

The Whispering Woods



Note from the Editor

Welcome to our
Cumberland Forest
Toastmasters March 2006 newsletter.



To date the year seems to be going well with lots of great entertainment. The club is rather healthy and diversified and everyone seems to be having fun. Let's continue with this!!!!

Could you please take time out and send me some material that can be placed into future editions of "The Whispering Woods". This will help ensure that the newsletter stays alive.

In this newsletter edition our member profile is on Viet-Son Nguyen.

President's remarks

Hi Toastmasters!
Well, we're in March now, rapidly heading towards the end of the Toastmasters year in June. I hope you are all **excited** about our club, and your experience in it. Whether it be building your communication or leadership skills; or simply enjoying the social environment we hope you are having fun, while accomplishing your goals. If you have any feedback to assist us improve, please let your executive team know.

This month, Thanh Duong our treasurer will be collecting Dues for the April to September period. **I encourage you all to organise your payments ASAP to help her submit our club dues on time!**

Three things to look out for:

1. Examine our recent Club Quality Audit Results and Actions list. They will be on our website shortly. The three areas we will be immediately strengthening are: Visitor Welcome (Q1), Mentoring (Q8, Q10), Program Planning (Q19)

2. Read the Distinguished Club Program (DCP) report later in the newsletter, to see how we are doing as a club.
3. Make sure you're participating in the new mentor / mentee program, which Marcel Raffoul (as Vice President of Education [VPM]) is leading very effectively. This offers you a structured and supportive environment to work towards your goals!

The three points I've just mentioned, are all about "*Planning the work, and working the plan.*" Take this onboard, and make your goals a reality this year!

Darren Gilchrist (2005 – 2006 President)

A word from our Sergeant at Arms (SaA) – Barry Gifford.



I joined the Cumberland Forest Toastmasters Club in May 1999 & I have held or hold the following club officer positions

- Vice President Public Relations 1999-2000 & 2000-2001
- Treasurer 2001-2002
- President 2002-2003
- Immediate Past President 2003-2004
- Sergeant at Arms 2004-2005 & 2005-2006

Plus I have obtained these Toastmasters International accreditations being Competent Toastmaster 31 October 2000 and Competent Leader 28 June 2001.

One of the assignments that I enjoy in Club meetings is the Laugh Master because it gives me a chance to inflict my bad jokes (most obtained from the Kochie's Joke of the Day on the Channel 7 Sunrise Show) on my fellow Toastmasters.

"So what does Barry do as SaA?!" we might hear you ask! **(PTO to find out!)**

CFTM : To succeed...we're planning our work, and working our plans!

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Firstly, he doesn't carry a gun like they do on international ships in case of pirates, it's a Parliamentary Title in Toastmasters ☺

Sergeant at Arms (SaA):

Outside of the Club meeting

- Schedule the meeting location.
- Maintain Club equipment & supplies - Responsible for Club property management.
- Hospitality - Social, Reception (Induction) and Recognition events organiser.
- Attend Club Executive Committee meetings.
- Attend District-sponsored Club officer training.
- Arrange for a replacement if you are unable to attend a Club meeting for assistance.
- Prepare your successor for office.

At the Club meeting

- Arrange the room before the meeting begins - Meeting room preparation and hospitality.
- Greet members and guests.
- Greet visiting officers (from other Toastmasters Clubs, etc).
- Arrange for food service (if required for special occasions).
- Ensure the meeting starts and finishes on time.
- Collect ballots and tally votes for Awards.

Like most of our club members, I work for IBM. I joined IBM almost 10 years ago. First as a technician, then warehouse system support, and now I am an IT Business Analysis for Global Logistics, so if you need to ship any thing, any time, any where... You know who to call.

I am married with two children, Aaron (daddy's little boy) who is 3 years old and Jonathan who is 11 weeks old (too young to be daddy's boy).

My hobbies are fish keeping, and to a little extend Bonsai. I have a discuss tank, a Koi pond, and a planted tank with Goldfish in it. I also have a number of bonsai trees that I am training. These hobbies require a bit of time, but ever since the arrival Jonathan, I am finding it a bit difficult to juggle work, family, and the hobbies... so the loser here are the hobbies...

I also enjoy outdoor activities like camping, snorkelling, swimming, fishing etc... but have not been able to do that lately. I am planning to take that up again once my sons are a bit older.

I've joined TM for almost 6 months now... But I have not been devoting as much time as I should have to TM. This year however, things will change... I am going to take on a more active role in TM. So if there is anything that a new comer can do, let me know :)

Member profile: Viet-Son Nguyen.

I was born in Vietnam in 1967, and "escaped" Vietnam in 1978, a few years after the end of the civil war.

We became refugees and were very lucky to have settled in Australia. I came here with my two parents, one younger brother and a youngest sister. We have lived in Bonnyrigg and the surrounding suburbs ever since we've arrived.

Got something to say?

Don't forget that this is the Club's newsletter so please let Peter Tohme 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.

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Trivia Time

See if you know the answers to the following.

Answers available in the next newsletter;

Q: Originally what colour was Coca-Cola?

Q: What is the strongest muscle in the body?

Q: True or False – Women blink nearly twice as much as men.

Q: True or False – Can you kill yourself by holding your breath?

Q: True or False – It is possible to lick you elbow.

Q: True or False – It is possible for pigs to look into the sky.



Answers to last editions Trivia questions!

Q: What do the words almost and biopsy have in common?

A: Their letters are in alphabetical order.

Q: What's the only word in the English language having four consecutive double letters?

A: Subbookkeeper. (bookkeeper, bookkeeping and tattooee are the only words having three consecutive double letters.)

Q: What is the only word in the English language that ends in 'mt'?

A: Dreamt

Q: What is 'trichlorophenylmethyliodisalicyl' more commonly known as?

A: TCP antiseptic.

Q: What year when written in Roman numerals uniquely contains one each of the Roman number symbols in descending order?

A: **MDCLXVI = 1666 (M = 1000, D = 500, C = 100, L = 50, X = 10, V = 5, I = 1.)**

Upcoming events in 2006

6 Mar – Our club's International Speech & Evaluation Contests.

20 Mar – Our club's 10th Year Anniversary Extravaganza.

Should Darren shave his beard off???....I think it's a "YES". ☺

Male Responses;

-Beards are definitely a chick magnet, in Darren's case it adds a Roger Moore 007 distinguished look.

-I have no opinion – I'm not gay!

-It's his decision. Each to their own.

Female Responses;

-I vote and hope that Darren SHAVES OFF his beard! - not a good look, mate! Only "bandidos" grow beards to look the part, or perhaps is it the 3 amigos! Hey!

-I think Darren should get rid of that beard. It looks funny.

-Darren should lose the beard

Location of the month!

Check out this fabulous resource. You can download videos of Toastmasters giving their speeches. Toastmaster Time is a Community TV club!

<http://www.toastmastertime.com/>

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Distinguished Club Program (DCP) report

Currently our club has achieved, or on track to achieving the following:

GOAL	DESCRIPTION	STATUS
1	Two CTMs	On target
2	Two more CTMs	Need help
3	One ATM-B, ATM-S or ATM-G	On target
4	One more ATM-B, ATM-S or ATM-G	On target
5	One CL, AL or DTM	Y
6	One more CL, AL, or DTM	Need help
7	Four new members	Y
8	Four more new members	On target
9	Minimum of four officers trained each training period	Y
10	Semi and one officer list submitted on time	Y
20 members as at 30 June 2006		Y

We are in an excellent position entering into the last quarter of the Toastmasters year. Well done to everyone so far. Thank you for your effort!

However we can't let up. We believe we have 2 x Advanced Toastmaster Bronze (ATM-B) and 2 x Competent Toastmaster (CTM) awards achievable by members by June 30th, however sometimes hiccups do occur.

To achieve President's Distinguished Club comfortably again this year (8 goals out of

10), we also need your assistance to also meet educational goals #2 and #6.

If you feel you can accomplish a CTM or Competent Leader (CL) before June 30th, please let Marcel Raffoul know right away!

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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