

**Toastmasters, Inc**  
**Presidents Club**  
**District 14, Area 31-Club 1713**  
**Wednesday, November 04, 2009**  
**East Cobb Gov't Center**  
***In Sickness and in Health***

**AGENDA**

| <b>Time:</b> | <b>Task:</b>      | <b>Title:</b> | <b>Name:</b>          |
|--------------|-------------------|---------------|-----------------------|
| 7:00pm       | Call to order     | Sgt at Arms   | <i>Emma Hitt</i>      |
| 7:02pm       | Invocation/Pledge |               | <i>Debbie Field</i>   |
| 7:04pm       | Toastmaster       |               | <i>Eric Holtzclaw</i> |

|        |                                     |                                 |  |
|--------|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------|--|
| 7:06pm | Introduction of Helpers             |                                 |  |
|        | <b>Jokemaster</b> Jodi Sheffield    | <b>Grammarians</b> Lan Bercu    |  |
|        | <b>Vote Counter</b> Ellen Katzowitz | <b>Timer</b> Charlene Anderson  |  |
|        | <b>"Ah" Counter</b> Tom Nixon       | <b>Videographer</b> Mark Eysted |  |

**Word of the Day:**

*Cantankerous: difficult or irritating to deal with*

|        |              |  |                       |
|--------|--------------|--|-----------------------|
| 7:15pm | Table Topics |  | <i>Daniel Jourdan</i> |
|--------|--------------|--|-----------------------|

1 *"What is your most embarrassing moment involving a doctor?"* *Emma Hitt*  
 Emma is very healthy and has not experienced a specific embarrassing moment while visiting a doctor but would argue that doctor experiences relating to women only can be embarrassing.

2 *"What were some of your family's home remedies?"* *Alex Gunther*  
 Alex was fortunate enough to grow up in the 20th century with modern medicine and did not have to rely on home remedies.

3 *"Would you sacrifice 1 person close to you to save all present and future victims of breast cancer?"* *Rob McGoldrick*  
 Rob would choose to sacrifice himself and save millions of people in hopes that a structure would be built in his honor, or a day would be named in remembrance of his greatness.

4 *"What is the strangest diet you know of or have taken part in?"* *Rush Netterville*  
 The most bizarre diet or weight loss system that Rush has heard of is the gastric bypass surgery and recommends that everyone exercise and watch what they eat to avoid reverting to an abnormal weight loss system.

7:27pm **-----7 MINUTE BREAK -----**

|        |  |  |                       |
|--------|--|--|-----------------------|
| 7:36pm | <b>Introduction of Speakers and Speeches</b> |  | <i>Eric Holtzclaw</i> |
|        | 1 "It is Rosh what?"                         |  | <i>Lisa Goodman</i>   |

Manual: Advanced Comm., Speaking to Inform, Speech #1

Time: 5-7 min

Objectives: Select new and useful information for presentation to the audience. Organize the information for

easy understandability and retention. Present the information in a way that will help motivate the audience

Lisa gave us a lesson on Judaism, the Jewish calendar and the meaning of Rosh Hashanah because she realized the lack of knowledge that may be present with the majority of the population, when the area contest was scheduled to fall on the Jewish holiday of Rosh Hashanah. The Jewish people follow the Torah which is the 5 books of Moses or the Old Testament in the Christian Bible and do not believe a Messiah has come yet. The Jewish calendar is a lunar calendar based on the cycles of the moon. Each month begins with the new moon and has 29 or 30 days. Rosh Hashanah marks the new year in the Hebrew calendar and is observed on the first day or Tishrei. Rosh Hashanah is the beginning of the 10 "Days of Awe," which conclude with Yom Kippur, the "Day of Judgement." The "Days of Awe," are a time to repent and take stock of your life and decide what changes need to be made. On Rosh Hashanah the books of God, which hold the fate of each Jewish person for the upcoming year, are opened giving the Jewish people an opportunity to change their fate through repentance, prayer or acts of kindness. When we think of September Lisa asks us to keep in mind the minorities that may celebrate sacred days with their loved ones and God.

## 2 "2012, or an Ounce of Prevention

*Ilya Filvinsky*

Manual: Public Relations, Crisis Management, Speech #5

Time: 4-6 min presentation, 3-5 min Q&A

**Objectives:** Strategies to communicate to the media about a company crisis. Prepare a speech about a crisis that maintains a positive image. Answer questions in a manner that reflect positively on the company.

Ilya hosted a press conference in 2012 to discuss a crisis facing the President's Club. In 2012 the vote was coming to decide if the President's Club should stay with Toastmasters or quit and join the Matrix which is an organization dedicated to improving and enhancing our computerized, gadget assisted speaking skills. Ilya argues that gadget assistance leads to lesser thinking and is against the overall objective of Toastmasters. The crisis began in 2009 when members were inspired by trends in the nation's politics and noted the impeccable skill of the Speaker in Chief when using teleprompters. A second inspiration in the way huge bills were rushed through the House and Government, led the club to rush the vote through on whether or not dues should be increased. Ilya argues that the intention of increased dues was not to spend on tools to enhance our speaking ability but to spend on gadgets. Ilya asks us to keep in mind that the best computer is between our ears, the best screen is our audience and the best projector is our voice.

Questions:

Q: Is there a middle ground between becoming fully dependent on gadgets and simply using them?

A: Gadgets are meant to assist us, but we make them the center point through the mere ownership because gadgets will break, computers will crash and the machinery needs to be dragged around from location to location. Furthermore, gadgets negatively effect our speaking skills because we become too reliant on them.

Q: At time of vote were there other options presented?

A: Other options were presented but because of the shortage of time and the vote was being made after normal meeting hours, presenters of opposing views decided not to abuse the time of their fellow Toastmasters by expanding on their views.

Q: What is the difference in objectives of Matrix as opposed to President's Club?

A: Matrix aims to improve gadget assisted speaking skills as opposed to internal assisted CPU speaking skills.

Q: Now that the dues have been raised how would you use the extra money?

A: The money should be used on real speaking improvement tools such as manuals and seminars or simply decrease the dues. Money should be simply be considered a tool within the President's Club to improve our core speaking skills.

3 "Just and Ordinary Person in an Extraordinary Time."

*Vahn Wagner*

Manual: Advanced Comm, Storytelling, Speech #5

Time: 8-10 min

**Objectives:** To understand the purpose of stories about historical events or people. Use storytelling skills developed in the preceding projects to tell a story about a historical event or person.

Vahn told us the story of Meep a Christian woman who risked her life to help her Jewish friends seek refuge from the Nazis. Meep came to work for Otto Frank when she was 33 years old. During that time she built a strong relationship with Otto's wife and 2 daughters Margot and Anne. When Mr. Frank pulled Meep into his office one day to ask for her assistance in helping his family hid from the Nazis she agree without giving it a second thought. 1 month after their conversation Margot, the Frank's oldest daughter, received news that she was going to be shipped to a forced labor in Germany. At that moment the decision was to made immediately go into hiding. With the help of Meep, the Franks, along with the Van Dans and a Mr. Drussell (8 people in total) sucessfully hid from the Nazis for 2 years before being discovered. Upon being discovered, all were sent to the Auschwitz concentration camp. Otto Frank was the only member of the 8 to survive the horrifying experience of the concentration camp.

4 "Equal Protection Under the Law."

*Jim Dawson*

Manual: Persuasive Speaking, Addressing the Opposition, Speech #4

Time: 7-9 min pres., 2-3 min Q&A

**Objectives:** Prepare a talk on a controversial subject that persuades an audience to accept or least consider his viewpoint. Construct the speech to appeal to the audience's logic and emotions. Answer questions from the audience.

Jim states that a segment of the population exist that is not only segregated against but at times are threatened, beaten, and sometimes even killed because of their life style. Jim defines a married couple as a family unit wherein each individual within the unit vows to love, cherish, grow and take care of the other person. Jim contends that we are not abiding by the law of the land when we deny same sex marriage. A couple of the same sex that live together and grow together should have the same rights as a straight couple. Jim urges us to open our minds and hearts and remember that we live in the land of the free, not the oppressed

Q: Why do we need to make separate laws that apply strictly to homosexuals?

A: Separate laws need to be made because gays are forbidden to do certain things under the current laws.

Q: How should a child, who does not agree with the gay lifestyle, be told that his godmother is gay?

A: Wait for the right moment. Find out the cause of the prejudice and work from there.

Q: What do you think will happen 15 years from now?

A: If we follow history and the changes that have occurred in such instances as slavery being abolished, equal rights, etc...same sex marriage will probably come to pass on a state by state basis.

8:28pm **Introduction of Evaluators and Evaluations**

General Evaluator

*Kumar Choudhuri*

Evaluator for *Lisa Goodman*

*Sutham Cheuropakobkit*

Evaluator for *Ilya Filvinsky*

*Susan McMullen*

Evaluator for *Vahn Wagner*

*Clemmie Scott*

Evaluator for *Jim Dawson*

*Ernie Pollitzer*

8:55pm **Business Meeting & Announcements**

*Tom Nixon*

1 The Club is planning to hold another January banquet at The Relish.

- 2 Next meeting will be at the Habad, the Jewish center next to the government center.
- 3 Emma Hitt and Rachel Hilgers are graduating from a comedy workshop. The graduation ceremony will take place November 23rd at the Punch Line

**The Evening's "Bests"**

Helper *Tom Nixon*

Table Topics *Rob McGoldrick*

Evaluator *Clemmie Scott*

Speaker *Jim Dawson*

**Attending Members:**

Charlene Anderson, Judy Anderson, Lan Bercu, Sutham Cheurprakobkit, Kumar Choudhuri, Jim Dawson, Mark Eysted, Debbie Field, Ilya Filvinsky, Lisa Goodman, Alex Gunther, Emma Hitt, Eric Holtzclaw, Daniel Jourdan, Ellen Katzowitz, Rob McGoldrick, Susan McMullen, Casey Moore, Rush Netterville, Tom Nixon, Ernie Pollitzer, Judi Rogers, Clemmie Scott, Jodi Sheffield, Vahn Wagner

**Guests**

Naresh Malik

