

Kowloon-Singapore Toastmasters Club

Leaders' Digest

Renew Your Promise

By Ramana Boyani, CC/CL

Club President

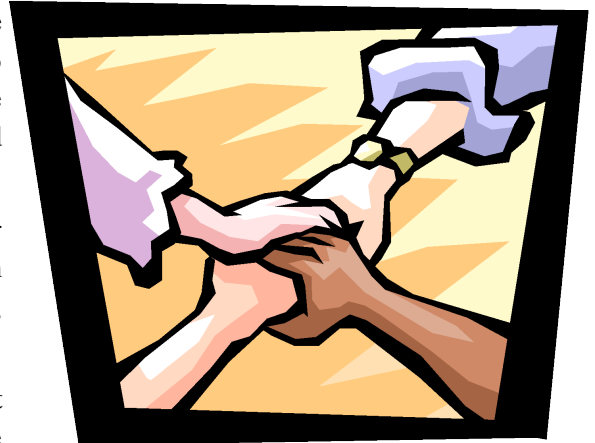
Dear Kowloon-Singapore Toastmasters,

When our Toastmasters year began in July 2011, we made some promises and set our goals. Now after 6 months, it's time to go back and check on these targets and commitments. Let us evaluate our progress and see how far we have come and how far we need to go.

As President, my greatest achievement is finding a new home for our club. Yes, we found our new home at Kampong Ubi CC which is just a short walk from Eunos MRT Station. From January 2012, we will be conducting our monthly meetings there.

I am glad that in face of obstacles, you have taken the "come-what-may" attitude and diligently worked towards your goals. I take this opportunity to thank you for your cooperation, contribution and confidence in our club. Along with the New Year parties, take time to analyse your progress and make changes, if any, to your plans for educational achievements.

I wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!



Inside this issue:

Know Your Organization	2
Freeze!	2
Humorous Speech Contestant	3
Make Members Matter	3





TI Organization Structure (Simplified)

Know Your Organization

By Edward Ma, DTM

KSTMC has been chartered since June 2000. Currently there are 31 paid club members. It is also one of the 13,000+ member clubs in 116 countries under Toastmasters International (TI), a non-profit educational organization established in 1924, and headquartered in Rancho Santa Margarita, California, USA.

TI groups its clubs under 14 administrative units called “regions”. KSTMC is under Area 4 of Division U which is under District 80, Region 14.

Region 14 comprises 4 districts: Districts 51 (West Malaysia), 75 (Philippines), 80

(Singapore & Thailand), and 87 (Brunei, Indonesia, & East Malaysia).

Within District 80 are 8 divisions (A, B, D, L, S, T, U, & Z). Apart from Division L which includes 36 clubs conducting their chapter meetings in Mandarin, the remaining 7 divisions house 155 English clubs, 6 Tamil clubs (Division A) and 1 French club. Geographically Division T is in Thailand and the rest are in Singapore.

If you are interested in finding out more, you may visit the TI website: www.toastmasters.org

Freeze!

By Kwan Hong Tan

Have you experienced a blank-out while delivering a speech? I did, and worse, during the speech contest. But my Toastmaster instinct kicked in and I managed to continue by drawing examples from the previous speeches. One such example was about iRobot from Suhail’s speech, iToastmaster. We, toastmasters must progress along our journey and become better communicators. Otherwise, we will become out-dated microchips with time and iRobot will replace us as iToastmaster.

One thing that differentiates iRobot from us: be passionate in what we do. We feel a sense of purpose as we embark on our public speaking journey; a sense of pride

as we painstakingly craft our speeches to perfection; a sense of satisfaction as we grow into that awesome public speaker we imagine to be. It is that journey and that progress, that iRobot cannot experience, makes us, irreplaceable.

It is time to question ourselves: What kind of speaker do we want to be in two years’ time? How would we appear in front of our audience and how would our speeches affect them? You might forget your lines onstage, but never forget the goals that you have set. Let us enjoy our Toastmasters journey together and celebrate successes on the way.

“Be passionate in what we do”



Humorous Speech Contestant

By Patricia Lum, DTM

Driving back home from this year Division U Humorous Speech Contest, I had a feeling in me. Like the contestants, I too wanted to share jokes on stage with ease. But that to me is a feat!

My son asked me once, “Mum, why do people crack jokes?” “Because, they cannot crack joints”, was my reply.

Seriously, why do people tell jokes, because they know they have the power to make people happy!

Have you ever tried to make someone smile when he is sad? Make someone laugh when he is lonely? If you have, you have the power to bring joy to the world.

I believe laughter is not just the best medicine; it attracts and brings people together. I could imagine myself being funny on stage. I would feel on top of the world if I could just make my audience smile, bring that bright sparkle to their eyes.

How about you? Are you making an effort to be funny? Crack a joke. Tell a tall-tale. Create a humorous pick-up line. This one joke, little tall-tale or humorous pick-up line would just be your first step towards a career as a serious comedian.

You will never know unless you give it a sizzling funny hit and go!

“Laughter is not just the best medicine...”

Make Members Matter

By Mohamad Saddiq, ACS/ALB

Members are the lifeblood of any organization, much more so for non-profit organizations like Toastmasters. To recruit and retain members was the essence of the Life Cycle of a Toastmasters Club workshop held on 24th Sep 2011, at AIA Changi.

Over four hours, speaker after speaker shared their strategies on running a Toastmasters Club. Mr. Philip Tan, Director of Interest Group Development, People’s Association, delivered a speech on importance of interest groups in making the community clubs a vibrant place for residents.

Following the speech was a lively segment on “Learning C M S” by Rebecca Lee, DTM, and Lim Seh Leng, DTM. Through an innovative hands-on competitive session, members learnt how to tap on numerous marketing resources available from Toastmasters International.

After refreshments came another insightful presentation by Gary Guwe, ACB, on membership recruitment. The audience was delighted and immensely impressed when Gary shared his story of recruiting more than 70 members during his term as

President of NUS TMC.

Retaining members is as important as recruiting them. The last presenter, Mohamad Saddiq, ACS, ALB, shared 10 tips through a questionnaire. He explained the reason behind each strategy and why implementing them would result in membership retention.

For those who missed this workshop, there will be a Part II on how to make your club a lively and dynamic place.





KSTMC Achievers at the Division U
Achievers' Day I



Where Leaders Are Made



Website:
www.public-speaking-singapore.com

Kowloon-Singapore Toastmasters Club meets on **4th Tuesday** in January, March, May, July, September and November, and on **4th Saturday** in February, April, June, August, October and December.

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I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the Toastmasters who have supported me in making this newsletter possible.