



Philadelphia's First Toastmasters Club Number 541, District 38

February 1, 2009

March Madness (Education news by Denise Dougherty, EVP)

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Ah, March. Comes in like a lion and goes out like a lamb. Sweet yellow narcissis appear in our favorite shops as reminders that winter will soon be behind us. Just as the Vernal Equinox occurs on March 20th and we are inundated with NCAA Basketball championship news, Toastmasters International Speech contests occur throughout the month. Although there is scant news on their website, District 38 calendar will report Area contest dates and locations. International Speech (not humorous) and Evaluation - that's what I'm talking about - well, what will you be talking about?

What does that mean for you? Well, twice a year speech contests are held: Spring and Fall. The winners compete at the District conferences and move on to Regional level and beyond. Contest rules appear on the District 38 website. During the month of February clubs hold their contests and winners move on to the next level. Why do we hold contests? Frankly, for the further education and entertainment of our members and guests. As you will agree, Philadelphia's First is an awesome ... er, FABulous club and so are our speakers. Why wouldn't we want to showcase our talent and then send them on the road? Although I will be contacting some members who have competed in the past, reach out to me and let me know if you want to compete. Our contest will be held as close to the beginning of March as we can manage to give you enough time to prepare. Promise. Ok people, start speaking out there!

"Today's public figures can no longer write their own speeches or books, and there is some evidence that they can't read them either."

Gore Vidal

Get the Word Out

The *Get the Word Out* contest is underway. Nona Wright is in first place with the most guests attending the January meeting and Denise Rykard is in second place. There is plenty of time for you to catch up and pass them to become the overall winner who receives a six month club membership – FREE!

New Members

Our membership is growing.

Welcome!

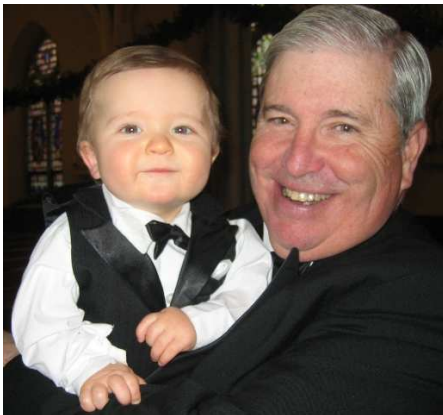
Essien Ford

and

Rick Alston



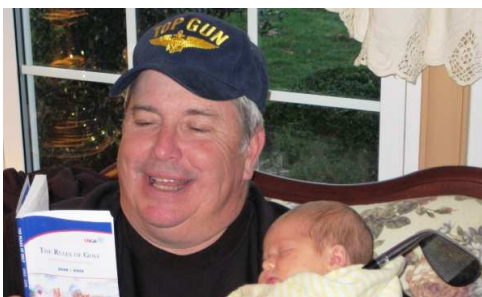
Member Spotlight: Immediate Past President, Bob Thornton



You see that unassuming guy standing there listening to that new member - the one with the nice smile and the white hair? Yup, that's Bob - Bob Thornton. He served as our club President last year and guided the group as we celebrated our 60th birthday. Yikes! Easy job you say? Think not.

While Bob has been reticent to share much about himself (he's unassuming remember?), we do know that he loves golf. We pulled some facts out of Bob and want to share them with you. Ready?

Bob joined Toastmasters after having been elected President of the Gases and Welding Distributors Association (GAWDA), a national trade organization related to his work. He believed that he needed help with his public speaking and joined Philadelphia's First club five years ago. He has accomplished a lot in that time. Bob shared with me that Toastmasters "...has taught me to get the negatives on my mechanics out of my head and concentrate on getting my message communicated..." His favorite hobby, golf, also has a parallel to his work with TI in that "... it pushes you to get the best out of a speech like it pushes you to get your best score..." What an imaginative way to describe accomplishments. He has earned both his CC and CL certifications and is on his way toward Bronze through his involvement with Club leadership roles and Advanced Manual speeches. Bob will also participate in our Better Speaker Series and present two of the modules later in March and April.



As a first time grandfather, Bob seems to be totally in love with this sweet little guy and we highlight this profile with a couple of photos that show the joy on this grandpa's face.

Thank you, Bob, for your hard work and inspiration. We are glad you are a Philadelphia's First member.

Member Spotlight interviews are prepared by Denise Dougherty, VP of Education.

January Brainercise

From Don Suplee:

There once was a Toastmaster named Jayne
Who said that public speaking caused pain
But she tried and she tried
Until all trauma and nervousness died
Now there's no strain on the brain

From Tyra Jackson:

There was a girl who loved to eat pies.
Until one day she looked at her thighs.
She got up on her bike.
Plus joined a friend who hiked.
Until she dropped back to her old size.

Brainercise –The action of exercising the brain; increasing brain cells through an act of mental challenge; can be left or right brain activity.

February Brainercise

In honor of Groundhog Day (and the movie with the same name), share with us one experience that you would like to live over again.

Send submissions to kmcananey@yahoo.com.



Members	CC	CL	ACB	ACS	ACG	ALB	ALS	DTM
Michael Anderson								
Mary Barchman	X							
Lyratah Barrett	X	X						
John Boxmeyer	X	X						
Maureen Broderick	X	X						
James Cantwell								
Denise Dougherty	X	X						
June Dressnandt								
Therese Dressnandt								
John Fitzpatrick	X							
Ilene Hass								
Tyra Jackson								
Bea Joyner	X							
Theresa Kuhar								
Alphonso Lassiter								
Jerry Lindauer								
Lee Loeb	X							
Kathleen Mc Ananey								
Susan Neely								
Rudi Ollivierre	X							
Pat Paulus		X			X			
Jennifer Raksnis								
Herb Rheinstrom		X			X			
Denise Rykard		X						
Rita Smith		X			X			
Sean Stallings								
Joan Stewart				X				
Don Suplee	X	X						
Robert Thornton	X	X						
Evilt Vertil								
Claude Vilfort								
Nona Wright								

Toastmaster Members

Achievements

Upcoming Events

Upcoming Meetings	February 5 th
	February 19 th
	March 5 th
	March 19 th
Groundhog Day	February 2 nd
President Lincoln's Birthday	February 12 th
Valentine's Day	February 14 th
President's Day	February 16 th
Random Act of Kindness Day	February 17 th
President Washington's Birthday	February 22 nd
Get the Word Out Campaign	January thru March

FEBRUARY 2009							
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8	9	10	11	12	13	14	
15	16	17	18	19	20	21	
22	23	24	25	26	27	28	

MARCH 2009							
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29	30	31				31	