

Wry Toastmasters!

VOLUME 1, ISSUE 2

MARCH 1, 2003

Club Officers: President – Hideo Fujita, VP Education-Judy Johnston, VP Membership-Tim O'Brien, VP Public Relations-Kristine Nelson, Susanne Baessler, Secretary-Greta Gillette, Treasurer-Colleen Keranen, Sgt.-at-Arms-Gerald Frey, Stuart Iritz

Do you feel distinguished yet?

Special points of interest:

- *Club Status—Do you feel distinguished yet?*
- *ATM Gold— Who received their ATM Gold Designation?*
- *Wry's New Members— Who are they?*

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I just received our WRY Toastmasters Club (WRY) report, and I have great news to pass onto you. We received an A+! Congratulations fellow WRY members. A few words on how our grade was determined. A key measuring stick that Toastmasters International (TI) uses to determine the health of an individual club is the Distinguished Club Plan (DCP). What's so important about the DCP? The mission of WRY is to foster a positive environment with a mutually supportive atmosphere that provides a hands-on process to develop confidence in everyone's communication and leadership skills. We have many weekly speaking opportunities with our manual speeches, evaluations, table topics and other meeting roles. The DCP is a means in which we can as-

sess WRY's success in fulfilling our mission and succeeding with members speaking in a meeting as often as possible. At the half-way point in our fiscal year (July 1, 2002 - June 30, 2003), WRY has seven of the ten goals that we set for WRY this year. (For more detail and information on the DCP, I refer you to the following web link: <http://www.toastmasters.bc.ca/club-tools.html>).

The most important acknowledgement is to the WRY Board of Directors (BOD). Being "el presidenté" is a figure head position that necessitates vision, focus and leadership to build and maintain a healthy, energetic TM club. However, more important is the hard working, dedicated group of club officers that support "el presidenté". As a result of all of these quali-

ties, I can report that we have an A+ today! Thank you BODs, Judy Johnston, Tim O'Brien, Colleen Keranen, Kristine Nelson, Gerald Fey, Greta Gillette and our new additions to the BODs, Susanne Baessler and Stuart Iritz.

Thank you fellow WRY members for bringing your energy, enthusiasm and willingness to learn and participate in a support public speaking environment.

hideo fujita

el presidenté



CONGRATULATIONS!

But.....

That's not all!

Congratulations to Frank!!



To add to the success and development of the club, we also have a new ATM Gold member. Congratulations to Frank Selden on receiving his ATM Gold designation. You don't know what that means? He is now a **ADVANCED TOASTMASTER GOLD**. To achieve this, he worked through 7 manuals, conducted a success/

leadership program, and coached a new member!

Way to go, Frank!

Are you hungry yet?



Heidi Gregory -

Queen of Food

Heidi, a Washington State native, recently completed a degree in Business

Management at the University of Phoenix. While attending UOP, she heard about Toastmasters through Judy Johnston and set a goal to join once she completed her degree. While Heidi is accustomed to speaking in her position as Field Service & Underwriting Manager for Standard Insurance, Heidi wanted to improve her presentation skills and decrease the ahs and ums in her speeches, as well as become more comfortable in front of an audience. Heidi is a gourmet cook, enjoys crafts, and has a passion for golf.

Hmmmm..... we want more scones!



Now, do they really still have kings in Germany?



Gregor Kneitz - The Secret King from Bavaria

Gregor was born and raised in Bavaria, a European kingdom loosely attached to Germany. According to Gregor, since Bavaria currently lacks a king, he is ready for their call and improving his public speaking and adeptness at impromptu speaking may increase his chances. Bert Huelmann convinced Gregor that Wry Toastmasters was just

the place for expanding his skills and meeting great people. Gregor is a Software Engineer in software localization at a "big software company in Redmond". He admitted to enjoying computer games, good whiskey, bad golf, weight workout, and movies. Gregor shared his favorite quote from Robert Lemke, a German show master and philosopher: "Envy you have to earn, pity is for free."

Returning to Wry to Aim High!

Miyako Kamata— Wry Welcomes Back Miyako!

To round out our international corner, Miyako recently returned to us from Japan. Anita Myrfors introduced Miyako to Wry Toastmasters five years ago while she was studying for her undergraduate degree. Miyako has returned to the U.S. to earn a Masters in Business Administration. Toastmasters gives her the opportunity to improve

her English speaking skills, share her Japanese culture, and learn more about our diverse American culture. Besides attending school, Miyako hopes to find time to participate in her hobbies, which include swimming and tennis.

It's great to have you back Miyako!



A beer @ Wry at 7am?

Susanne Baessler - Stretching Boundaries

Susanne grew up in Duesseldorf, Germany and in 1995 became the first of her family to migrate to the United States. Susanne studied economics, specializing in marketing and organization. After working for a hardware computer company in Germany, Susanne joined Microsoft and came to the U.S. to work in international marketing. She now markets a product for service providers. Bert Huelmann encouraged Susanne to join Wry Toastmasters to hone her presentation skills in a suppor-

tive environment. She also anticipates expanding her speaking skills will open new opportunities in volunteer roles. Susanne has a wide array of hobbies including: running, aerobics, mountaineering, skiing, traveling, reading, volunteering for domestic violence victims, spending time with friends and her two cats and laughing.

PS. This picture was taken one evening back in Germany —not @ Wry at 7am.... But hey, then you never know.



Wau, Wau, Now where is Cougar Mountain?

Rex Snyder - On the road to become a great presenter

Rex joined Toastmasters to improve the way he presents himself to others, particularly in the area of meeting individuals and small groups for the first time. Specifically, he would like to improve his vocal delivery and body language. Rex enjoys audio, reading, and learning new things! He resides on Cougar Mountain with his wife Jeanie and their Papillon, Mona. Rex says that



Mona is a dog but she doesn't know it! Rex and Jeanie have two children. Their son Ryan lives in Cambridge, Massachusetts, and is completing his Ph.D. in American Studies from the University of Michigan. Their daughter Cassidee lives in San Diego. She graduated from the Indiana University last spring, double majoring in economics and communications.

Is there a coach available?

Sandra Jones - Improving while having fun!

Sandra appreciates the quality of people in the Wry Club! She adds that their shared warmth, sense of humor and international roots are a bonus to being a member. She joined Toastmasters to heighten her effectiveness as a speaker, to promote awareness of coaching and her coaching practice, and to have fun! Sandra would like to con-

tribute to the club through regular participation and sharing her warmth, skills, and talents with Wry. She would like to speak at least once every six weeks utilizing the CTM manual, her marketing plan, and the feedback she receives from her life, her mentor, and her fellow Toastmasters. In her leisure time, Sandra enjoys downhill skiing, hiking, dabbling in card making, and gathering together friends for fun, food, and festivities. She invites Wry mem-

bers to challenge, as well as encourage her and said, "May Wry Toastmasters continue to provide an excellent environment for rich personal and professional growth, self-expression, and fun."



WRT Toastmasters

Charter Date: September 1981

District: 2, Division: F

Area: 62, Club: 4723

Thursday Mornings Meetings @ 7 a.m.

Skyline Tower Building

10900 NE 4th (Floor 9, Conf. Room)

Bellevue, WA 98004

Learn More About Us!

www.wrytoastmasters.org

E-mail: info@WryToastmasters.org

"ADVERSITY IS THE SPRINGBOARD
TO GREAT ACHIEVEMENT."

ANONYMOUS

Upcoming Events:

- **Dues are Due!** - Please make your check payable to Wry Toastmasters for \$30, and give to Colleen Keranen (treasurer) no later than March 15, 2003.
- **Survey** - The Board of Directors would like your feedback regarding your experience at Wry. Please take a minute to complete the survey and give to Hideo Fujita no later than March 15, 2003.
- **Area 63 & 64 International Speech and Evaluation Contest** - Bellevue City Hall, March 22, 2003, 2 -5 p.m. For more information, contact Gareth Howell, garethh@microsoft.com.
- **Speak Like Champions** - Two World Champions of public speaking: David Brooks (1990) and Darren LaCroix (2001) will be in the area to present a FREE 2-hour program titled: Successfully Speaking: How to Present with Humor, Substance, and Style. Time and Place TBA.

Mentoring—a valuable and fun learning experience

Mentoring is one of the key programs within Wry Toastmasters... especially for the new members. Let's hear from a mentor and a mentee about the real life experiences they had to highlight the benefits of mentoring for both sides.

Mentee Susanne: "When I joined Wry, I had had experience in giving presentations in my job. Most of the time I hadn't outlined these as really speeches. So, I was looking for guidance on how to prepare for speeches and most importantly a first sounding board and practice opportunity."

Mentor Kristine: "I had benefited from a mentor relationship in the past and wanted to give the positive experience back to a new member. Also I was looking for fresh points of views and different presentations styles. The men-

toring experience has been rewarding beyond my imagination!"

Susanne: "We had a lot of fun in our discussions about my speeches. It helped me identify when I wasn't using words or phrases in a clear way <partly due to English not being my native language> and it helped me structure my thoughts better by incorporating how another person perceives what I am saying. It definitely helps me make my messages simpler and clearer—and better understood by the audience."

Kristine: "I remember Susanne's first speech. I felt like a "proud parent," sitting in the audience. It's very rewarding to watch a speaker and speech develop. The prepa-



ration of Susanne's Ice Breaker included lengthy conversations about what was most important to her and how to make the speech concise, consistent, and flowing. It's healthy to share our different impressions of the same speech."

Susanne: "It felt funny doing the first presentation just in front of Kristine in this empty meeting room. But it gave me so much value that I did a dry run with a friend when Kristine couldn't meet me for the second speech in person. The relationship is also a learning experience for both. I implemented one of Kristine's recommendations, not to be too aggressive in a request to the audience in one speech but then got feedback from some listeners that I should have been more aggressive. So, I could share this back with Kristine."