



Talk of Des Moines Toastmasters



January, 2006

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New Member

Welcome to our newest member: Susan Hobart

Susan is married to Mike and has a chocolate lab named Hershey. She currently works as a media buyer at Flynn Wright Advertising.

Susan joined Toastmasters because "I do fine in a seated, informal setting for meetings, however, when it actually becomes a formal presentation, standing at the front of the room, I get very nervous. I need to work on that!"

Susan is originally from Marion, IA (a suburb of Cedar Rapids) and graduated with a BS in Journalism & Mass Communication from Iowa State University.

She enjoys camping, cooking for friends on the weekend, taking Hershey to the park, and spending time with her husband Mike.

Special note: Susan has an identical twin that is due to have her first child in the next few weeks!

President's Message

Congratulations on fulfilling 6 of the 10 goals of the Distinguished Club program. We have just passed the half way point and we are well on our way to achieving President's Distinguished Club status.

Talk of Des Moines Toastmasters had an extraordinary start to the New Year and gained six new members since July. Maintaining a strong membership base is the most important goal that we have as a club. It allows us to fill all of the meeting roles each week, enhances our meetings with entertaining speakers, and provides a strong leadership base for the club. In addition, achieving goals in the communication and leadership tracts benefits our club by giving members incentives and opportunities to speak and grow as leaders.

In the next six months, we must continue our drive to find new members for the club. Our goal is to find four more new members by June 30th, 2006. We need all of your help to be successful. In addition, we need one more person to achieve their CTM award by June 30th, 2006. There are several people in the running, but we are waiting for someone to step up to the plate and accept the challenge. Who will be first to CTM?

I look forward to the start of 2006 with great hope and expectation for Talk of Des Moines Toastmasters. I wish all of you a happy New Year.

Distinguished Club Progress

Vision: To Achieve President's Distinguished Club Status by June 2006.

6 of 10 Goals Completed!!

GOAL

- Achieve any five of 10 goals
- Achieve any seven of 10 goals
- Achieve any nine of 10 goals

RECOGNITION

- Distinguished Club
- Select Distinguished Club
- President's Distinguished Club

Membership Base: 15
Membership to Date: 19

Goal 1 – 2 CTM awards (Bob Vipond & Brett Debruyne)

Goal 2 – 2 more CTM Awards (Carole Stevens & ???)

Goal 3 - 1 ATM award (Bessie Parker ATM-G)

Goal 4 – 1 more ATM (???)

Goal 5 - 1 CL award (Bob Vipond)

Goal 6 – 1 more CL Award (???)

Goal 7 - 4 New members (Diane Bland, Jeanne Love, Tom Lu, George Clark)

Goal 8 – 4 more New Members (Beth Wahlstrom, Susan Hobart, ???, ???)

Goal 9 – Four officers trained during both training periods

Goal 10 – Member dues and officer lists submitted on-time



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Congratulations!!

Carole Stevens has completed her 10th speech in the Communication and Leadership manual and has earned her Competent Toastmasters award (CTM).

Congratulations Carole!

Member Confessions

Carole Stevens

I joined Talk of Des Moines Toastmasters in October 2004 after attending a four-week Speechcraft program. I am sometimes called upon to give presentations during the course of my work at the Iowa Finance Authority. Generally I feel reasonably confident doing so if given plenty of time for preparation, however, I knew my public speaking ability and overall communication skills could definitely be improved. I was especially nervous about any impromptu speaking situations - often finding myself drawing a "blank" or stumbling over my words.

Toastmasters has provided invaluable training and opportunity for practice in this area with innovative tactics such as "Table Topics" in which various members (who otherwise don't have an active speaking role during the current meeting) are asked to provide "off the cuff" one-to-two minute responses to questions which are often quite humorous, and which add to the fun and enjoyment of the over-all meeting.

I have also appreciated the opportunity for the continued development of leadership skills. As an accountant, I was asked to serve as Treasurer on our club's executive committee and have found that to be a rewarding experience. Our committee is a diverse group with a tremendous amount of enthusiasm and has been an inspiration to me for continued personal growth. The opportunity to lead and conduct various segments of the meeting by assuming the different Toastmaster roles has also proven to be a valuable skill that I find myself using in my everyday work situations. I was also very pleasantly surprised to have my participation in Toastmasters commented on in a very positive light in my recent performance evaluation.

Talk of Des Moines Toastmasters is a fun and supportive group, and my association with them has definitely increased my ability to be an effective and articulate public speaker. They truly reflect the Toastmasters' mission to develop communication and leadership skills and to foster self-confidence and personal growth. I am looking forward to continuing with Toastmasters and earning my Competent Leader award in the near future.



Talk of Des Moines Toastmasters



January, 2006

Officer List

President

Bob Vipond
515-255-7402 (home)
bob_vipond@yahoo.com

VP of Education

Anne Sexton
274-8132 (home)
Anne_sexton@aric.com

VP of Membership

Andrea Jones
471-8699 x31 (work)
andrea@cfiowa.org

VP of Public Relations

Brett DeBruyn
432-7792 (home)
brett@darkrealms.com

Secretary

Bessie Parker
282-7083 (home)

Treasurer

Carole Stevens
270-1773 (home)
cjs@dw.com

Sergeant of Arms

Paul Freeman
245-2007 (home)

Interested in serving as an officer? Talk to any Officer using the contact information provided. Elections for new positions will be held in May!

Announcements From Around Des Moines

FIND YOUR VOICE SHAPE YOUR WORDS CHANGE YOUR FUTURE

Your success in business is based on how effective you are. Through participation in the Toastmasters Communication and Leadership program, people from all backgrounds learn to effectively speak, conduct a meeting, manage a department or business, lead, delegate and motivate.

Please join us for lunch (our treat!) at our Toastmasters Open House and learn how you can build the crucial skills required for your success.

What: Regency Toastmasters Open House
Tom Mahoney, Executive Vice President of Sales and Marketing at ITA Group, will be the guest speaker.

When: Tuesday, January 10
Lunch from 11:30 am - 12:00 pm
Program from 12:00 pm - 1:00 pm

Where: ITA Group, 1st Floor Training Room
4800 Westown Parkway
West Des Moines, IA

What: Regency Toastmasters Open House
Doug Reichardt, CEO and Chairman will be the guest speaker.

When: Tuesday, January 17
Lunch 11:30 am - 12:00 pm
Program 12:00 pm - 1:00 pm

Where: Holmes Murphy, South Meeting Room
3001 Westown Parkway
West Des Moines, IA

How: Please RSVP to Tammi Schuchard at 515-223-6810 or
tschuchard@holmesmurphy.com

OPPORTUNITY KNOCKS TOASTMASTERS OPEN HOUSE

Our District 19 Governor, Marvin Johnson from Sioux City, will serve as key note speaker. We will also have our regularly scheduled speakers and evaluators. The Open House is the night before the District Executive Council meeting and Toastmaster Leadership Institute on Friday January 27th, 7-8:30 p.m.

This event celebrates our club's move to its new location at the Merle Hay Mall Community Room and our change from meeting once a month to now meeting twice a month. I hope you will consider attending. Guests and newcomers to Toastmasters are welcome.



Talk of Des Moines Toastmasters



January, 2006

Birthdays

January

4th - Ernie Moore
6th - Randy Essex
13th - Trevor Pollitt
31st - Susan Hobart

February

11th - Pat Willett
20th - Carole Stevens

March

17th - Paul Freeman

May

13th - Andrea Jones
14th - Tom Lu

June

8th - Bessie Parker

August

26th - Brett DeBruyn

September

15th - Beth Wahlstrom
26th - Anne Sexton
26th - Jeanne Love
27th - George Clark
30th - Larry Manning

November

5th - LeRoy Edge
11th - Bob Vipond
26th - Diane Bland

Calendar of Events

January 2006

8th Sunday – Executive Committee Meeting – 2 p.m.
Bessie Parker's house

28th Saturday – Toastmasters Leadership Institute
Farm Bureau Building
5400 University Ave. West Des Moines
Registration -- 8:30 AM Program -- 9:00 AM to 2:00 PM
There will be a cover charge that includes your noon meal

February

12th Sunday – Executive Committee Meeting – 2 p.m.
Drake Diner

22nd – Wednesday – Club Speech Contest (International and Table Topics)

Talk Up Toastmasters Membership Contest (Feb 1 – Mar 31)

March

12th Sunday – Executive Committee Meeting – 2 p.m.
Bessie Parker's house

29th – Wednesday – Toastmasters Dues Renewal to Treasurer

April

1st – Toastmaster Dues Renewal to Toastmasters International

9th Sunday – Executive Committee Meeting – 2 p.m.
Bessie Parker's house

22nd Saturday – Division C – Speech Contest

May

3rd - Club Officer Elections

5th and 6th – Friday and Saturday – District 19 Spring Conference
Sioux City – Clarion Hotel and Conference Center

14th – Sunday – Executive Committee Meeting – 2 p.m.
Bessie Parker's house

Beat the Clock Membership Contest (May 1 – June 30)

June

11th – Sunday – Executive Committee Meeting – 2 p.m.
Bessie Parker's house

15th – 17th – Thursday – Saturday – Region IV Conference
Minnetonka, MN