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IT'S A BOY!

Welcome to the "club", Thomas David Sayre! Miriam, our current VP of Education, and her husband, Sean, became proud parents December 2nd.



Thomas weighed 7 lbs, 10 oz. when he arrived around 11 am that morning. Miriam's original due date as December 5th, but there were no complaints about the early arrival! **Susan Jenks** won the contest to Guess Miriam's Due Date: she guessed December 1st.

Mom and baby were released from Methodist on Tuesday, December 4th. Congratulations to the family on their firstborn!

Toastmaster Learning Institute

There will be a mid-year review for all club members and officers in Division C & D on January 5th, 2002 at the Grandview College, Krum Center.

The Toastmaster Learning Institute is open to ALL Toastmasters no matter what Division or Area they belong to.

Agenda

- 8:15 Early Bird Registration
- 8:30 Regular Registration
- 9:00 Welcome
- 9:05 "Back to the Basics"-- "Experience the W.O.W."
- 9:50 Break
- 10:00 Officer Training Session – Individual Classrooms
- 10:50 Break
- 11:00 Panel Discussion: "Everything You Wanted to Know...But Were Afraid to Ask"
- 12:00 Adjourn

Cost: \$1/person. At this bargain basement price, what a deal!

Note: Officers attending for training credits (for Distinguished Club Status) should plan to attend the 10 – 11 portion.

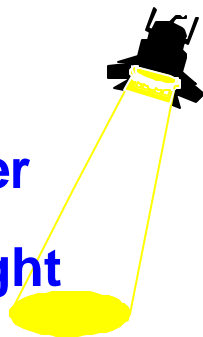
Location: Grandview College is located at E 13th & Grandview Ave, Des Moines.

Directions to Grandview:





New Member Spotlight



Susan Jenks

Susan joined our club after attending the Speechcraft classes held last spring.

Susan previously worked for US West-Qwest, but has since retired. Her new job "qwest" is to become a lay speaker at her church.

She says she joined Toastmasters because she witnessed firsthand the growth of a friend who had joined – that friend is our very own Linda Ross.

Susan's goal in as a member of Talk of Des Moines is to learn different styles of speaking and to become comfortable using the various styles.

We welcome Susan to our group, and support her in her speaking and vocational goals!

-- Bessie Parker

Distinguished Club Status

Slowly but surely, we're on our way to Distinguished Club. Paul or Bessie achieving ATM would help, and Virginia and Beth are well on their way to CTM status! In January, we may achieve the "officers trained" goal if we get four Board Members to attend. Look for more updates in the next issue!

GOALS:	ACHIEVED?	ACTUAL
1) Two CTM's		1
2) Two more CTM's		
3) One ATM		
4) One More ATM		
5) One CL, AL, or DTM		
6) Additional CL's, AL's, or DTM's		
7) Four New Members		3
8) Additional New Members		
9) Minimum of 4 officers going through training (fall and spring)		4 for spring ___ for fall
10) Officer list <i>and</i> Semi annual Dues <i>on time</i> (fall and spring)	✓	

Open House Turnout

Talk of Des Moines held the annual club Open House on Wednesday, December 5th at Park Place. Lunch was provided, and a total of 16 guests attended the event, representing various areas of American Republic Insurance.

Toastmaster for the day was Ernie Moore. Beth Wahlstrom gave a seasonal speech talking about "The Perfect Gift," which turned out NOT to be a blue velour shirt! Linda Ross, following the "Survival" theme, handed out rocks to those participating in Table Topics, and each rock had the question banded to it. We discovered that Bessie would lose her little finger if she had to, Elaina will never wear "little white shoes" to the fair again, Barb is a wimp when it comes to her health, and Sue Gay is deathly afraid of heights! A guest, Sandi Strandberg even participated, though she had a definite advantage – Sandi was a founding club member, and knew how to give a TableTopic!

Several others helped to make the day an overall success, and we hope the visitors can return again soon – the more the merrier, especially if they then become members!



Talk of Des Moines Toastmasters



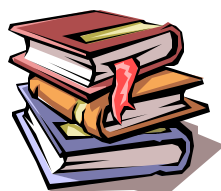
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2002 UPCOMING EVENTS

	<u>Birthdays</u>	<u>Club Events</u>
<i>January</i>	01/04 Ernie Moore 01/12 Linda Ross 01/16 Miriam Sayre 01/17 John Marshall January 5th – Grandview College	Review Distinguished Club Status Toastmaster Leadership Institute
<i>February</i>	02/26 Sue Gay Wed, Feb 13, Park Place	BRIAN LYNNER PLAYS PIANO!
<i>March</i>	03/04 Anita Elliott 03/17 Paul Freeman 03/25 Brian Lynner 03/29 Barb Ranck	Spring Speech Contest: International Speech/Table Topics
<i>April</i>		Club/Semiannual Dues DUE
<i>May</i>		
<i>June</i>	06/08 Bessie Parker	
<i>July</i>	07/02 Susan Jenks 07/18 Elaina Jones	Distinguished Club Status DUE
<i>August</i>	08/21 Colleen Lange	OFFICER TRAINING: TBA
<i>September</i>	09/30 Larry Manning	Fall Speech Contest: Humorous Speech/Evaluation Membership Drive?
<i>October</i>	10/23 Virginia Hudson	Club/Semiannual Dues DUE
<i>November</i>	NO MEETING	Wed. November 27
<i>December</i>	NO MEETING	Wed. December 25



THE TALK OF DES MOINES SPEECH LIBRARY

The following materials are available for use by any Talk of Des Moines member:

- **10 Advanced (ATM) Manuals** (one of each)
- **(4) Successful Club Speeches**
 - Evaluate To Motivate
 - Setting the Stage for Success (Club Roles & Responsibilities)
 - Creating the Best Club Climate
 - Finding New Members For Your Club



CONTACT: 248-5447



Seasons 2001

An original poem by Bessie Parker

October has come and gone
 Now the leaves
 are on my lawn!
 We had lots
 Of trick-or-treaters
 But mostly WE
 Were all the "eaters!"

November is warmer than
 In most years, it seems
 It's like a changeable extreme.
 Many things to be
 Thankful for
 Especially when loved ones
 Come to my door.

December will come with
 Snowy, cold days
 We're all hoping
 The wind won't stay.
 A month of caring and
 Sharing with our hearts
 And praying our friendship
 Will never depart

"Happy New Year" in 2002
 May you *always* be happy –
 Never blue.

WEBSITE UPDATE

Talk of Des Moines is in the process of creating our very own web site, and it's *almost* ready for review.

Watch for announcements in upcoming meetings. The goal is to have the site up and running in 2002.

Thanks to: Tricia Davidson, our "freelance" web designer for helping make this possible!



No-bake Cookie Recipe



If you have been having trouble deciding what to "whip up" this holiday season, consider this low-hassle, high-taste cookie recipe, brought to us by our own Linda Ross.

Linda originally used this recipe as part of her speech to "Show What You Mean." It's simple, it's easy, and best of all – it's no-bake! Thanks, Linda, for sharing both the recipe and the speech with us!

No-Bake Wheat Germ Peanut Butter Balls

Ingredients: 1 cup wheat germ
 1 cup smooth peanut butter
 1 cup honey
 1 ½ cups non-fat dry milk

Directions: Combine all ingredients in a bowl using a fork or your fingers. When well mixed, roll individually into balls (makes about 30 one-inch balls.) Serve immediately, or refrigerate and enjoy whenever.

THANK YOU, TALK OF DES MOINES MEMBERS

For those of you who attended or helped plan the December Open House, thanks to each of you for your roles. With 16 guests, food, and great weather, the event proved to be an overall success. Here again are the individuals who have earned their "kudos." Let's do it again soon. ☺

Ernie - for being the "esteemed" Toastmaster that he is - thanks for keeping the meeting rolling along.

Paul - who kicked off the meeting and set a positive atmosphere - it set the tone for the rest of the meeting.

Anita - her general evaluation made our club sound PERFECT! I mean, who WOULDN'T want to join now?

Larry - The Timing Master. Thanks for actually keeping track, which is a really tough job at TIMES - get it?

Beth - Another rousing and thought-provoking speech, told in true Beth style. A "gift" to our club!

Miriam - (in abstentia) - for scheduling everyone BEFORE she took off to go have a baby - way to be on the BALL!

Elaina - for handling the "melee" in yesterday's meeting, and for helping set up the food table so it was appealing AND efficient!

Bessie - for bringing her guests, the work on the scrapbook, and for keeping all of her fingers intact while she did it. (had to be there.)

Linda - for the table topics questions, which everyone SURVIVED! Great questions, even if one led to "the cockroach in Barb's cooking..." Hmmm...

Virginia - for just being herself, and for helping clean up and greet guests after the meeting – hopefully all the hard work will lead to new members!



2001-2002 Talk of Des Moines Board Officers

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Interested in a Board Position? Talk to any Board Member using the contact information provided. Elections for new positions will be held in June!

President's Corner: The New Year

Greetings, Fellow Toastmasters!

WHAT TIME IS IT? (And who is Timer this week, anyway?)

We all know what time it is: time to celebrate the season with family and friends, time to see who's been naughty or nice (I'm hoping I won't get any coal again this year!) and time to set goals and make resolutions.

Though New Year's resolutions may not be something you normally do individually, I'm challenging our club to come together strive to achieve the collective goals outlined below. We have a strong club that can do it, if we put our minds – and mouths – to it!

Here's wishing everyone a safe and Happy Holiday Season!

Proposed Club Goals for 2002

- At least one more CTM by the end of June
- One ATM by the end of June
- Three new members by the end of June
- A club exchange with another local downtown club
- Contest participants (and Area winners!) at the spring International Speech and Table Topics contests
- Visitors at two meetings per month
- Spring membership drive
- Distinguished club status
- New Board Member group in June (out with the old, in with the new – but as I'm writing this, I thank all the existing Board members for all their hard work!)
- A smooth transition for Miriam and her new baby bundle

■ --Barb Ranck, President

