

President's Greetings: Celebrating Diversity

By Rosanna Condello, CL, President

MCC Toastmasters provides opportunities to explore important issues. On November 8th, members spoke eloquently on diversity, our meeting's theme. During Table Topics, Connie Herrera posed tough questions about diversity at MCC which urged us to reflect honestly on our experiences as employees. One thing is certain: MCC values diversity and it is part of its mission. Let's continue to discuss and explore this issue while taking advantage of opportunities that promote and celebrate our differences.

I spoke at a recent Officers Training Session on ways to attract members. Already using ideas provided in TI's packaged presentation, I felt compelled to go a step further. I reinforced Toastmasters as a leadership and communications program whose success relies heavily on diversity. If all members shared a viewpoint, meetings would be dry. Our differences make our speeches, meetings and participation in area, division and district activities much more rewarding. I told them, "the more unique you are and the more original your message, the more your peers will recognize you and remember your words." Through our shared experiences, I hope you realize contests are never won by those afraid to share their true selves. The winner is always the one who communicates most genuinely, who is willing to demonstrate his or her differences.

Our mission is to "provide a mutually supportive and positive learning environment in which every member has the opportunity to develop communication and leadership skills, which in turn foster self-confidence and personal growth." Our club exists to reach these goals. When you prepare your next speech, choose an issue that will help you grow personally. Challenge yourself to share your unique perspective on a topic; inspire your listeners to embrace diversity!

Ways to Welcome Guests *By Diane Navarro DeHond, CL, VP Membership*

Before the meeting

- Talk it up; tell others what you like about Toastmasters and how it has helped you
- Let the President know that you will be bringing a guest
- Invite people; tell them when and where we meet. Bring them not to speak but to hear success stories!
- Direct them to Toastmasters International Web site www.toastmasters.org
- Find out their job and how they feel Toastmasters could help them

At the meeting

- Greet them and introduce them to VP Membership and President
- Sit with them. If you have a big role, ask a nearby member to help them.
- Formally introduce them to members during the meeting
- Show them the agenda, explain the various roles
- Encourage them to vote for best table topics speech and write notes of encouragement.

After the meeting

- Thank them for coming and invite them back
- Email them and follow up with VP Membership to let her know if they are interested in joining.





Fear is a Factor: Seven Steps to Success!

By Ilene Benz, ATM-S

We all fear failure when we approach a new task. Putting ourselves “out there” can be crippling but for some, like the Three Little Pigs, failure isn’t an option. There is good and bad fear; those who can manage this emotion sit in the driver’s seat on the road to success.

Good fear occurs when you act in your best interest, usually intuitively, such as when you hand over your wallet to a thief. You feel bad fear when you fight what comes naturally, such as flailing your arms when you slip on ice. “Tuck and roll” when you perceive danger; it can make the difference between success and flat-on-your-fanny failure.

Success or failure when experiencing fear is an “inside” job. Here are seven helpful tips:

1. **Never accept rejection.** Believe in yourself! Remember: you get what you expect. So expect success.
2. **The perception of failure is an isolated situation.** We criticize ourselves because we are our own worst enemy. Others most likely see us as successful.
3. **Keep expectations realistic.** For your first speech, a one hour monologue is unrealistic. Challenge yourself slightly, adding more difficulty after each.
4. **Focus on your strengths.** If you are a word wonder, share stories. If your hands do the talking, show off your descriptive gestures. If your smile shines, use it!
5. **Vary your approach.** Learn from mistakes. Change how you prepare and deliver your next talk.
6. **Failure is temporary.** Each opportunity is a learning experience. Success happens when you learn from failure. (See tip 5.)
7. **Never give up!** When we calm our fears through positive thoughts, great things happen. Tuck and roll with each challenge and glide smoothly on to your next success!

Roberts Rules of Order Basics

By Karen Frantz, CL, Secretary

- The chair (or president) cannot make a motion. The chair needs to formally recognize the person speaking so that he or she may make a motion.
- If the motion is not seconded, it dies and the chair says “as there is no second, the motion will not be considered.”
- If there is a second, the chair says “it has been moved and seconded that...” and asks for discussion.
- When the chair wants to stop discussion, she says “the question is on the adoption of the motion...” and asks for “aye” or “no” votes. The chair then explains that the vote passed and the motion is being adopted or that it did not pass and will not be adopted.



New Officers



Samson Olaode, CL
President

Rosanna Condello, CL
Past President

Karen Frantz, CL
Vice President
Education

Krysta Banke
Vice President
Membership

Tish Williams
Vice President
Public Relations

Sharron Waide, CTM
Secretary

Pam Kone, CTM
Treasurer

Judy Hill
Sergeant At Arms

Ilene Benz, ATM-S, CL
Sponsor and Member
Postprandial Toastmasters

Officers will be inducted in June

Accolades

Congratulations to **Samson Olaode**, our newest Competent Leader (CL). He reached this distinction in February. **Audrey Abbondanzieri**, **Alice Harrington**, **Mary Louise Musler** and **Sharron Waide** marked a major Toastmasters milestone when they achieved Competent Toastmasters (CTM) this past semester.

Pam Kone, CTM, Sergeant at Arms and **Samson Olaode, CL** placed second at the March 18th Toastmasters Area 6 Tall Tales and International Speech contests respectfully.

Sally Barton Dingee and **Alice Harrington, CTM, VP Public Relations** received 2006 National Institute of Staff and Organizational Development Award (NISOD).

Rosanna Condello, CL, President presented "Maintaining Strong Clubs", a session on attracting new members, at the Toastmasters District 65 officers training session at the Damon City Campus in December.

In May, **Tish Williams** spoke at Eleutheria '06, a ceremony at St. Mary's Church (downtown) held on May 7th to mark the anniversary of Irish freedom fighter Bobby Sand's death.

News10NBC interviewed **Mary Louise Musler, CTM** for *Rochester in Focus*, their public affairs program. In her capacity as co-president of the Rochester Association for the Education of Young Children, Musler described the local collaborative project, the Children's Film Fest.

Audrey Abbondanzieri, CTM is quoted in the Winter 2006 issue of PEP Talk, a quarterly for those working with parents and children. She retires in June after more than fifteen years as Director of the MCC Child Care Center.

Diane Navarro DeHond, CL, VP Membership shared her experience as an AmeriCorp member with the audience of a December 3rd screening *Everyday Heroes*, a documentary on national service, at the Little Theatre.

Condello Wows AAWCC

By Tish Williams

Rosanna Condello, CL, President, wowed attendees at the American Association of Community College Women's annual holiday luncheon. With her usual grin, she charmed and informed the audience of the connection between their adopted school, School # 45, and its namesake, Mary McLeod Bethune. In addition, Rosanna recognized the AAWCC's achievements over the year and demonstrated how each is well-aligned with the values Bethune exemplified during her life.

Attendees gave Rosanna a standing ovation. Kudos to Rosanna!

On the Road to President's Select Distinguished

By Rosanna Condello, CL, President

If we encourage four people to sign up this month, we will achieve the Select Distinguished Award from Toastmasters International! We can do it!

If you know of anyone who could benefit professionally and personally from Toastmasters, please invite them to a meeting and/or provide contact information to Diane DeHond, outgoing VP Membership at x3428 or ddehond@monroecc.edu.

Thanks to Pam Kone, Bob Lasch, Audrey Abbondanzieri, Sharron Waide, Mary Louise Musler and Alice Harrington for earning their CTM awards, Samson Olaode for achieving Competent Leader status and Nancy Woodhams for reaching ATM-Bronze. We also earned points when at least four officers attended division training sessions last summer and fall.



Upcoming Meetings

It might be summer but we're still here! MCC Toastmasters meetings are presently held in the Brighton Room, unless otherwise specified, and start at 4:45 pm.

Dates: June 13th and 27th
July 11th and 25th
August 8th and 22nd
September 12th and 26th

If you would like to join our club, please contact Krysta Banke, Vice President Membership, at x.2285

