

Governor's Toastmasters

Club #3031



WELCOME to our club! We're glad to have you as a visitor. If you've never been to Toastmasters before, you may be curious about what goes on during a meeting. We'll try to explain a little about the meeting so you won't feel so lost. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact my officer or member.

Toastmasters International has clubs all-over the world. Governor's meets on Thursday at noon at the Oklahoma Farm Bureau on 2501 N Stiles.

Our goal is to provide members with opportunities to improve their listening, evaluating, speaking and eldership skills through a standard meeting format provided by Toastmasters International. Each of us, like you, joined to seek self-improvement. Many started with little or no speaking skills or experience. The program is designed to help you recognize and expand the skills you currently have, and develop new skills as well. Our club strives to provide a positive, supportive atmosphere in which to grow and have fun.

Our meetings include duties that are performed on a regular basis. All positions are rotated within the membership to provide experience. All duties emphasize a particular area of communication-speaking, leading, listening or evaluation. The following is a brief description of the various duties you will observe during the meeting.

MEETING LEADERS (The Big Three)

The Toastmaster confirms the speakers and duty holders prior to the meeting, prepares the agenda and conducts the meeting. (Although the Toastmaster could select the theme of the meeting the Vice-President-Education plans the educational portion of the meeting including the duty rotation and selection of the theme of the meeting.)

The Table Topics Master calls upon members (not Guests, relax) at random to make an impromptu 1-2 minute "mini-speech" based on a question they have been asked. This exercise helps members learn to think on their feet. (Usually, the Table Topics Master asks Questions based upon the theme of the meeting.)

The General Evaluator is responsible for evaluating both the content and the technical aspects of the meeting – a "quality control officer", so to speak! Like a speech evaluator, the General Evaluator should plan to offer ways of improving a meeting.

PREPARED SPEECHES & EVALUATIONS

Each member giving a prepared speech is working out of either a basic or advanced speech manual and will have a set of goals their speech is expected to meet. If you are unclear as to the purpose of the speech, feel free to ask any member sitting near you.

Using the guidelines found in the manual, each person serving as an evaluator will provide both an oral evaluation of the speech to the club and a written evaluation to the speaker.

DUTY HOLDERS

The Sergeant-at-Arms calls the meeting to order, introduces the invocator and, after the Pledge of Allegiance, introduces the President or presiding officer of the meeting.

The Invocation and Pledge opens the meeting. The member may either offer a prayer or provide a positive, inspirational or motivational thought, depending on their personal preference.

The Grammarian/Ah Counter listens during the meeting for incorrect use of grammar as well as vocalizations we use to fill up space while we think (such as ah, uh) and filler words like: and, like or, you know. The Grammarian/Ah Counter gives a report at the end of the meeting.

The Joke/Word Master provides the joke and word of the day (including a definition and a sentence in which the word is used). The Word Master gives a report that includes the number of people who used the word. By using the word, we have the opportunity to increase our vocabulary.

The Timer notifies participants when their speaking time is up by using various colored lights or cards. The maximum allowable time has been reached when you see RED. The Timer will be asked for a report of the times of each Table Topics speaker, Speaker and Evaluator.

The Vote Counter counts the votes for each of the meeting segments and presents the results of the votes to the Toastmaster at the end of the meeting. Both members and visitors are encouraged to vote and ballots are provided to do so.

OTHER LEADERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Governor's club has seven officers who serve a six-month term. The District Organization provides for officer training. In addition to club officers, there are offices at the Area Division, District and International levels.

HOW TO BECOME A MEMBER

It's easy – just ask any member or officer for an application. Prorated dues are paid upon joining, and then every September and March.

When you become a member, you will be inducted into the club (not as bad as it sounds, trust us). A mentor will be assigned to help you with any questions or problems you may have (and cheer you). You will also work with the Vice President-Education to schedule your duties and assignments. You will be allowed to progress and grow at the rate most comfortable to you.

It is People just like yourself who have much to say and offer that can have a positive and important impact in the lives of the people you live, work and come in contact with on a day by day basis. The only thing that stands between you and your positive potential is the fear that holds you captive in taking that first step forward. If we can do this so can you. Becoming a member of toastmasters is easy, fun and personally rewarding. Seeing is believing. See yourself as a developing speaker and we will see you at our next club meeting. We are glad you came.

For More Information Contact:

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