

PARRA NA77A

Parramatta Toastmasters Club No 2274, Area 13, Western Div, Dist.90

MEETING No: 1307 JANUARY 7 2016

Ribbon Holders of the Night Best Table Topics



Best Speaker
Nick Bertram



Best Evaluator *Ron Marriott*



Theme: My First Job

The first meeting of 2016 was filled with energy and minimum program changes. Rob Tibbertsma delighted us by bursting into a song to conclude his presentation. He sang the lyrics to his favourite song. Andrew Iverson gave us some facts and figures based on his experiences in the military forces. He talked about a weapon that "kicked like a mule" and told us he can shoot the enemy if needed. Sean kept the table topics to the theme of "my first Job" which allowed the participants to remember their own experiences and led to some very interesting answers.

Robyn Peck during her frivolous motion had members of the audience stick eye onto their glasses on top of their heads demonstrating that we mostly look down and maybe eyes on top of our heads would help the speakers feel like the audience was paying attention.

The speaking program was as usual very interesting and diverse. ranging from an icebreaker from a new member, Andrew Emerson to a speech from our most senior member, Gary Wilson.

John presented an educational presentation on Creating The Best Club Climate, reminding us how this is done and why we continue to achieve.

Andrew's icebreaker was extremely interesting, demonstrating that the Speechcraft course does produce some very advanced icebreaker speeches. with his speech "My Job as a food Officionado" led us from his birthplace to Sri Lanka and then Australia.

Nick Bertram's speech "How well do we know our Heros" was a very thought provoking speech about Martin Luther King, giving us a different perspective on his life.

Tom Woods speech titled "What did he say?" was a humorous speech in which Tom had us laughing at his accent and the different pronunciations as only Tom can do.

Gary's speech "VCRs and Me" a cycle of life. Took us back to the days when technology was very new and the VCR was the latest, allowing people to record shows and watch them at their leisure. It was very interesting to see how far we have come since the late 1970s.

We Inducted a new member
Ingrid Bascur



And the contest season Begins

Our next meeting is the club evaluation contest. It is also the time when clubs all around will be conducting evaluation contests. This is a great opportunity to get some additional stage time as test speakers. If you are interested give your names to our VPE John New.

Each evaluation contest follows a simple, standard procedure

- 1. The contest begins with a short speech given by a test speaker. (from a different club)
- 2. Contestants watch and listen to the test speaker.
- 3. At the conclusion of the speech, contestants are ushered out of the room.
- 4. They are given five minutes to review notes. At the end of this period, their notes are gathered.
- 5.One at a time, contestants are brought back to the room to deliver a two- to three-minute evaluation,
- 6. Judges score each contestant. Scores are tallied to determine the winners.

The contest cycle begins each year at the local club level. Winners then proceed to area, division, and district level contests.

Why You Should Attend a Toastmasters Evaluation Contest

If you are truly interested in improving your speech evaluation skills, I encourage you to attend one or more contests, even if you are not a Toastmasters member (generally speaking, contests are open to the public).

- •Contests are entertaining.
- •Contests are inexpensive. Generally, a nominal fee is charged to cover the cost of refreshments.
- •You can learn from the test speaker.
- •Contestants are generally quite proficient in the art of evaluation. This is particularly true at higher levels of the contest.
- •The variety of approaches and analytical observations will surely complement your existing evaluation skills.

Why You Should be a Toastmasters Evaluation Contest Test Speaker

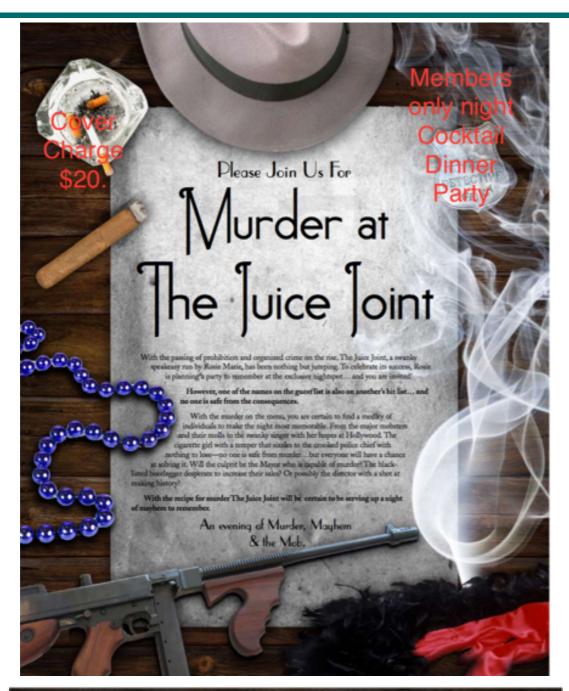
Last year I had the privilege of being the test speaker at a contest.. After delivering the test speech, I then listened with fascination as the five contestants evaluated my speech. I learned a great deal from this process. and ended up redoing my speech again at our club.

- •The breadth of comments was much wider than you can get from a single evaluation (or even from a self-evaluation).
- •Receiving multiple evaluations really puts a spotlight on any glaring areas needing improvement. When four of five evaluators suggest you have a weakness in a certain area, then you really need to listen with open ears.
- •As with areas needing improvement, multiple evaluations will also highlight your strongest skills and techniques.

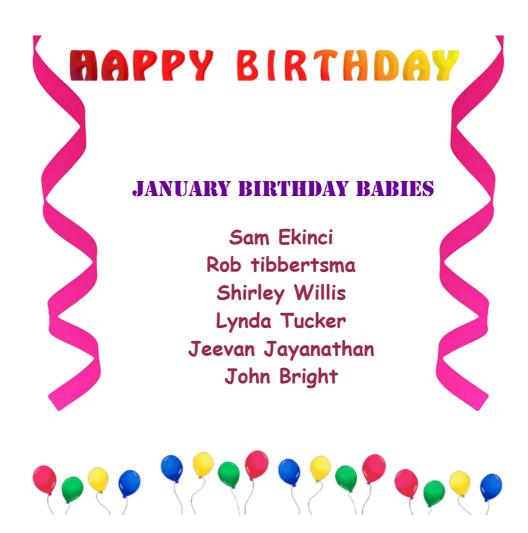
Why You Should Compete in a Toastmasters Evaluation Contest

I recommend that you compete the next time you have the opportunity to do so.

- •You will have fun!
- •The added pressure of a contest (and perhaps a new venue) forces you to step outside your speaking comfort zone. By doing so, you will grow, not just as an evaluator, but as a speaker as well.
- •You might win!
- •Whether you win or not, you will learn new techniques from the other contestants.
- •Generally, each level that you advance brings a larger audience.







Mark your Calenders

21 January 2016 : Club evaluation Contest Parrmatta RSL club

9 February 2016 : Speechcraft Course starts.

Venue: Rowland Hassall School

17 March 2016 : Theme Meeting. "Murder at the Juice Joint"

Members only Event

Venue: Linden room, Parramatta RSL club

Time: 6.15 pm onwards

RSVP: vpe@parramattatm.org.au