

The Whispering Woods



Note from the Editor

Welcome to our Cumberland Forest Toastmasters December 2005 newsletter. Its been a wonderful year with lots of fun and entertainment. We have heard lots of wonderful speeches and have seen many people progress their speaking skills. Looking forward to the New Year and hoping it will be as enjoyable and if not more than this one!!!!



Merry Christmas Everyone!

I hope you all have a safe and enjoyable break!!!

In this newsletter edition our member profile is on Beau Badawy.



Presidents remarks Holiday Season Arrives

Well CFTMers, can you believe that it's that time of year again? Parties, gifts and family events! It's also time to reflect on the year past. Have you thought about what you've achieved in the Toastmaster year to now?

Surprisingly a lot of us do not checkpoint to see how we've progressed. Not only to identify any shortfalls, more importantly to also **celebrate our successes**.

I'd encourage you all to sit down for a minute and write down;

- One thing that you didn't do, but should have,
- Two things that you did okay, but could have done better, and
- Three things that you did exceptionally well

Now that you've completed your mini-review, pat yourself on the back! Firstly for

doing it ☺ Secondly, because you now have some items that you can work on in the future. Thirdly, you've got some real achievements to **celebrate!** In fact, come along to the our end of year party on 19th December and have a drink or two as a reward!

For the upcoming festive season I wish everyone in our club, their families and friends a wonderful time. Stay safe through the break, and pencil into your calendars that our first meeting of 2006 will be on the 9th January.

A word from our VP Membership – Marcel Raffoul



When I look back at my first day in TM, 3 years ago, I see a completely changed man in both attitude & confidence and this I owe it all to CFTM which has provided me with the ideal environment to grow my communications skills.

As with everything in life, taking a proactive approach is the key to achieving your goals.

For me, I realised how important communications skills in my career and I needed to get over my shyness and fear of public speaking and so I took on the advice of my team leader and joined CFTM.

In TM I had to get off my seat and face the music in front of a room full of people; and that's where the real character building starts; this is where you step out of your comfort zone and face your most innate fear.

And the more you do it, the more controlled you become, the less daunting it will be and most importantly the more fun you'll get out of it.

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We can all do with more confidence and better communications skills in our personal and professional lives. the real question is are you going to act on it?

Marcel Raffoul
(2005 - 2006 VP Membership)

Member profile: Beau Badawy

I was born in the good old 60's in Switzerland, in the city of Zurich.

As a child I used to celebrate a white Christmas nearly every year and enjoyed building a snow man or having a snowball fight.

My dream job was to become an airline pilot and go and see the world and visit all the different countries.

But to do the adventurous thing I become an Adventure Tour Guide in the United States where I was taking tourists from all over the world around the U.S and Mexico. This was a time I always like to look back to, sitting by the campfire and telling each other jokes.

Now I have been living in Australia for almost 6 years and have got used to driving on the other side of the road and now know what a "cobber" is.

I have spent 4 years in Melbourne where I worked for an oil company as computer programmer and also for Holden.

Coming to Sydney 2 years ago for the IBM contract was a big step as a social network had to be established first. Today I have to say Sydney is one of the most beautiful and liveable cities in the world. I am a member of a 4WD club in Sydney and enjoy the adventurous trips we do. My favourite parts are driving through water and flying over sand dunes.

My goal is to one day drive around Australia for a few month with my tent and see the rest of this beautiful country.

Got something to say?

This is the Club's newsletter so please let Peter, or any of the executive team know, what you would like to see in future newsletters so that they add value to you.

We also want articles! If you'd like to see your name in lights then send your contribution to Peter.

Contact Peter directly or email cftm@au1.ibm.com.

Trivia Time

See if you know the answers to the following. Answers available in the next newsletter;



Q: What is the collective word for a group of frogs?

Q: What is an arctophile?

Q: What two countries are bordered by the greatest number of nations?

Q: What word ends with an S in its plural masculine form, but changes to singular feminine when another S is added to the end?

Q: Whose secret ingredient is code-named 7X?

Answers to last editions Trivia questions!

Q: For about how many years did the Dinosaurs live on Earth before they became extinct?

A: Dinosaurs lived on Earth for around 165 million years before they became extinct.

Q: Who does most of the hunting between the male or female lions?

A: It is the female lion who does more than 90 percent of the hunting, while the male is afraid to risk his life, or simply prefers to rest.

Q: What is a baby bat called?

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A: A baby bat is called a pup.

Q: What is the main reason that Dolphins jump out of the water?

A: Dolphins jump out of the water to conserve energy. It is easier to move through the air than through the water.

Q: What is the body's largest organ?

A: The skin is the body's largest organ. It helps keep the body at the ideal temperature by insulating it in the cold and allowing heat to escape when it is warm.

Q: Is the sound heard by a listener when holding a seashell to their ear come from the shell?

A: The sound heard by a listener when holding a seashell to his ear does NOT come from the shell itself. It is the echo of the blood pulsing in the listener's own ear.

Planned Schedule for Whispering Woods

Publication Date	Article Submission Deadline
27 October 2005	N/A
Late December	15 th December
Late January	15 th January
Early March	15 th February
Early May	15 th April
Late June	15 th June



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