



Parra Natta

Theme

17 Jan—Meeting No 1225
Room for Improvement

24 Jan—Meeting No 1226
Australia's Sons & Daughters

Welcome

We are pleased to welcome our guests

- Richard Atkins
- Natasha Chan
- Nikola Maksimovic
- Le Lu
- Partha Bhattacharyya
- Ulinda Weerawardana
- Tone Dunne
- Elena Kolareva
- Kumi Matsunobu
- Annan Ranjith
- Yasir Dole
- Jeanne Ingco
- Agnes

We look forward to your next visit.

If you would like to attend our club meeting or have any enquiries, contact our VP of Membership Michael Said

Mobile: 04 19 522 949

Email
[Email Michael](mailto:Michael.Said@parramattatm.org.au)

Contact

Do you have goals that you would like to achieve? Contact Kirisha, VPE to discuss your targets at VPE@parramattatm.org.au

Meeting No: 1225 & 1226

[Parramatta Toastmasters Club 2274](#)

Room for Improvement—meeting 1225

A great foresight from the VP of Education with the theme. It was evident that Parramatta Toastmasters had room for improvement; we needed more room to hold the meeting and chairs to cater for our members and visitors on the night.

President Linda S used the theme of the night in her welcome speech and said, 'Let it be dancing or a habit that you want to inhibit; we all have something that we have room for improvement'.

As Chairman 1, Malkit B

started the first half with his thoughts on the theme 'Room for Improvement'. He believes that any business with a call centers can improve



their services if they had a real person on their side of the phone line.

Elaine A came up front and presented her packing tips for travelers.

Being evaluation contest night, Ron M toast was attributed to the audience at the meeting.

The table topics master, crafted 10 ingenious questions around the topic of allergies. There were many funny, realistic and imaginative stories, however who would have known that Superman eats a bowl of fiber everyday to fly up in the sky.

The General Evaluator, Michael S gave a well-rounded and concise evaluation of the first half of the meeting.

Australia's Sons and Daughters—meeting 1226

With two days before Australia Day, president Linda S urged members in her opening speech, 'to start a family tradition; something you can continue with for every Australia Day in the years to come'.



It was unusual to see of Grammarian up in front during the first half, but Christine P had a chal-

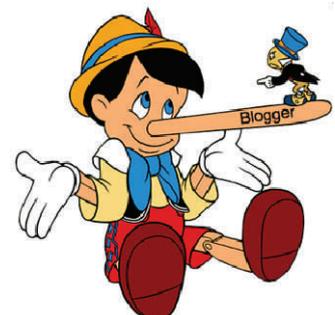
lenge for members presenting on the night. Her challenge was to use the word 'imperturbable', which meant incapable of being upset or agitated.

The welcome was conducted by Tom W, who gave a warm welcome to 11 visitors.

Suzanne B did her 'Getting to Know You' assignment by interviewing Mrinal S. We learnt that he is a James Bond fan because he appreciate how Bond is always calm and nice coming out from any situation.

Our president Linda S dedicated her toast to Australian Inventors.

Our stand-in Table Topics master, post his questions within the confines of a true or false scenario. Amazingly majority of the members knew their Australian history.



Why you should name your speech with care?

Firstly, a good title creates anticipation. For example, let's say these three speeches were on the club meeting agenda: 'My Mailman Career,' 'Russian Kettle Bells,' and 'The Tax That Will Be The Death Of Me'. Which title is exciting and piques your interest?

You're more likely to be curious about the third one, despite its subject matter. What kind of tax is it? How does it kill? The third title suggests there will be drama; it is an active statement and its revs up the listener for what's to come.

Secondly, a clever title tells what's ahead—to better prepare the audience to receive the talk. Like a book's table of contents, a strong name will guide a speaker's audience to a more comprehensible understanding. Always ask yourself (when preparing the speech), 'What's in it for me if I was in the audience listening to this speech?' Unanticipated pauses, forgotten lines, mispronunciations and even a few 'ums and 'ahs' are often overlooked because listeners want to hear the content.

A good title shows enthusiasm. It says 'I care enough about this topic to come up with a memorable handle'. A catchy title maybe on

everyone's lips in later conversions, but an interesting title does more than help the audience. It also helps the speaker during the creative process. That's another reason the tag should never be an afterthought. Start with the title. It might not be the same one you end up with, but the working solution will guide you in preparing the presentation.

The process of conceiving the name can also determine your focus. For instance, your subject might be the use of atomic bombs during WW11. You could handle the topic in many ways. You could discuss the causes, examine the politics or consider the morality of the issue. But the title 'Japan's Take on Little Boy and Fat Man', forces you to examine the topic from Japan's perception of blame or blamelessness. You'll carve out a more interesting talk with a narrowed focus.

An apt name will set the tone. Compare 'My Disastrous Life-Modeling Experience' with 'My Brilliant Life-Drawing Modeling Career'. The first sets the stage for embarrassment. The second provide an insight into the model who rose to the challenge of posing for practicing artists.

A perfect designation forces you to take a position. One thing you don't

want to be is 'wishy washy'. Almost subconsciously, your title will warp into your voice and your tone and also into your emphasis, even in a reportorial piece.

Also consider, what you are trying to say and how do you want to say it? Are you after humour, pathos, admiration or education? For example, if it's about your beekeeping hobby, try out several titles and see how each one informs the audience.

Alexandra Watkins, founder and chief innovation officer of the naming and branding company Eat My Words says, 'You have to catch someone's interest with something unexpected, irresistible, fun, colourful or with a clever twist on a familiar word or phrase'.

Avoid clichés and keep searching for something fresh and original, even offbeat.

Good titles are like good grooming habits. Just as people look at you differently when you are well-groomed, people listen more intently when your words are preceded by an intriguing title.

Written by

Howard Scott, ACB from South Shore Soliloquy club in Kingston Massachusetts. Published in Toastmasters International Magazine, September 2012.

Tips for Evaluating a Speech—submitted by Selvi Jeyaganesh

1. Clarify Objectives

Evaluators must ensure that their goals correspond with those of the speaker. By clarifying objectives with the speaker before beginning the evaluation, the evaluator is in a better position to truly help the speaker.

2. Give Constructive Criticism

The main goal of a speech evaluation is to offer constructive criticism that will allow the speaker to improve. So as not to discourage the speaker, it is important to use positive terms and to highlight the successful aspects of the speech. At the same time, the evaluator does not want to ignore areas that need improvement.

3. Maintain Objectivity

When evaluating a speech, the evaluator must strive to remain objective when it comes to the speaker or speech topic. The evaluator must remember to look beyond the topic itself to evaluate its impact on the audience and the speaker's success in attaining pre-stated goals. Similarly, rather than giving an evaluation based on a speaker's personality or behaviour, the evaluator must focus on the content and quality of the speech.

4. Focus on the Individual

The evaluator and speaker need to realise that each individual who tries to give a speech has his or her own personal educational background associated with speech presentation.

Because of these differences in experience it is important that each speaker giving a speech be evaluated based on his or her own capabilities and not measured against the capabilities of others.

5. Deliver an Organised Evaluation

Even if it offers helpful tips and comments, an evaluation cannot be truly successful if it is not delivered in an organised manner that the speaker can understand. Including both commendations for successful aspects of the speech and recommendations for improvement, each section must be concise and written in clear language that includes specific examples when possible.

Memorable Comments

1. Ron M: 'I want something that I can take the wife to church on Sunday and the pigs to work on Monday'.
2. Tom C: 'Age 26-30, I got married and had four kids—still getting my head around that'.
3. John B: 'I don't know much about English but that sounds good. It rolled off my tongue easily'.

Award Winners

Ice Breaker

Tom Cummins

Best Table Topics

Steven Cox

Best Speech

Tom Cummins

Best Evaluator

Linda Said

The Mission of a Toastmasters club is to provide a mutually supportive and positive learning environment in which every individual member has the opportunity to develop oral communication and leadership skills, which in turn foster self-confidence and personal growth.

Find us on



Contact

To share any exciting news or to submit an article for Parra Natta, contact Jayeen Jayanathan VPPR vppr@parramattatm.org.au



Announcements

Toastmasters International 1 + 1 Campaign

Months has passed since the 1+1 membership building program was launched. So far, 149 members from around the globe participated and are helping their friends become better communicators and leaders.

As a member of a distinguish club, we are sure you have benefited from being part of Toastmasters and would like you to encourage friends, colleagues and family to share your experiences.

Visit www.toastmasters.org/1plus1 to learn how you can participate and be recognised for encouraging your friends and family to become part of Toastmasters.



Application for Inactive membership - by John Nichols

Dear Parramatta Toastmasters,

I respectfully apply for inactive membership of Parramatta Toastmasters during the whole of the year 2013.

The reason for this is my own level of voluntary organisation work load. I have been elected as President of the Institution of Engineers Australia for the area of New South Wales for 2013. This position is equivalent to District Governor of District 70 and requires a large amount of time and contribution, which I intend to concentrate on during the year.

I intend to remain a fully paid financial member of Parramatta Toastmasters, resuming active membership in 2014.

Please be assured that the speaking and leadership skills of Toastmasters will be put to good use in the organisation of Engineers Australia, and this is perhaps a demonstration of the tenet that Parramatta Toastmasters is really the place where "Leaders are made".

Please keep me included in emails and updates, and I look forward to re-activating in the first meeting of 2014.

Evaluation Speech Contest - Picture Gallery



Winner:
Alicia Denis

with Area 13 Governor, Wendy Neilson



2nd Place:
Sam Ekinci

with Area 13 Governor, Wendy Neilson



3rd Place:
Kirisha Thanapalasantheram

with Area 13 Governor, Wendy Neilson

Join Us For Our Next Meeting

7 February 2013—All We Need Is Love