



# Speak Easy

## Standing room only!

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Feb 9, 2007—A record number of guests at Memorial Toastmasters meeting last week proved that our club is making an impact. Various people from students, to top executives participated and said how much they enjoyed the meeting. Now that Memorial Toastmasters has experienced so many guests at one meeting, 9 in total and with a high turn out of members in one night, Toastmasters may have to begin looking to find a new venue for our meetings.

"It certainly would be nice to see our meetings conducted in the Lecture Theatre, at the INCO Centre, from time to time," said Samantha Gerbeau, President of Memorial Toastmasters.

"A few things would have to be considered to get something like that underway, though," added Samantha. Thinking about the lecture theatre as a possible venue for meetings would provide members with a larger style venue for delivering a speech, which from time to time becomes a possibility for speakers who are avid at providing public presentations.

### Special points of interest:

- Did you know that Memorial Toastmasters has more club members than any other chapter in Newfoundland and Labrador?
- Did you know that you can serve others with your public speaking by volunteering your time for groups and functions?
- Did you get your latest Toastmasters magazine?
- Remember! Get your self a mentor if you have not done so already.
- Do you have your next speech ready?

### Thought of the Day

There is no such thing as good or bad. Thinking makes it so.

Think big, and you become big.

-Yogi Bajan

## Theme night February 2007

In the past, Memorial Toastmasters has provided a theme night every quarter for members to get more involved in speaking. This month marks the time when Theme Night is due again, and members are encouraged to participate.

The theme for this month, was to have something surrounding the Valentine's Day, yet with more re-

sponse from participants needed, Theme Night will now be taking place on February 21st, 2007. At the last meeting members suggested the theme, "Why I Love Toastmasters". This will give members the opportunity to deliver a 2 to 3 minute speech on why they love it and what makes them keep coming back for more. If you are interested in delivering a speech for

Theme Night, please get in contact with the VP Education, Donald Snow at

[donaldsnow@esdnl.ca](mailto:donaldsnow@esdnl.ca)

## Educational Tip—the art of listening

Have you ever been to a presentation and felt like you were falling asleep? Listening effectively can be just as hard as giving a speech. One of the main problems is that we only remember 20% of what we hear. So how can we listen more effectively?

Here are a couple of hints to help you listen as an effective audience participant:

Show intrigue—as dry as someone's presentation might be, try and find one thing that helps to keep you engaged in hearing more. It may be as simple as just watching the person's body language or their tone, but this will help you to stay interested.

Ask questions—one of the best ways to keep listening is to engage yourself by asking questions that pertain to you. The more questions, the more feedback which is what really helps in learning to listen effectively.

Keep notes—if you are required to keep questions until after, write down a few notes, while you listen. This will help keep you awake and ready to respond

## Our New VP Public Relations

Holly Rideout, is Memorial Toastmaster's newest executive member. Holly has a history with Memorial Toastmasters since she first joined back in 2004. Holly's absence from Memorial Toastmasters was a loss for the club and now that she has returned, it is great to see her jump on board and take on the role of VP Public Relations.



Holly will be responsible for maintaining the club's message and to provide outside sources with information regarding Memorial Toastmasters.

She is hoping to set up an internal committee so that she can get the help needed to perform her duties. Holly will be looking for people who can help her with the monthly newsletter, creating any kind of advertising on our club's initiatives, and helping to keep the club's level of professionalism at a peak of performance.

If you would like to learn more about Holly's role and how you can help contact her at [www.hollyrideout.com](http://www.hollyrideout.com)

## Success Stories

*Do you have a success story that you would like to share? If so, why not forward it along so that others can see how you have been able to jump through the hurdles of life.*

Contact

[sgerbeau@nf.sympatico.ca](mailto:sgerbeau@nf.sympatico.ca)

### **Your opinion matters**

Do you have any ideas for our club's newsletter? It could be anything from how to improve your club's membership to how to have more fun. If so, why not send them along and we will have them in our next month's issue.

[sgerbeau@nf.sympatico.ca](mailto:sgerbeau@nf.sympatico.ca)

...Think about it...

