Toastmasters program is if you are willing to put sometview into it. If you're a club officer, that means a little worabou make sure your club is all it can be. If you're a member the means participation and a commitment to the goals sethat' your club and yourself.

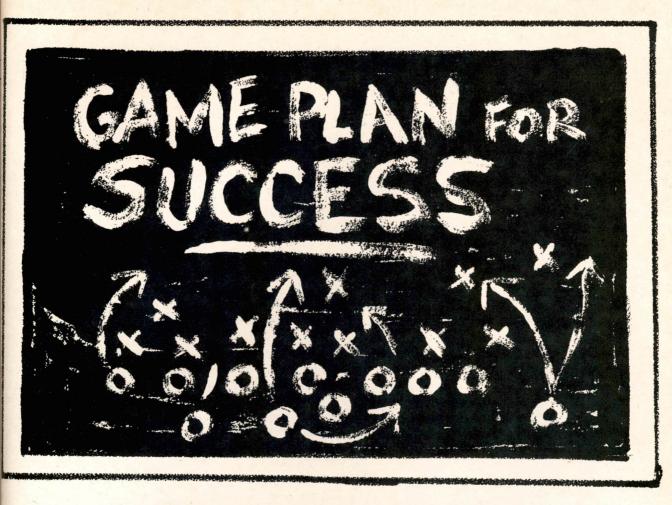
As a member of a Toastmasters club, the greatest gifteffec can give to your fellow members is your dedication teconf principles of the Toastmasters organization—improcuss others by improving yourself. You can give them the beplen of your experience and opinions, as well as your support Si enthusiasm by just being there and participating in the into meeting. While not one of the most expensive gifts they he receive, it will undoubtedly be one of the best. man

On behalf of your Board of Directors and the staff at What Headquarters, I would like to wish you and yours a haeve holiday season and a very prosperous new year . . . a:lub year that's going to be a great year.

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by Jon Douglas with Norman Sklarewitz

You've all heard the term "game of the a." Every time a sportscaster internething two a coach before a game, they talk york to but the preparation the team has made ober, it the upcoming contest and the strategy set by a's likely to be used.

But what has that to do with your own ift you fectiveness—as a public speaker, at a to the mference table, or in face-to-face disroving ssions with clients? The answer is: benefit anty!

ort and Since I was an athlete before going the club to business, I have come to realize that ey will a tips I learned—from coaches and

any big-name players—are the kind World at anyone can follow, even if you've happy wer thrown a football, swung a golf a new ub, or caught a line drive. Let me tell u what they are.

> Whether you work in a bank, office, tail store, or are out on the road selling, te rule is absolutely basic: You must be

in good physical condition. That doesn't mean you have to be a muscle-bound giant or work out with weights, but it does mean you should exercise regularly and always get a good night's sleep. No one can be up late belting down beer and then come to work the next day in firstclass shape. Even if you can't—or shouldn't—play tennis or handball, you can still jog, take long walks, or do pushups on the floor at home.

Keep in Training

Training rules laid down by athletic teams are designed to help team members do the very best they can. And that's exactly what you want to do on your job. It makes good sense to eat moderately, exercise enough to maintain good body tone, and get plenty of sleep.

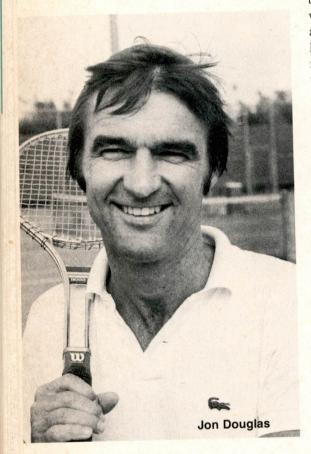
The next thing I strongly recommend is that you should set short-range, daily goals for yourself. At the end of each day, I sit down and make a list of the things I want to accomplish the next day. I keep that list handy and refer to it to keep me on the track.

This means you must discipline yourself to keep moving. Set your priorities right at the beginning of your day, so you don't waste time getting started. Those coffee breaks and gossip sessions around the water cooler are for kids without ambition. You can make much better use of your time than strolling out to the coffee shop and killing a half-hour with your buddies.

When it comes to your job targets for the day, I say take on the toughest, most unpleasant tasks first. Get them out of the way and off your back. Otherwise, you're going to have a mental hazard which will hamper your work all day. You can't work effectively if you keep thinking, "Boy, I dread calling that son



of a gun. He's going to complain about that messed up order and really give me a hard time." So, get the messy jobs out of the way early in the day, when you're fresh and alert. If you do, you're likely to do them better. And once they're out of the way, you can get on with the more "up beat" things on your project list.



Being effective requires preparation. When a starting line-up runs out on the field or court at the beginning of a game, every person knows as much as possible about the opposition. Team scouts have been out for weeks, looking for weak points in the opposing team and studying its strong ones. The whole team has seen films of the opposition in action, and

their offensive and defensive plays have been carefully diagramed and studied. An athlete going into a game knows both what he wants to do and how best to do it.

As a businessman, you should do precisely the same thing. It you're going to make a speech, you should know something about your audience —determine which topics would interest them most and the specific points they will most likely want you to elaborate on. Bear in mind that you're not there to discuss what interests only you.

The same rule applies when you call on a sales prospect. You must know what his needs are in order to tailor your sales preparation to meet those needs. That's only good common sense, yet you'd be amazed how often salesmen don't know enough about their prospects. Many don't even know enough about their own product. It's no wonder they are ineffectual.

Personal Contact

But let's move on. The next important element is communication. Some years ago, a coach told me, "I treat every man on this team differently." By that, he wasn't saying he played favorites. Not at all. He was just saying that he realized that every player on his team was an individual who required personal contact tailored to his needs, in order to be motivated to the maximum extent possible.

Like that coach, you should empathize with your associates. Just as an audience has to be ''reached'' when you address it, an individual must feel you are interested in him when you talk to him.

So, tailor your communication to the individual and to the situation at hand, and communicate with each person on a different level. This certainly doesn't mean that you should "talk down" to anyone or strip yourself of your own per-

sonality. What it does mean is that y astr should focus all of your attention trov whomever you are dealing with a the thereby determine the most effecti the way to accomplish whatever object Tha you have in mind. The key word is is a tention." If you really pay attention, his manner and comments of the persony his are talking to will quickly reveal h (you can best handle the situation. los

Try to Listen

wro

Of course, this only emphasizes Eve fact that the secret of truly effective con the munication isn't speaking at all; it's the tening. Let the other person talk. Leth voi tell you what his interests are, what Yo needs are, what worries him. It you lea that, you can then respond directly ses those points and not waste your time: his discussing topics which are co pletely outside his area of interest ure concern. Effective communication situ 10% talking and 90% listening. ou

Finally, when you are beginning mi project, determine precisely what con expect to accomplish, consider all p sible ramifications and contingent decide on your course of action, the then get on with it.

That's a simple one-two-three-t the sequence of events which ought to m pla things happen.

But what if it doesn't? Remember the every "game," one team or one pla are almost always loses. There aren't m draws. So, out of the locker room cor ov another good rule to remember: "Kr how to lose as well as how to win." lieve me, there are plenty of big m athletes who do neither very well. las it is important, actually vital, to own personality and career develop that you know how to accept and for with both winning and losing.

When some people lose — in busipe as well as in sports — the event is so 19;

is that your to them that they'll almost desttention dy themselves. And, when they win, g with and ev accept their victory so poorly that st effective, make themselves losers in the end. r objectivent is sheer stupidity. A true champion vord is 'at an individual who has learned to accept tention, the knocks gracefully, just as he accepts person yous victories gracefully.

A STATE OF STATE

reveal how one way to make the most out of a tion. ss is to ask yourself, "What went

mg? What mistakes did I make?" asizes the en if the failure-the sale you missed, ctive com-e contract proposal that was rejected, ill; it's lise bid that was turned down-wasn't k. Let him ur fault, analyze the reasons anyway. , what his ju'll be amazed how much you can It you dogm from such a "post game" skull lirectly to ssion. r time and

Don't Ignore Failure

are com- You should never simply ignore failnterest or es, because the next time a similar ication is mation comes along, if you have thorg. ughly analyzed the previous loss, you

ginning a ight well be able to influence the outwhat you me_in your favor.

r all pos- The next time you are watching a ngencies, wrts contest on television, think about tion, and ese pointers I've given you. Consider team members. They have come into

on well. When the ball is snapped, or

hree-four game physically "up." They have a t to make in of action; they know their opposi-

ember, in by are fed a shot under the basket, they ne player ready to act-decisively. n't many You should be prepared to play your

m comes wn "game" — the game of life — "Know gatly the same way. in." Be-

ig name Jon Douglas is president of Jon Dougvell. Yet S Company, a real estate brokerage to your m in Beverly Hills, California, and a Hopment artner in Douglas, Emmett and Comand deal any, a real estate investment firm. A mer coach of the Los Angeles Strings

ofessional tennis team, he was a membusiness of the U.S. Davis Cup Team from s so dis- 958 to 1961.

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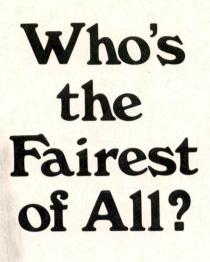
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by David Schmidt

"Mirror, Mirror on the wall, who's the fairest of us all?"

Do you remember that line uttered so often by the Wicked Queen? Once too often she went to the mirror with that question and received a response that she didn't like! She found that she was now number two and that Snow White had moved up as best in the land! So what did the queen decide to do about it? In the great American tradition of business, she went out to eliminate her competition, that's what she did.

Several years later, a fellow was lost in the woods on a horse, looking for a service station for at least two reasons. All of a sudden, he saw a golden glow emanating from a platform with several little fellows running around it. Curiosity got the best of him. He moved toward the glow and got off his horse, only to find the beautiful, sweet, young maiden sound asleep.

So what did he do? He did what any of us would do, if given that option. He was overwhelmed with the good feeling of seeing such a beautiful creature in front of him, and he leaned down and gave her

a light, polite but warm expression of his feeling, in the form of a kiss.

Lo and behold! The sweet young maiden awoke to find the handsome prince gazing on her in amazement. What had he done?

The story ends quite simply. The rightful owner of the position as number one in the land reascended to her entitlement. It wasn't because of anything in particular the prince had done, but he had provided, even within his own ignorance, the feedback necessary for Snow White to again become number one.

What does all of this mean?

We all need to take a serious look in the mirror. What do we look like to our fellow Toastmasters? How are we doing at home? What kind of job are we doing at work? Self-reflection is essential in the development of the individual. The better the individual is developed, the better Toastmaster he will become.

In my several years of experience with Toastmasters, I have concluded several things. First, there is no more dedicated group of people in the United States who gather together on a regular basis. Second, the Toastmaster is in search of bet-

tra ter ways to display himself. Third, Toastmaster seeks the freedom to be to display himself in a professional the effective way that comes naturally. co

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If these assumptions are correct, wł perhaps the thing we should be look at, in addition to the techniques for proving our communicative ability. the ways we can gain a greater un standing of ourselves.

Lightning strikes all too seldom. B we stop and take a look at ourselves estly, through the feedback from othe we can gain a greater awareness and the derstanding of what we are all about

Here are some bits and pieces of vice that may be helpful to you in y self-reflection process.

Who's to Blame?

While rationalization is the proces ret maintained sanity, it is also a process prevents us from confronting reality. Sin you ever slam your thumb in a car do It is emotionally helpful to find ot who might also be responsible. Some times you have to get all the way bac Detroit to blame the individual who the screws in incorrectly.

Blaming is a natural process, but

ember it it also a selfish one. If we are be sincere in our efforts to improve, en we will have to concentrate on meone else's values rather than blamg them for our faults.

Preoccupation is a real problem. All of shave a tendency to think too much bout our own thoughts, and we don't ren hear the friendly "hello" of a asser-by.

One good exercise for overcoming eoccupation is to think very hard about st night's dinner. As you contemplate, ink about the various *parts* of your diner. This heavy concentration can be acomplished while looking at a person or a object. Focus your eyes on a picture or a object in the room, and think very ard about last night's dinner.

It is possible, isn't it? You can look at omething without seeing it and concentate on your own thoughts.

What's in a Face?

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To overcome this tendency, remember is analogy about the parts of your diner and look at the parts of the indiidual's face that you wish to concenate on.

Does he have a deviated septum? Is ne ear slightly higher than the other? Is here anything odd about his face? This oncentration on parts rather than the hole can help overcome a natural tenency to be preoccupied.

Folks need strokes, and different trokes for different folks. Stroking is a rocess of maintaining positive feelings bout yourself.

Is your stroke basket filled? Most troke baskets are made of wicker, and hey leak. Also, if you put all your trokes in one basket, and you lose hat basket, it can be a devastating experience.

Retirement may be fast coming upon ou. What have you done about it? The nortality rate in the first two years after etirement is much higher than any other ingle period.

ty. Did r door? others Someback to ho put

"I did a good job, didn't I?" You ask his question of someone in your family or subordinate at work, and they will give you a typical response: "Sure, you did a great job!" Or better yet, tell somebody what you think and then ask them, "What do you think?" The answer is almost always the same. Whatever you stated in your initial comment will be merely repeated.

A Monumental Mess

Try this simple test. Ask a secretary, "Do you understand?" She will likely say "Yes" and then find someone else in the office who doesn't understand either. They will pool their ignorance and probably make a monumental mess of the project.

You need to find out how you are doing by making the climate good for receiving feedback. "My door is always open" is a cop-out! If your door is open, you don't need to tell people—they will know it's open.

The simple grouping of chairs in your office away from your desk, or the placement of your desk with your chair back to the door, can work wonders for opening the environment in your office. Another thing you can do is take the time to give three to ten minutes to another individual. Those three to ten minutes at the initial part of a conversation can save you many long moments of interruption.

One day I walked by the typewriter and the girl was crying. I asked, "What's the matter?" She answered, "Oh, nothing."

So I asked her into my office with the chair grouping that I mentioned above, and asked her to tell me what was really bothering her. She was reluctant, but she said, 'You make me feel like I'm a dinga-ling.''

As she was telling me that, I was sitting there thinking, "But you *are* a dinga-ling." You see, my vibrations were loud and clear, even though I had never told her what I thought of her. She picked up the feeling that she was not doing a very competent job, and she wasn't.

The Proper Training

But neither was I doing a competent job. I wasn't taking the time to train and prepare her for the work I expected her to do effectively. I worked very hard at improving in that area, and within two months, the less I treated the ding-a-ling like one, the less she acted like a dinga-ling.

Mirror, mirror on the wall, who is the fairest of us all? Ask that question honestly by making yourself receptive to others' ideas in your every day existence, rather than just at a Toastmasters session. This can open the door to new awareness about yourself. Overcoming preoccupation is the duty of the leader.

It's the duty of the leader to understand the other person—not the other person's duty to understand the leader. It is often through feedback and awareness that an individual can grow.□

David Schmidt is a management consultant specializing in market development and personnel training. A longtime Toastmasters convention favorite, he is the author of "Read to Remember," "Managing Management Time," "A Guide to Better Writing," and many other journal articles.



by Barney Kingston, ATM

Watch

Yold

I remember being entertained many years ago, along with thousands of other soldiers at our camp in California, by the reigning "Queen" of that time, Betty Grable. I recall her wearing a silverysequined halter and shorts that threw the spotlight on her gorgeous curves and legs. I guess Betty was so inspired by the heavy applause, whistles, and foot stomping that she felt she had to give a talk to "her boys" who were fighting on all fronts for her. She spoke for about eight minutes, and her talk elicited a lot of applause, as well as a standing ovation. Frankly, I couldn't tell you a word she said to this day. But I can describein the minutest detail-the way she looked!

Like Betty Grable's, your looks have a great bearing on the way your audience receives you.

If you are one of those fortunate few who tend to smile easily, the first thing you'll want to do is learn to look serious once in awhile. If you keep smiling while trying to deliver a speech on a serious subject, you won't be credible; the audience may consider you a "lightweight," among other things.

The Non-Smiler

On the other hand, you don't want to look deadpan all the time either. If you never smile when you speak, you lose your identity; you'll be just like the fellow who speaks in a steady monotone and puts his audience to sleep. Speakers who don't smile at all during a talk can actually irritate a substantial part of the audience; they'll think you are aloof, superior, or talking down to them. A deadpanned speaker invites a cold audience. If your evaluators have mentioned this to you from time to time, you might try to overcome this serious delivery flaw. You can do it in several ways. Work a few jokes into your talk - and try to smile at the end.

Most men shave first thing in the morning. But on the day you are going to give a speech, skip the morning shave

he Way Look

and perform this chore an hour or so before your talk. You will not only look a lot better without that well-known "five o'clock shadow," but you'll feel better too—it has the same stimulating effect as a morning shower! If you've had a hard day at the office or plant, it might also be a good idea to change your clothes, particularly the shirt and tie. Spots on ties, wrinkles, and seedy outfits can be highly distracting.

Dress Accordingly

While this is the era of nonconformity, it is not wise to wear something that will be the center of attention for all eyes. An outfit that goes great on vacation might not have the same result when worn by a speaker giving a talk after a banquet. You don't have to dress like a pallbearer, but wear clothes that do not call attention to themselves. You may have a milkywhite suit that you think would be great for a certain speech affair. But a speaker wearing a white suit under a chandelier can dazzle the audience right out of their seats.

I once sat at a table about 20 feet from the lectern and noticed that the speaker was wearing a big black pin with a white question mark. All through his speech, I kept wondering what the question mark stood for. It turned out that the store where he worked was having a big sale on "Mystery Products," and every salesman wore the pin. Customers in the store were supposed to be curious about what it stood for and, hopefully, ask the salesman what the question mark stood for. The pin was suitable for the store, but not for the speech.

I've seen speakers with shirts that caught my eye and held it during the entire talk, particularly those with long collars that hung way down over the coat. I've also watched nervous speakers puff every now and then on cigarettes. (While I sympathized with the poor guy, I found myself more conscious of his nervousness and less interested in his speech.)

Baldness is another real problem to many men, as they talk under bright lights. It has much the same effect as the sun hitting your aluminum windshield wiper; there's a glare. This makes it difficult for the audience to keep their eyes on

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you. But there is a very simple antidote aside from hair pieces of one kind or another. If you are a speaker with this problem, simply contact the program chairman and tell him you have a problem with overhead lights. "It's hard on my eyes," you can tell him, if you're sensitive about your "receding hairline." Ask the chairman to move the lectern so there are no overhead lights. But before you do this, make sure there is a light on the lectern itself, should you need it.

If you are only partially bald, with your pate gleaming in the middle, you might try some of those new products on the market that spray on dark and make you look like you have more hair. Why all this fuss? Simple. Anything about you that catches the eye and holds it, repels it, or distracts it can only be a detriment to what you hope to achieve with your speech. Why risk it?

Probably the biggest problem lies with the speaker who wears glasses. If the

lighting is the soft, modern, indirect kind, wearing glasses at the lectern will cause no problem. But almost any kind of direct light, whether from overhead, from the lectern, or from below, will cause a distracting glare. If this is the case, many people will have difficulty seeing you—and the problem is compounded by members of the audience who also wear glasses! (The latter get it both ways!) Happily, the newer plastic glasses do not give off the same degree of glare. But, if you must wear glasses when you speak to a large audience, there is hope.

See if you can have the lights over you and below you dimmed; this will cut down the glare about 90%. Or, if you do a lot of public speaking, it might pay you to get glasses that do not curve as much. This also reduces audience glare considerably. Many speakers who wear glasses normally simply don't wear them when performing; they work from large printed white cards with heavy black notes. If this is the route you want to go, you'll have to practice your talk sufficiently so you can get by with just some notes in large print. Of course, you can say the heck with the whole thing, too. Let them take me the way I am and lump it. But again, consider the purpose of your talk. Is it to call attention to a distraction or to leave a message with the audience?

Where's His Eyes?

I once saw a speaker wear dark sunglasses throughout his entire speech. After I got over the shock at the start, I did not find the sunglasses at all distracting. After all, in any large audience, it is doubtful that more than a few people sitting up close can see the speaker's eyes very clearly. Perhaps a lightly tinted pair of sunglasses might be the answer; they surely will not be as distracting or as hard on the audience's eyes as regular curved glasses. Or the new soft, ventilated contact lenses might solve the problem.

Some speakers like to wear a flower in their buttonhole. If you like that sort of thing, at least make sure it's some kind of dark flower. Avoid the white flowers; too many eyes concentrate on a white spot and it can be distracting.

If you're a "shortie," you might find the average lectern a handicap. The audi-

ence in the back rows will see no more than your nose and headpiece, so it's good idea to bring along your own sirinch platform to give you that extra boost you need.

They have a tradition in the theater The show must go on! But in the theater while the star may be forced to go on wit illness, he does have a supporting cas to relieve some of the constant tensin focused on a single person. A speake doesn't have this luxury. Trying to speak with a bad cold or a headache is sure t reduce the effectiveness of your performance considerably.

If a severe illness in your family cause you concern, or there is a tragedy close to you, you will be doing the prograchairman and the organization that hire you a favor if you cancel your assig ment as soon as possible. The experenced program chairman almost alwa has an alternate speaker "just in case."

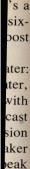
The Tragic Speaker

Sure, there are rare people who, t matter the depth of the tragedy, are s disciplined and have such unusual emtional control that they can push the emotional problems out of mind, h this kind of person is the exception. It even worse if the audience knows abo your tragedy before you speak. The are really not listening to your speed but are more concerned that you, som how, get through with what they rega as a grueling ordeal. It is no disgrace reflection on your professionalism such situations to back out gracefully

The way you look, then, determining reat measure how successful you talk will be. You may want to remember this general rule: Anything that caus attention to be focused on any part you—on your clothes, on your face, on the way you look—that has nother to do with your talk, should be avoided.

Now let's see . . . what did Be Grable say?□

Barney Kingston, ATM, is mercha dising director for *Salesman's Oppu tunity* magazine. He is a member Speakers Forum Club 371-30 in C cago, Illinois, and is a frequent contrit tor to THE TOASTMASTER magazine.



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S. Pansino, ATM Club 767-10

Picture a club with a steadily decreasing membership. Less than a dozen active members remained and these could not be relied upon. Its members had no interest, time, energy, or enthusiasm in the club and were too busy with other things to prepare a speech, an interesting table topic, a good introduction, or an effective evaluation. How can a club possibly keep members interested, let alone attract new members, with the inevitable programs that result-boring, uninformed speakers; unimaginative Table Topics; a babbling Toastmaster whose confused state is matched only by the chaotic business meeting which "happened" earlier; and to top it off, an evaluation session where the only coherent thought expressed was that the speeches and meeting were, on the whole, good! That was the Alliance Toastmasters Club 767-10 in Alliance, Ohio, before we started our new program.

Our big problem was motivation. An article in the May, 1975, issue of THE TOASTMASTER dealt nicely with this question. People will find time to do those things which they believe are most important to them or which they enjoy doing most. Generally, one excels at something for just this reason. Realizing this, we encouraged members to channel their expertise, knowledge, skills, and enthusiasm into Toastmasters programs.

Our approach was straightforward and simple. Find out what each member was interested in, or had special skills or knowledge about, and build our Toastmasters programs around them. The first attempts were well received. However, it wasn't until we conducted a seminar on 'cartooning and art' as effective means of communication that we got results. But that's Al's story.

Alton Johnson and I both work for the Babcock & Wilcox Research Center in Alliance, Ohio. Al is head of graphic arts, and I am a research specialist in the Physics section. We were both refugees from the aerospace industry and share the belief that man's most important function is to think. When Al came to B & W, I was just starting my term as educational vice-president of the Alliance Toastmasters. Using my Toastmasters training, I quickly signed Al up. A charter member of the Whiskey Painters of America, a member of the Akron Society of Artists, a pilot, a veteran of World War II, and an outdoorsman, Al had enough interests and enthusiasm for the entire club. He was the man we needed.

Al has operated an art studio in the Boston area before coming to Alliance and wanted to start a similar one in Alliance. Knowing that Al had such a strong interest in his vocation and enjoyed sharing it, I approached him about developing a program. He agreed, and we planned a six-week seminar on "cartooning and art" as an effective means of communication.

In our seminar, we recognized that the human voice is by far the most widely used means of communication. However, it has many limitations and difficulties. Primitive man found it necessary to use gestures and crude drawings, along with his grunts, to communicate. Children freely use drawing to help express themselves. In today's world, the complexities of our life make it imperative that we use every means of our command to communicate our thoughts and feelings. Yet we rarely use the most effective and efficient means available—a simple drawing.

Throughout the seminar, various aspects of cartooning, drawing, painting, and art were presented. News releases for the weekly meeting were designed to develop interest in the seminar and did just that. Due to the novel nature of the seminar and a lot of creativity and imagination by our publicity committee, the coverage we received was excellent.

Besides attracting several guests, we added two new members and, more importantly, sparked a renewal of "interest and enthusiasm" in our old members. You can do the same. Find out what interests your members and develop programs to fit those needs. You'll find out, as we did, that such an experience can be very beneficial—to yourself and to your club.□

Some Ground Rules

for Interviewing Job Applicants

A task that nonpersonnel managers rarely enjoy is the hiring interview. Some managers feel it's a secret art they'll never be able to master.

A basic problem is that some managers don't know what questions to ask. They ask whatever questions pop into their minds, but when the interview is over, they know little more about the applicant than they did at the start.

This could mean that an unsuitable candidate might get the job because of his or her skill in concealing unsuitability. Or a candidate who might be suitable for one spot might be put in another. Either way, it might be necessary to fire the new employee—an unsettling and unprofitable experience. Then the procedure has to be renewed, with a further risk of misplacing the newcomer or hiring someone unsuitable.

It's No Trick

All this is very unfortunate because there's no great trick to conducting an effective interview. It requires a few rules, a set of questions that can reveal a lot about the applicant, a system for rating unsuitable traits, and a manager with reasonable empathy for the feelings of others.

1. The applicant's background.

The first rule is to obtain as much background information about the applicant as possible, in advance where possible. If the personnel department conducted a preliminary interview, it should have

some material not included in the resume or letter of application. Whatever material exists could provide question sources.

The interviewer also needs to be armed with a clear description of the job being offered. If an employee is being replaced, why didn't he or she work out? If the interview is being conducted for another manager, his or her specific needs should be ascertained.

2. Structure the interview.

Before the interview begins, spend a few minutes considering what objectives must be met. For example, in a sales job, are you looking for a man or woman who will sell more to existing customers, keep customers happy, or do missionary work for new customers?

Inexperienced managers usually neglect this preparation and thus contribute to making many of their interviews dismal failures.

3. Put the applicant at ease.

Don't keep the applicant waiting unduly for the appointment. If you are unavoidably delayed, send someone to explain, or better still, go yourself.

It you are late for the interview, is this because the previous interview ran overtime? Always calculate how much time you'll need with each applicant —40 minutes is about average — and keep your time schedule in mind throughout each interview.

The first minute or two should be

she spent making the applicant feel comfortable. This is not time wasted because you will be forming your first impres sue sions. If you take to the applicant, the oth favorable impression will probably r san main throughout the interview. If yo don't take to the applicant in the fin jus few minutes, check whether later impretall sions are the same or whether the appl VOI cant is now starting to grow on you. he

Naturally, you will arrange that t interview be conducted without inter ruption. The applicant deserves you individual attention.

4. Begin the interview.

A good place to start exploring is t asking the candidate about his or her pa experience and career interests. The check major goals, breadth of interes ideas, approach to people, and how t applicant reaches for achievement. U some or all the questions in this artic as a foundation for building your ov list.

Note whether the applicant spea sat clearly and communicates well. Als the make sure you are communicating we yourself, not role playing. ex

Checking the Answers

Some answers have to be accepted will face value; others can be checked, ab you have any doubts, you might a pointblank, "Is there anything negation I'll find out when I check your refe ences? Can we discuss it frankly?" A De these questions early on, not after he ne

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ue it gently but firmly. Point out that ther candidates are being asked the ame questions. At a suitable point in the interview, st pause and say, "OK, that's enough king from me. Now, tell me about ourself in your own words." Of course,

he has done some role playing himself.

If he gets uptight about anything, pur-

has been talking about himself all ong, but this ploy is designed to make im open up and talk more freely. This a good line if his responses have been nonosyllabic.

Finding the Talker

Another approach on the same lines is Tell me a story." This is becoming a worite among interviewers to see hether the applicant gets disconcerted r to make him talk freely. The applicant ho's well adjusted or has a sense of umor will hopefully relate an incident oserved on the street or a cameo converation with a store clerk or something on hose lines.

At another stage of the interview, g well xplain what the new job entails and find ut why he feels he will do well at it. Ask what he wants to do with his life. Ask ted at bout his family and his financial objecives. But don't forget to keep your eye in the clock.

It's also a good thing to ask yourself: refer-Do we as a company have what she or he Ask eeds? Am I the kind of person he would he or

want to work for? For that matter, does he have what we need?

5. Probe firmly, but listen, too.

Find out why he is looking for a job or making a change. Is he dissatisfied? If so, why?

Listen carefully to the answers. Answers can sometimes reveal more than the speaker intended revealing, but only if you listen with both ears.

Listening is more than keeping silent when someone talks. Try to summarize in your mind what he is trying to say or trying to conceal.

Be careful to ask the right question when you want more information. For example, "You feel pretty bitter about this, don't you?" or "Wasn't that a great disappointment?"

him to be specific. Don't assume anything or accept anything at face value. If you believe any of the claims are extravagant, question him further.

It's possible that halfway through the interview, you'll realize the applicant isn't suitable. If so, ease him out gently but firmly. Tell him the job is not for him and indicate that you are already interested in another candidate.

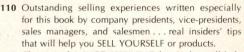
Be Brutal

Many managers cannot bring themselves to be that brutal; instead, they leave the applicant with the impression that there is still hope. In the long run, that's even more brutal. It's far better to be cruel and candid.

If you want to be even kinder, try to When the applicant makes claims, ask get him to agree that the job is out of his

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depth. You may not be too successful here, however. If you like, you can also give a little job counseling, for instance by suggesting another job objective or further training for another job in the same field.

6. Be prepared to answer questions.

If a man or woman is a viable candidate for the job, be willing to answer questions about the job and the company. This means you have to do your homework about salary, medical and other benefits, merit programs, etc.

Even here, you can learn something about the applicant. For example, when you are talking frankly about the advantages and disadvantages of the job, you may find he or she reacts to some of

20 QUESTIONS THAT CAN REVEAL A LOT ABOUT THE APPLICANT

The following questions may prove useful in probing the applicant's mind and providing information about his or her goals, approach to people, breadth of interests, etc. Some questions will suggest further lines of thought.

- 1. Why do you think you'd like to work for us? (Reveals if he's been sharp enough to learn anything about the company.)
- 2. How do you spend your spare time? What are your hobbies? (Shows if his interests are wide.)
- 3. What type of position are you most interested in? (May indicate if his main interest is making money. Many firms want more than this.)
- 4. If you were starting your career now, what would you do differently? (Sometimes brings out the disturbing discovery that he's unhappy in his present occupation.)
- 5. Are you eager to please? (Effective question in picking out yes men.)
- 6. What do people criticize you for? (This and the next one are good in bringing out personality traits.)
- 7. What would you say are your best qualities?
- 8. What was your best boss like? Your worst boss? (Reveals his ability to get on well in a work environment.)
- 9. Why do you think you'd be good at this job? (Gives him a chance to tell more about his work qualities. Sometimes reveals the braggart.)
- 10. What is the most difficult thing you've ever tackled? And the most satisfying? (Can show how high he will reach for achievement.)
- 11. Do you wish to be a leader? If so, why and how? (If he has any agressive tendencies, these questions will bring them out.)
- 12. What suggestions did you make in any previous job to cut costs or improve morale or increase output or whatever is appropriate? (Helps to pick out the idea man.)
- 13. What subjects did you like at college? (Sometimes indicates basic personality traits.)
- 14. What college activities did you participate in? (Indicates whether he mixed well and/or how much energy he has.)
- 15. Why did you leave your last job? (Look for unpleasant situations.)
- 16. What sort of progress in our company would seem normal to you? (Is his major goal making money?)
- 17. What would you have liked to do more of in your last job? (Can reveal something about his job qualities.)
- 18. What makes the difference between success and failure? (Might show if he's an idea man, a man with imagination.)
- 19. How does this job compare with others you've applied for? (Could show how much shopping around he's done.)
- 20. How did previous employers treat you? (Might show his approach to people.)

them, particularly the disadvantages. This may provide further clues.

If you take notes during the interview, keep them as brief as possible. Writing blocks the flow of conversation and inhibits listening. Is also allows the applcant to steer the conversation his way. If you must write, do so very briefly while he's talking and without losing control of the interview.

The Checklist

Some professional interviewers avoid taking notes by keeping a checklist a hand. A quick check mark or two is al that's required during the interview.

Here is a checklist of unfavorable qualities, which you may wish to adap to your own needs:

- □ Overbearing, conceited.
- □ Lacks knowledge of our area of specialization.
- Cynical.
- □ Criticizes past employers.
- \Box Lacks vitality.
- □ Lacks tact.
- □ Lacks interest, enthusiasm.
- \Box Little sense of humor.
- □ Unable to express thoughts clearly.
- \Box Lack of career planning.
- \Box Makes too many excuses.
- □ Unhappy married life.
- □ Poor personal appearance.
- □ Strong prejudices.
- \Box Unable to accept criticism.
 - 7. Terminate the interview.

When the interview is over, terminat it without any lingering farewells an with an eye on the clock for the nex applicant. If you want to see the preser candidate again, decide how you pla to handle this and tell him. If he's or your short list, it would be as well t find out if he has any other job offers.

After the interview, spend a minu or two debriefing yourself. This is esp cially important if another interview to follow immediately. If you see eve two or three candidates in a row withour recording your impressions of each be tween interviews, you might have r clear impression of any of them when the interviews are over.

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Bulletin Board

Finding Fault: An Art

tages. A new column designed to

highlight the wit and wisdom from

Toastmasters club and district

bulletins around the world.

Every leader has to find fault with his people from time to time. It's part of his job to help them recognize where they are falling down and why.

urly.

But much as the job needs doing, it's also important not to overdo it.

Most of us resent being told that we did somehing wrong—especially if the person who does the criticizing is direct, tactless, and forceful. Harsh criticism can hurt a person's morale, damage his ego, and sometimes create lasting resentment. How, then, should you go about it.?

In the first place, be sure of your facts. Be certain that you're not making a mountain out of a molehill.

If the mistake is important and has upset you, cool off first. Let things settle down a bit, so you don't say things you'll be sorry for later.

Pick your time carefully. It can be very upsetting to a person to be censured just before tackling an important assignment.

And, of course, always discuss the situation in private. No one likes to be criticized in front of others, especially his subordinates.

Ask questions first—don't accuse. Be sure people have a chance to state their side of the case first, before you blame anyone. If they know they're at fault, they may admit it willingly. That makes the situation easier all the way around.

Before you criticize, let people know you appreciate some of the good things they've done. They will accept your criticism much more gracefully if you do.

If you have to spell out precisely where and how

they were wrong, do it in a friendly, matter-offact way. Don't do it as an accuser who wants to rub salt in a wound.

The legitimate purpose of criticism is to help people do better the next time. That's why mild, reasonable criticism is invariably the best answer. The leader who habitually resorts to harsh criticism shows either poor judgment or a serious personality defect.

The purpose is to help, not humiliate. We all need criticism from time to time, but let's try to give constructive criticism as painlessly as possible. \Box

Marvin E. Kline, ATM "Pulse Beat"

District 15

What Was That Word?

A few weeks ago I was talking with a fellow Toastmasters club member. In the space of a few minutes, he managed to employ three of our club's recent "words of the day." Great, you say? Not when the words were *eleemosynary*, *complaisant*, and *tutelage*. And this came from a man who doesn't know when to use *employ*, *make use of*, or *utilize*.

As long as Toastmasters use words like *acrost*, *irregardless*, and *homogenous*, and don't know *affect* from *effect* or *lie* from *lay*, we should concentrate on polishing and utilizing the vocabulary we already have. In any event, as Toastmasters, we should recognize that communication is most effective when the words used convey the meaning both simply and clearly.

Winston Churchill knew how to express himself clearly and forcefully when he made use of Anglo-Saxon "blood, toil, sweat, and tears," instead of employing genteelisms like *perspiration* or roundabout expressions like *lachrymal effusions* to dazzle his audience.

So, try a few simple words like *comprise*, *infer*, *alternately*, or see how few Toastmasters can properly use words of their trade like *impromptu* and *extemporaneous*.

And if you are very smart, how about critiquing the way I made use of *employ*, *use*, etc. in the above diatribe. \Box

Ron Toms, ATM "The Founder" Founder's District

It Doesn't Come Easy!

One of the world's greatest baseball players was the late Ty Cobb. He served as his own critic and "taskmaster," and his goal was to master the art of hitting.

Cobb once said, "If I have any criticism of today's baseball players (and I guess that would apply to my day as well), it is that so few will practice what they can't do. The average player only hits one type of ball and won't go to the trouble of learning how to bunt or hit a ball to the opposite field."

Cobb's advice to younger players was "work at what doesn't come easy to you."

This secret kept Cobb on top for more than 25 years, compiling a lifetime batting average of .367. We all can probably use the same secret to improve our own batting average in life and help us become "masters" in our field. Think about it. \Box

John J. McWilliams, ATM "The Voice" District 18

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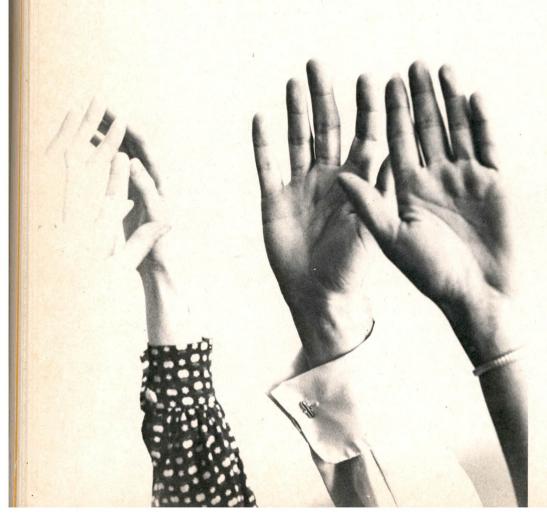
by the

ngton,

Questions, Anyone?

by Leon Fletcher

You've just concluded your speech and notice a hand waving wildly in the air someone has a question. Will you be able to handle it?



Moments ago you concluded your speech. Immediate vigorous applause told you it was well-received. But now, hands are being raised by several in your audience. They're responding to your invitation to ask questions.

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Are you ready? Do you know how to answer questions—*effectively*?

Almost daily you can find a TV news program presenting fine examples of how *not* to answer questions—unless your goal is to mislead, avoid, confuse. On one channel you can watch some sly senator twist questions to new meanings. Turn the dial and before long you'll catch a crafty candidate seem to say "yes" as he says "no." On another station, a wily bureaucrat will chew up limited air time with long-winded, bush-beating replies.

But if you want to respond to your questioners with answers that are specific, pertinent, useful, then you're pretty much on your own. Search scores of textbooks on public speaking and you'll find virtually no help at all.

Here, then, is a list of ten specific tips to help you respond to questions with answers that are direct, precise, easy-tofollow. These are platform-tested techniques I've developed in speaking before such diverse groups as congressmen, junior high school students, senior citizens, university professors, and naval officers. They are techniques gathered during more than 20 years of teaching speech to college students, industrial executives, naval briefing officers, community leaders.

1. *Listen carefully* to the question, to catch the *intent* as well as the *content* of the question.

Suppose you've given a speech on the potential of solar energy. A likely question from a member of your audience might be, "How do you propose to get the research needed to make solar energy available?" Is the questioner seeking information? If he's active in the local Taxpayers' Association, for example, his real question may well be, "Are you for more taxes for government research on solar energy?"

To the question he actually asked, you might have responded, "This is a very big undertaking; we'll need a major government effort." With that, you've probch: bly lost that taxpayer as a supporter of our proposal. On the other hand, had ou known his real concern-"more axes''-you might have replied, "This s a very big undertaking; government hould do the research, paying for it by educing research on space, for one xample, for a few years, so our taxes vill not have to be raised."

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of So, one way to answer the intent of SS he question is to know your audience. se. Another way is to be alert to certain key sly words and phrases in a query. For examgs. ple, "Do you really think that . . . ?" ch may actually mean, "Oh come now, you as don't seriously think that . . . , now do ily you?" Some other signals of questionsme with-other-than-the-obvious-meaning: es. "How do you ever . . .?" "Isn't it about our ime to . . . ?" "You mean to tell us . . . ?" pe-Finally, you of course should catch re the inflection, the voice pattern that the res questioner expresses. "How can they do and hat?" -- delivered straight -- may be an honest request for information. But the tips same words with a different delivery vith "How CAN they do that?" - conveys todoubt, disagreement, disbelief.

ch-2. Repeat the question to be sure ore you've got it right and so all in the audien, ence can hear. citi-

You've probably been a member of an audience when this rule was ignored. The scenario is pretty standard. Questioner, usually seated down front, close to the speaker, poses his query in volume sufficient to carry only to the speaker. The many listeners in the rear of the room hear but a mumble. Speaker starts the reply, in mid-sentence gets interrupted by a harsh shout from the back, "Couldn't hear the question-would you repeat it?" Speaker responds, "Oh, sorry. The question was . . . In reply, I'd say-well, like I was saying-let's see, where was I?" The speaker is in the position of having to sort out his facts or views, repeat them, or summarize what he's already stated. Or he could start his reply from the beginning again. Any route he chooses may irritate those who have already heard the answer.

you Another way to make a question from very the audience be heard by all, rather than JOVthe speaker repeating it, is to have the chairman or moderator lead the question-

ing period. He would take over from the speaker, accept the questions from the audience, repeat them, then turn to the speaker for his reply. This procedure has the significant additional advantage of giving the speaker more time to think through his answers.

3. Define terms so you, the questioner, and the rest of the audience are considering the same point.

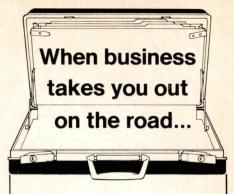
A classic example of the need for this occurred repeatedly during our nation's recent considerations of amnesty for Vietnam draft dodgers. Time and again we'd hear a World War II veteran, a Washington official, a local VFW member say, "I agree with those who are for amnesty. Let the draft dodgers back in our country; let them settle back into our society. We should be big enough to forgive and forget. Let them serve our country in some ecology project, maybe helping to clean up beaches or forests or some other such payment for what they failed to do for us. Like I say, I'm for amnesty!"

But the dictionary defines "amnesty" as "the act of an authority (as a government) by which pardon is granted to a large group of individuals." And "pardon" is defined as "the excusing of an offense without exacting a penalty." Obviously, being for "amnesty" after some kind of "service" is a contradiction in definition.

This is not to urge you, as a speaker, to become a semanticist, presenting all possible shadings and implications of your key words. Rather, it is to suggest that you do what you can to insure that both you and your listeners are speaking from the same base, the same meanings.

4. If asked for facts, present them as directly and briefly as possible.

You know how you, as a listener, react negatively to the speaker who is asked what seems to be a simple, direct question for some specific statistic, but responds with qualification upon qualification. "Just how high is our accident rate?" asks a member of the audience. "Well let's look at the record," says the speaker. "Ten years ago the accidentswhich might have been more then, but we didn't have as good a reporting system-remember? we used to just send



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the worker home or to his own doctor if he had one-that was before we had our safety office like we have now, with a full-time nurse, who keeps complete records, as well as giving first aid and calling in a doctor, right here in the plant, if needed-then, say some ten years ago, we had maybe 40 guys a yearthat is, I think it was something like that . . .''

You get the idea. The answer should be a direct, specific statement. "The accident rate is now 22 per month."

Then, if you think an explanation or interpretation or comparison would help your case, add it after you present the fact. Make it, too, brief and specific. Think, get the figure right, then speak. You might add, for example, "That's down to almost half of what it was ten years ago. Then we had no safety office, no nurse, no careful records." Enough.

On to your next question.

5. If asked for an opinion, give it, then support it with evidence.

Again, be brief, specific. The question might be, "Do you think our safety record is good enough?" Your reply might be-stating first your opinion, then some back-up data-"No. We should bring our accident rate down. The California plant did that by adding a full time paramedic -a guy skilled in fast first-aid techniques."

Avoid those rambling, conflicting, confusing preludes to your opinions. You know the ones I mean-the ones you dislike hearing, too. That's the speaker who says something such as, "Is our safety record good enough? Well, of course no safety record is ever 'good enough' as long as just one person is hurt. But we have to look at the full picture. We have to cut down acci-

dents, sure-and we've been trying. What we could do-now I'm not saying I really recommend this, but it is one possibility-we could . . .'' And on and on andonandon! Get to the point! **Ouickly!**

6. Relate your answers to your main speech.

Sometimes a questioner didn't understand a point in your speech. Summarize your point-briefly. If several in the audience seem to be interested in the same question, you may need to develop the point in more detail. Add examples, statistics, comparisons-the standard set of proof.

But there is a real danger in how you word your reply. There's a temptation to respond with a kind of putdown-"Well I covered that in my speech. Like I said then . . . " The questioner, and perhaps others in your audience, may well hear that as your saying, in effect, "Oh come now, stupid! I already told you!"

Yet there is the possibility that you were in fact not sufficiently clear in presenting the point in your speech. Or maybe the point was not remembered because it did not seem important then; now, after your speech, integrated with additional ideas and facts, the point may carry more weight. So repeat, relate to your speech, but in words which are cautious, encouraging, helpful-not brash, curt, scolding.

7. If a question is strongly argumentative, answer it directly, maintaining your view.

Perhaps the question has merit; say so. Try to avoid arguments with a questioner. If your reply does not seem to satisfy him, and he's already had a fair share of the audience's time, offer to consult with him later.

You've probably observed that rarely is a problem of significance clearly solved with just one view, one answer, one opinion. Generally, the more complex the problem, the more balanced are the advantages and disadvantages of various views. Allow the questioner with that argumentive query to have his say The "solving" of the Vietnam war gives a good example. No solution had dis-

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 inct advantages; all solutions had great fisadvantages. Pulling out, sticking with
t, dropping A-bombs, and all the other possibilities were unattractive; no clear,
lefinitely beneficial solution could be found. (And that, of course, is still an-

in other opinion which might well be questioned by someone in the audience.)

² 8. If you don't know the answer, say e 30!

Wrote Mark Twain, "I was gratified to be able to answer promptly, and I did. said I didn't know."

California's Governor Brown is currently building quite a record, part of which results from his practice of answering questions with a very specific "I don't know. I don't have all the answers. But we are studying that or we will. When we find out, and a solution is apparent, we'll act. That's all I know now." On the other hand, for the kinds of questions most speakers get but don't old know the answers to, suggesting sources for the answers is often a good reply. ou Refer the questioner to the studies that reyou have used in preparing your speech. Or Give names of authors specializing in the ed subject. Mention the location of centers en; of research. Name books or magazines ith covering the problem.

Finally, offer to find out. Ask the questioner to write his query on a slip of paper, along with his name and address, and give it to you at the end of the session. Tell him you'll mail him the answer. Or, you might ask him to send you a letter, asking the question; then the chances are high he'll never bother. That's good, or bad, depending on the question and the purpose of your speech. But many in the audience may be impressed with the openness of your offer.

9. Recognize as many different people in your audience as possible.

That is, avoid letting one person, or a few, monopolize your question-and-answer period.

The easiest and best way to do this is to say to the first person who tries to ask a second question, "Let's hear the questions of the other people in the audience first—I'll be sure to save time to get back to you again." If you say something like that early and firmly, you'll set a stand-

ard for other questioners with more than one query to follow.

If a questioner begins to make a speech, try to interrupt him tactfully. Sure, that's hard to do without getting him unhappy. But look around your audience as that lengthly questioner goes on and on. Are others becoming impatient, too? Your interrupting of that one individual may turn several others to your viewpoint as you attempt to keep the program progressing. Sometimes a curt question from you is needed to stop that questioner as he makes a speech; ask briefly, authoritatively; "What is your question, please?"

10. If a person has difficulty framing a question, try to word it for him as soon as you sense what he wants to ask.

Sometimes a courteous "I think I understand your question" will do it. Sometimes you do have to let the individual struggle along, expressing his own fuzzy thinking, chewing up your time and your audience's patience. But sometimes those hard-to-word questions are sound and relevant. You may be in greater danger of obscuring the purpose of your speech if you cut a questioner off too soon—interrupting him by trying to answer, nodding agreement, starting a response gesture—before he has completed his question.

So now you have ten techniques to help you answer the questions following your speech. In answering questions, your goal is to get every member of your audience—whether they asked a question or not—to think about you exactly what the British author Kenneth Grahame wrote in 1895: "I began to like this man. He answered your questions briefly and to the point." Unfortunately, the name of the person he was writing about went unrecorded. \Box

Leon Fletcher is a speech instructor at Monterey Peninsula College in Monterey, California. A freelance writer with more than 170 publication credits, he is the author of How to Design and Deliver a Speech, a college text published in 1974 and used by 58 universities and colleges in the first year.



Need A Speech Topic?

"Working in America" will be the subject discussed from January 11 through February 7, 1976, by speakers and writers all over America participating in the American Issues Forum.

"Working in America," the fifth in the series of nine topics, will examine the meaning of the American "work ethic"—how it has affected the lives of the nation's people and the nation itself. The four weeks have been divided into the following subjects:

Jan. 11-Jan. 17: The American Work Ethic. In colonial times, the hardship of work was seen as a test of character, the routine as a source of discipline, the activity as a means of fulfillment, and success as proof of moral worth. Do we still look at it that way or as a necessary evil? Does the work ethic still prevail among us?

Jan. 18-Jan. 24: Organization of the Labor Force. After decades of often bloody clashes between labor and management, 22 million Americans are unionized today. Would they be paid as much or protected as well without the unions? Should limits exist on the right to strike?

Jan. 25-Jan. 31: The Welfare State: Providing a Livelihood. Suppose we can't find work, or are physically unable to work. Should we be provided with the necessities of life? If so, what are these necessities? Does a "Welfare State" destroy the work ethic? Is there enough work to go around? Who pays for welfare and how does it affect their work ethic?

Feb. 1-Feb. 7: Enjoying the Fruits of Labor. Many Americans in the future are likely to be retiring earlier and earlier. What will they do with all that leisure time? With more and more of this leisure time, do we value it less? Do we live to work, or do we work to live?

If you're not already involved in the American Issues Forum, why not start right now? It provides a valuable source of speech topics to use in your club, business, or community—and an excellent opportunity to get involved in America's Bicentennial celebration.

The Risks of Effective Communication

by Thomas Gordon, PhD

We hear and read much about the importance of effective communication but little about its risks. Social scientists tell us that effective communication is a characteristic of individuals who are "psychologically healthy," of groups that function effectively, and of organizations that prosper and survive. As a consultant, involved with people's communication as I counsel with individuals, with face-to-face groups, or with large organizations, I have learned that if individuals, groups, or organizations are to become "psychologically healthy" or "fully-functioning" in order to use their resources effectively to reach their goals, they invariably must learn to communicate more adequately.

The Individual

First, consider the importance of communication to the individual. The person who is psychologically healthy, according to many theorists, is one who is "in touch with himself." He is aware of his feelings, his attitudes, his values, and his beliefs. He is more in communication with himself than is the psychologically unhealthy person. The unhealthy who enter individual therapy to become more fully-functioning go through a process of learning to communicate with themselves. They gradually explore deeper and deeper into their feelings and attitudes, discovering new ones, finding feelings that conflict or feelings previously denied. Also, after completing successful psychotherapy, people report that having learned to "communicate better with themselves'' they can now better communicate their real feelings and attitudes to others. Psychological health, for the individual, means the ability to "talk clearly with oneself."

Groups seem no different. The ineffective group is one whose members are not communicating with one another. Consequently, such groups cannot solve problems easily - in fact, they find it difficult even to indentify their real problems. These groups often have "hidden agendas'' that never get communicated; their members withdraw into silence and passivity; or what does get communicated is often only superficial and meaningless. Groups that seek a consultant's help to become more effective, like individuals, go through a process of developing more effective communication. Gradually, then, conflicts can be exposed, interpersonal hostilities come to the surface, creative thinking appears, basic issues can be identified, and decisions get made. Thus, group health, as well as individual health, seems to be brought about through learning more effective communication.

Communication is just as crucial for organizations. An eminent consultant once remarked, "I find that most problems of business and industrial organizations in the final analysis boil down to problems of communications." His view is shared by most organizational consultants, because so often they have found that helping an organization means breaking down the barriers to communication-upward, downward, and sidewise. Documented reports of consulting efforts that have been successful in bringing about constructive change in organizations contain numerous examples of the introduction of new

methods and procedures for fostering better communication between the various parts of the organization. Likewise, the most successful management development or executive education programs in our country today are those providing training experiences that help the participants understand the dynamics of the communication process and acquire skills in interpersonal communications.

Communication Risks

If, then, it is true that effective communication is so important for individuals, groups, and organizations, we should be aware of the risks involved. These risks derive from the very nature of the communications process itself.

One way of looking at effective communication is to consider it a process involving two elements: (1) *Clear sending* (effective expression) and (2) *Accurate receiving* (effective impression). There is a different risk involved in each of these elements. If a person wants to learn both to send clear messages and to receive others' messages accurately, he must be prepared to take some real risks.

Let us first examine the element of risk in *clear sending*.

Many different factors affect whether or not a person sends clear messages. Some of these are rather obvious and need only brief mention here. For example, the sender has to talk loud enough to be heard. He also should code his message in words that are familiar to the receiver—that is, the receiver has to know the sender's code. In addition, we know that a single message is usually easier to understand than several messages sent at once. A message can also get lost if the

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what Whe nder clutters up his communication ith apologies, asides, parenthetical rearks, conditional statements, supportg data, illustrations, documentation, or necdotes.

Although these factors are important, ey are not as crucial in their influence n "sending" as another less understood ctor-that is, the degree of "congrunce" of the sender. Congruence refers the similarity of what a person (the ender) is thinking or feeling, inside, and that he communicates to the outside. When a person is being congruent, we xperience him as "open," "direct," 'honest," or "genuine." When we ense that a person's communication is ncongruent, we judge him as "not ringng true," "insincere," "affected," or ust plain "phony." The human receiver pparently is a very sensitive judge of the egree of congruence in a sender.

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Ambiguous Messages

Logically, it would follow that the uire reater the incongruence between inner ns. eeling and the actual message transnitted by a sender, the greater the chance omof a receiver missing the message, or videaring an ambiguous message. The we nconsistency between the words he reed. reives and the other person's inner feelure ings (sensed from non-verbal clues from the sender) confuses the receiver. For exomample, a mother who *inside* is feeling inrejecting, irritated, or unloving toward ing her child yet tries to communicate paate tience, permissiveness, and acceptance ere will send messages that are incongruent. of The child usually perceives both the amarn biguity of these messages and the insinrecerity of the mother. he

The risk in being congruent in comks. munication is simply that the sender berisk comes known to the receiver as he really is (inside). The sender exposes his true her self—he becomes transparently real to es. himself and to others. People must have and courage to be what they are-that is, to mcommunicate what they feel and think of to 1 a particular moment in their existence; esfor when a person does this - and here is rethe risk—he opens himself to others and ow their reactions to him. For a person to be ow congruent, then, means opening himself to to be viewed by others. t at

His listeners learn how he really feels.

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If they are involved at all, they may not like to hear his feelings about them. We also know that honesty in communication puts a demand on the listener to be equally honest. Most people are threatened by such a demand, so some people are frightened away by congruence in another person. Here is an additional risk of clear sending.

Let's move now to a consideration of *accurate receiving*. What is meant by this, and what is the risk involved?

Active Listening

In recent years, psychotherapists have called our attention to a new kind of listening-"active listening." More than passively attending to the message of the sender, it is a process of putting your understanding of that message to the severest of tests-namely, forcing yourself to put into your own words the meaning of the sender's messages and "feeding back" your words to the sender for verification or for subsequent correction. Active listening obviously requires the receiver to suspend his own thoughts, feelings, evaluations, and judgments in order to attend exclusively to the message of the sender. It forces accurate receiving inasmuch as the listener finds that if he is to understand the message in terms of the sender's meaning, he must put himself into shoes of the sender (into his frame of reference, into his world of reality). The listener thus hears the meaning intended by the sender. The "feedback" part of active listening is nothing more than the receiver's ultimate check on the accuracy of his listening, although it also assures the sender that he has been understood when he hears his own "message" fed back to him accurately.

Active listening, however, carries its own risks. Something happens to a person when he practices active listening. To understand accurately how another person thinks or feels from his point of view, to put yourself momentarily into his shoes, to see the world as he is seeing it-you as a listener run the risk of having your own opinions and attitudes changed. In other words, people actually get changed by what they really understand. To be "open to the experience" of another invites the possibility of having to reinterpret your own experiences. The person who cannot listen to others is "defensive" and cannot afford to expose himself to ideas and views that are different from his own.

In summary, effective communication, requiring as it does both *congruence* (clear sending) and *active listening* (accurate receiving), carries two risks: the exposure of the way we really are and the possibility of *becoming* different. Few of us find it easy to take these risks. This is why effective interpersonal communication requires both inner security and personal courage. \Box

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CAN YOU Avoid THE JUDGING SNARE?

by

Marilyn & Joe Boland District 26

Have you ever disagreed with the decision of the judges at a speech contest? If so, you might agree that judging could be compared to a hot Japanese bath —perhaps we need to study the situation a bit before leaping into it.

Every Toastmaster should be familiar with judging rules, and every prospective judge should be aware of some of the pitfalls of judging. What traps await the unwary Toastmaster who eagerly agrees to judge a speech contest? A few come readily to mind—inventive Toastmasters will be able to add to the list.

1. A fair shake for the first contestant. How many judges use that first contestant as a standard against which they will measure other speakers? The prepared judge will have his own standard set in advance. Perhaps he may make his own scales of values (0-10 or 10-100) to guide him to where, on his own mental scale, an exceptionally fine or poor speaker will fall.

2. The underdog. This pitfall usually snares the unwary judge at the club level. Tom has competed in the club contest for four years now, and he never has won. "Poor Tom," your subconscious tells you. "Maybe he should have his 'turn' at winning." The judge will have to remind himself of the purpose of the contest—to get the best possible representative to compete in the area contest.

3. The halo effect. "Dick was so



great last year—he's just bound to win this year!" After a judge has heard this comment from different sources prior to the contest, it may tend to color his judgment. "Maybe I should give him a nine instead of a seven on this item," reasons the subconscious. "After all, everyone says he's a fantastic speaker."

This obviously could affect the score, and when the judge finds himself in that situation, he should remember that Dick's past record has no bearing on the speech he is giving NOW.

4. Let's give someone "new" a chance. "Don won our area contest last year, but then he lost at the division level. He had his turn and blew it. Let's give someone 'new' a chance."

This thought may be more implicit than explicit, but the remedy for this trap is the same as for the previous one. The judge must remember that he's judging the current performance only. ("Maybe Don will win the district contest this year.")

5. The second time around syndrome. Oftentimes, a Toastmaster can avoid judging in a situation where he has already heard the contest speech to be given. However, a lack of qualified judges may make this impossible.

In this case, the judge will have to strive harder for objectivity, realizing that if it's a humorous speech or a speech with a unique feature, such as a startling attention step, he won't have the same fresh reaction he did when first listening to it. Audience reaction may tell him how others responded.

6. The unknown judging form. Too often, a judge has the judging form slapped into his hand two minutes prior to the contest, with the comment: "You know what this is all about?" The Chief Judge can help ensure a better contest by mailing copies of the form to udges well in advance of the contest, they can study them.

Each club could select their top four or five evaluators, educate them on all udging forms, and pass their names long to the area governor. This would provide a supply of qualified judges to he area, division, and district.

7. Equal judging representation. It's 10 minutes before the contest is due to tart, and the Chief Judge is frantically searching for "bodies" to serve as udges. Isn't it a surprise that Tom, im, and Doug, who are all qualified udges, didn't come? They usually do. Advance planning by the Chief Judge is vitally important. If he had called or written Tom, Jim, or Doug well in advance and asked them to be judges, he would not have to face this problem.

Perhaps the Chief Judge asks George to be a judge when Bill, a good friend, is a contestant. Or, what about the conest where judges were selected from each of the clubs represented, and each judge voted for his own club representative. An exchange of judges between areas would solve this problem. Advance planning is the key to eliminating his judging trap.

8. The wrong word penalty. Certain "trigger" words usually earn an immediate emotional response, positive or negative, from any judge. The word to turn you off might be Republican or Democrat, or it could even be motherin-law!

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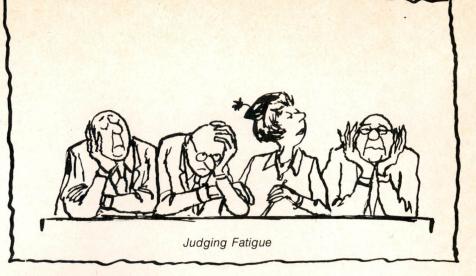
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The speaker who says "cut taxes" might earn 17 extra subconscious points on your judging form. We might argue that prejudice is a great time-saver (we can form opinions without bothering with the facts), but we should be aware of our pet prejudices, so when we hear them mentioned, we can guard against their effect.

9. Judging fatigue. With six or seven contestants presenting prepared and impromptu speeches, it's easy for judges to become tired. Is equal analytical thinking given to judging the last contestants? Some may question whether this fatigue factor would work for or against the last speakers. Will tired judges be more or less critical?



guard against the pitfall lies in being aware of the possibility of its occurrence. Perhaps we could ask judges to stand for a break between the prepared and impromptu speeches.

10. The gut feeling. Jim Judge has just added up the scores and discovered, to his dismay, that the speaker who was his "favorite" didn't win. He's tempted to change the scores. After all, speaker "B" really was the best, even though it wasn't reflected in the scores.

What's wrong with that? Well, it could be possible that the judge's 'gut' feeling really only means that the speaker, in some way, touched a soft spot within the judge. Perhaps the speaker hit on a certain topic, a method of delivery, or some other characteristic that subconsciously influenced the judge. If that is a possibility, the obvious remedy is to stick to the scores.

Now that we know how not to be scalded by jumping into that hot Japanese bath, how do we keep from "muddying the water"? There are many different score cards which are used in speech contests — most can be used very effectively if the judge is aware of these 10 pitfalls.

Numerical values for speaker strong and weak points are essential. The judge should have a stereotype set in his mind of what a value of ten, eight, or three is. With this vivid picture, he can observe a speaker's organization, gestures, or vocal variety and say to himself, "That's a six." Because he is measuring against a stereotype or fixed picture, the judge has jumped the first hurdle in being consistent. The final step is confidence in his judgment. When he takes this systematic approach, he merely adds up the score and declares the winner.

Becoming aware of these and other pitfalls is a first step toward better judging and better analytical listening. But like disciplining children, the secret lies in consistency. Whatever system we choose as a judge, if we are consistent in applying it to all contestants, we will have done a good job. \Box



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Toastmasters: It's Important to South Africa

by Joe Garmeson

In the days of Stanley and Livingston, Africa was known as "The Dark Continent." Even with the efficiency and rapidity of modern communications, there is room for doubt as to whether that image has been quite dispelled. We in South Africa, a modern, fast-developing state of over thirteen million people much preoccupied with our own affairs, often feel isolated and tend to know less than we should about the rest of the world.

That's why membership in a worldwide organization like Toastmasters is so important to us.

The first South African Toastmasters club started in Johannesburg over 28 years ago. Although growth over the years has been somewhat sporadic, it is now showing signs of really getting off the ground. We have 24 clubs in the Republic, with about half a dozen either awaiting charter or on the brink of formation.

Progress will accelerate, I am sure, as we become more adept at handling publicity. For example, a recent issue of the South African Reader's Digest contained an article highlighting the fiftieth anniversary of Toastmasters. Our past National Chairman, Buddy Platt, supplied the magazine with much of the information about the local movement andmost vital-a contact address. From this, we have already received over a

hundred and fifty letters, and many of the writers have already been placed in clubs.

In addition, a 1,500 word article is being reviewed by the editorial staff of the South African Financial Gazette and will, if it is printed, reach a high proportion of businessmen in South Africa. We are also canvassing the South African Broadcasting Corporation, which is about to launch television in this country, to see if we can secure a regular Toastmasters program, or at least a series.

As can be expected, our clubs are mainly grouped around the large cities. There are ten in and around Johannesburg, three in Pretoria, three in Durban, and two in Cape Town. Active club sponsorship in these areas makes further growth relatively easy.

Port Elizabeth has a seven-year-old club, and a number of others exist in relative isolation. A group of enthusiasts in East London, two hundred miles from the nearest club, are planning the first club in that city and we are doing our best to help them from Johannesburg.

Over the years, a national speaking competition evolved, and an organization grew up to run it. Eventually, the clubs, realizing the advantages of the district structure and recognizing that district status for South African clubs was some years off, decided to formalize this organization.

The result was the South African Toastmasters Council. The constitution of this body was modeled on that of a district, although somewhat simplified. Membership in the Council is voluntary and all South African clubs, except one are members. The Council organizes the program of our Annual Convention i conjunction with the Host Club (Pietermaritzburg 1590-U this year), acts as a clearing house for information, puts out its own magazine (The Octopus), engages in publicity work, and, where necessary, gives assistance to ailing clubs.

Last year, for the first time, we were granted the privilege, normally reserved to districts, of giving the Toastmasters International Communication and Leadership Award. As the Council grows in strength and experience, it is taking over more and more of the service functions handled by district administrations. This not only strengthens the South African Toastmasters on the whole, but also provides a thorough grounding in these matters which will make eventual conversion into a district much less traumatic.

Some of us think that the enthusiasm pi and cohesiveness (to quote a tribute recently paid to them) of South African SE clubs stems largely from the activities of the Council. Still, there must be an element of the "chicken and the egg" debate in this. After all, if cohesiveness had not existed in the first place, the Council idea might never have been born and certainly would have stood little chance of success.

South Africans are by nature hospitable-so are Toastmasters. The combination must surely be formidable! I ask readers all over the world to note this and to remember us when business or holiday travel brings them to our shores. A little preparation before you leave, a checking of the list of clubs, or a note to the South African Council at P.O. Box 61142, Marshalltown 2107, will arm you for club contact and ensure at least one pleasant evening of exchanging viewpoints during your stay here. It is all too rare for us to be able to welcome Toastmasters from overseas . . . we'd hate to miss any opportunity.

by Winston K. Pendleton

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tary How would you feel if you were the one. principal speaker at a banquet, and just the before you were introduced you disn in covered you had spilled a great river of etergravy down the front of your brand new as a \$100 white dinner jacket and \$17.50 out formal shirt?

en-"My clothes are ruined! I'm disnere graced! In spite of what I say now, ling my audience will go away with a bad impression." vere

That's how you would feel-or maybe worse.

ters And yet, many a public speaker has adstepped to the lectern with a brand s in new, dazzling, prize-winning speech ver deliberately smeared and spotted with ons his offensive humor. can

The result?

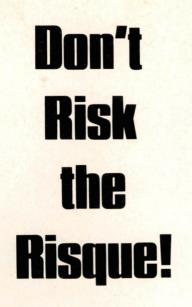
pro-Your speech is ruined. You are disese graced. And regardless of what you say, /ermany of your audience will go home with tic. a bad impression of you and your entire ism presentation.

re-In the case of the dinner jacket, you are self-consciously aware of the catastrocan ; of phe. In the case of the smudged and ugly speech, you may never know the truth, because it is almost impossible to ferret ess out the truth about offensive humor in a speech that you have given.

It is rare that members of the audience will approach you after a speech, while everyone is shaking your hand and complimenting you, and tell you that your humor was off-color or offensive.

Your friends are not much use, as a general rule, because they either do not want to hurt your feelings or get in an argument with you, or else they are so close to you that they cannot separate what you said from who you are-their "good old friend, who sure was at his best tonight."

It is expecting too much to think you can be your own judge in the matter. In the first place, if you prepared your speech as thoroughly as you should have, your stories were selected carefully and with much thought. Why then would you



question your own prior judgment after your speech was over?

You might question your humor if nobody laughed. But, if you had selected offensive stories to begin with, you probably would look for some other reason for their failure to raise a laugh. Maybe you would figure the audience was a little stupid or slow or didn't appreciate your storytelling ability.

In trying to appraise your own humor after the fact, you might measure success by the amount of laughter that was generated, thinking that a roar of laughter was an automatic mark of approval and that you "got by" with that one. This is the most dangerous fallacy of all.

For, if you were speaking to a banquet of 1,200 men and women and only half of them laughed as you intended, you still would have a room full of laughter. You would hardly miss the half that didn't laugh. If that second half had held back their laughter because they were offended, you would have no way of knowing it.

Few speakers will debate the point that offensive humor can kill an otherwise good speech. The question, then, seems to be: what is offensive humor and how can you tell what to keep away from? What sort of ruler should you use to measure your funny stories?

Your primary thought should be: never

tell a story that can offend.

This absolutely rules out all risque stories. Keep away from sex. Even the "cute" story that was whispered to you in private an hour before by the chairman might offend him when told at the head table for all to hear. This is understandable. A person who is an important church worker, let us say, might enjoy a bit of risque humor in private but he cannot afford to give it his approval in public. He must appear to disapprove. This holds true for all-male audiences, as well as those where the ladies are present.

You might stand on your two feet and cry out that this is hypocrisy if you like. And it might well be. But, that's the way life is.

The choice of humor is a matter of judgment. Personal humor, for example, is all right as long as the man you are kidding is present, is well known, well liked, and if your humor is exaggerated rather than direct and cutting. It would be all right to kid the newly-elected president of your group about railroading the election if he had just been nominated without opposition and elected by acclamation. But you would be on dangerous ground if you yourself had just lost the election to him by about three votes.

By the same measuring stick, a bald man can always kid another bald man. Catholic priests can tell the best Catholic stories. And Myron Cohen can kid a room full of Jewish listeners better than a Southern Baptist.

Consider that there is room in a wellbalanced 30-minute speech for only about five stories at most. If you cannot find five inoffensive funny stories, then you had better keep away from humorfar away.

There are two rules to write in the front of your humor book. They will keep you on the right track. 1. Don't risk the risque. 2. When in doubt—don't.□

Winston K. Pendleton is a former Washington, D.C., newspaperman and public relations consultant. A retired vice-president and sales manager for the Universal Dynamics Corporation, he is a frequent contributor to THE TOASTMASTER.

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Me... A Magazine Writer ?

THE TOASTMASTER magazine is looking for Toastmasters who care enough about their fellow members to freely share with them what they have learned about communication and leadership.

You don't have to be a professional writer for your feature or article to be printed in this magazine. You just need to have something to say something of general interest to 60,000 Toast-'masters, which will help them in their own selfdevelopment efforts.

The length of an article is up to you. A full-length article should usually be four pages or more, but a "How to Feature" can be shorter. The important thing is to develop your ideas fully and, just as important, to support your general statements with specific examples and illustrations. In other words, a good article is just like a good speech: it has an opening, a body (supported by examples), and a conclusion.

What are the "How to Features?" They are short articles, contributed by Toastmasters, which share successful ideas and programs with fellow Toastmasters. All we ask is that these ideas be already tried out and found successful, whether by you or by your club. Again, whatever details and illustrations you can supply will add interest to the article.

What about photographs? You may have noticed a decrease in the number of Toastmasters photographs in the magazine. This isn't because we don't want to print them; we don't have good photographs to print! Unlike many other magazines, we do not have a staff of freelance photographers covering events for us; we are totally dependent on you. We need photographs of unique and interesting events (unfortunately, this does not include officer installations or many award presentations). Try to photograph Toastmasters in action. Be creative. Shoot some pictures outdoors. Think of pictures that will illustrate what Toastmasters is all about, and show it at its best. If a picture is worth a thousand words, it is worth the same amount of planning and thinking as writing 1000 words.

The staff of *The Toastmaster* is ready and willing to help get your material into print. If you've been writing for your club and district bulletin (or should be, but haven't), why not give the magazine a try? It would be a major step in your self-development.

hall of fame

DISTINGUISHED TOASTMASTER (DTM)

Congratulations to these Toastmasters who have received the Distinguished Toastmaster certificate, Toastmasters International's highest member recognition.

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MOVING?	Name Present Address City	
		Zip
Mail to: Vorld Headquarters	New Address	District No
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Tomas F. Esquivel Club Toastmaster de Tijuana 3467-5 Tijuana, Mexico

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new clubs

3036-1 GREAT WESTERN

Beverly Hills, CA—Mon., 12 Noon, 8484 Wilshire Blvd., Meeting Rms. 1 & 2, (658-6000, Ext. 348/583) Sponsored by Robert Hollis, ATM & Howard Chambers, DTM.

1957-8 SOUTH COUNTY

St. Louis, MO—Wed., 7:00 p.m., Buck or Two, South County Shopping Center (894-0357).

1391-11 INDY VARO

Indianapolis, IN—Tues., 12:30 p.m., V.A. Regional Office, 575 N. Pennsylvania St., Rm. 303 (269-7881). Sponsored by Mason J. Miller, ATM.

1602-15 TOOELE VALLEY

Tooele, UT—Tues., 7:30 p.m., Tooele Army Depot Officers Club (884-3933). Sponsored by Pony Express Club 2108-15.

3528-15 REALTORS OF OGDEN

Ogden, UT—Thurs., 7:00 a.m., Mansion House, 2350 Adams Ave. (399-9273). Sponsored by Mt. Ogden Club 1614-15.

3442-18 NORTH ARUNDEL

Linthicum, MD—Thurs., 7:00 p.m., Linthicum Library, 400 Shipley Rd. Linthicum Heights (766-2463). Sponsored by Westinghouse Gaveliers Club 3160-18.

336-30 SARGENT & LUNDY

Chicago, IL—Mon., 5:10 p.m., 55 E. Monroe (269-2000). Sponsored by Silverstones Club 3559-30.

2194-30 KNOWLEDGE SPEAKERS

Chicago, IL—Thurs., 4:00 p.m., Marsh & McLennan, Inc., 222 S. Riverside Plaza, Board Rm., 34th Fl. (648-6000).

3332-33 DAY BREAKERS OF WESTLAKE

Westlake Village, CA-Wed., 6:30 a.m., Sambo's, Westlake Village (889-2674 or 805/497-7467). Sponsored by Conejo Valley Club 1864-33.

3844-38 NERO'S

Philadelphia, PA—Fri., 11:30 a.m., Federal National Mortgage Assoc., 5 Penn Center Plaza (864-8928). Sponsored by DPSC Club 3403-38.

2868-48 POWER TALKERS

Birmingham, AL—Tues., 12 Noon, Alabama Power, 12th St. Bldg., 1200 N. 6th (251-2061). Sponsored by Reddy Talkers Club 1987-48.

1374-57 SERENDIPITY

Oakland, CA—Mon. & Tues., 4:30 p.m., Safeway Stores Admin. Office, 4th & Jackson Sts. (444-4711).

3835-60 BLUE WATER

Owen Sound, Ontario — Thurs., 6:30 p.m., Downtowner Motor Hotel, 845 2nd Ave., E. (371-2326). Sponsored by Barrie Club 1603-60.

3810-U CHIANG MAI

Chiang Mai, Thailand—Thurs., 5:30 p.m., Rincome Hotel, (236100 or 234195).

YOUR 1976 RESOLUTION:

Spread the Word!

Make it a point in 1976 to tell the people in your community about Toastmasters! It'll make your life—and theirs—a lot richer!

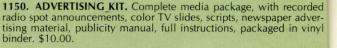


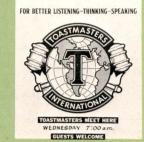
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1141. COMMUNITY PROGRAMS AND PUBLICITY KIT. Ideas, activities, and programs to help your club become recognized as a vital part of the community. \$.50. (Add \$.25 packing and shipping charges.)





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