

Newsletter



Hong Kong Toastmasters Club

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"Where is the Energy of Life?" by Joanne Chuk

Where does the energy of life come from? From time to time, I ask myself this question while witnessing how other people live life with such burning passion. Where is the energy of life? Ha Ha! I wouldn't say I've found the perfect answer, but I would say I've caught a glimpse of it because I experienced it while venturing into the Toastmasters' Speech Contest this year.

Where is the energy of life? It comes from the variety of life! Yes, variety is the spice of life.

Never before have I thought about entering any Toastmasters' contests because I designated the boundaries of Toastmasters' activities to be simply fun-related and stress-free. However, I gave it a go this year and I came second in the Evaluation Speech Contest in our Club. This experience was ground-breaking for me. Strangely enough, instead of being a bundle of nerves, I was like the pink rabbit charged with a Duracell battery. The excitement of being in a competition filled me with energy and passion that seemed to have been missing for quite a while. I realized that if we don't step out of our comfort zone and challenge ourselves with something new from time to time, we are bound to feel unfulfilled and life gets stifling.

For those who hesitate to take part in any Toastmasters' contests, I would strongly recommend you to make the next move! What's in it for you? First of all, you will be pleasantly surprised by how supportive our Club members are. I must thank Teresa again for inviting me to take part in the contest. If it were not for her contagious enthusiasm, I would've never taken the first step to be a contestant. Indeed, I was deeply moved by the superb professionalism of our Club members. My heartfelt gratitude goes to Elsa, Tina, Lap, Christine, Arthur, Patrick, Asta, Edwin and numerous anonymous members whose valuable feedback helps me grow both as a speaker and as a person. I am certainly more aware of the areas that I need to improve on as a Speaker and I also notice that if I want to be a better Speaker, I actually have to go beyond myself – I need to be more daring; I need to be more adventurous; I need to stretch myself to the limit. Yes, the sky is the limit!

All in all, participating in the Speech Contest this year has been a very rewarding experience for me and I feel so lucky to be a member of the Hong Kong Toastmasters Club. I want to thank each and every single one of YOU for making our Club a place to grow in, and a Club to be proud of.

Stretch your limit and live life with passion!

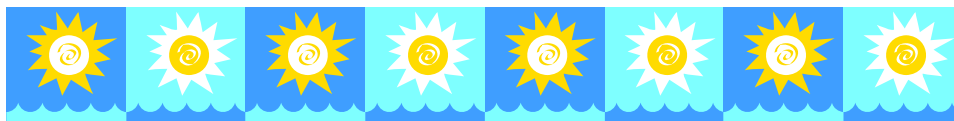
It warmed my heart to see a number of members turning up at the Area Humorous & Evaluation Contest on 30 September 2006 supporting our Members who took part in it. Christine will now take up the challenge in the forthcoming Division Contest on 21st October 2006; I hope that we can all be there to cheer her on.

As usual, our Ex-Com team met again for a meeting. This time, we had dinner at a restaurant in Sheung Wan. We discussed, laughed and planned throughout this Dinner meeting. The enthusiasm and commitment of our Team is truly delightful.

We now have 70 members. As mentioned previously, we will be having Joint Meetings and Speak-a-thons to enable all our Members to practice their speeches; these are underway and in the hands of our most capable Ex-Com Members. The Halloween Party and Christmas Party too are taking shape and your participation will make them worthwhile events!

Coming up we will be having two special meetings. One with our senior Members on how we can motivate them to give ATM speeches, and to discuss mentoring and evaluations; the other is with our new Members and our Ex-Com team, the objective of which is fellowship and for them to get to know each other and the Club. In order to strive for excellence, we will continue to do our best to elevate our Members' speech standards. Should you have any ideas or suggestions on how we can do better, do let me know.

Now let me end this with a quote from our 2005 World Champion Speaker, Lance Miller "I believe that we all struggle with the same basic issues in life of how to live in harmony with others, attain personal happiness and live a purposeful life. We have far more in-common as human beings than separates us by our differences. But often we only focus on the differences, forgetting the larger picture." Let's work together towards the larger picture of our Club producing not just good communicators but great ones! To do that, your support and contribution to the Club and each other are vital.



Members' News!!

Member's News

1. IMPORTANT: Moving of Meeting Venue: Our meeting Venue has been temporarily moved to L'Hotel – Causeway Bay Harbour View, 6th Floor, Function room, 18 King's Road, Tin Hau MTR Exit A1. Tel: 3553-2662.

From January, 2007 onward, we are going to move back to the Japanese Club at their new venue at Palibury Plaza, Causeway Bay.

2. Louisa Tsang is pregnant!! Congratulations to Louisa. Her new born baby will arrive in late January, 2007.

3. Pamela Ho, our VPE has flown to Australia for further studies. Don't worry! She promises to visit us when she is back in Hong Kong for her vacation. Pamela, we will miss your cheerful smile!! Going forwards, Gary French will be taking up the VPE role. Thanks Gary!

4. Julie Wong says "Hello" from Shanghai. She is trying her best to settle in Shanghai and will come back to visit us for Christmas. Julie, looking forward to seeing you in December!

New Members' Corner!!

A very warm welcome to our following new comers!



Eileen Lau

Eileen is married and has two teenagers. She is a medical Doctor working for Quality Health Medical Services Ltd. She is hoping that with HK Toastmasters Club training, her communication skills and self-confidence will be improved. This in turn will enhance her enjoyment in relating with people.

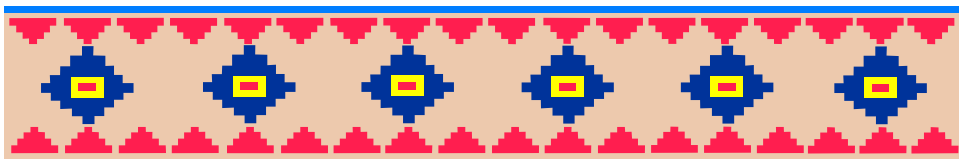
Hattie Huen

Hattie's Birthday is on 5th November. She is married. She is the Director of Little Hippos Child Development Ltd. She loves swimming and jogging. Her reason to join HKTM is to enhance her skills and confidence in the Public Speaking. Her objective in the Toastmasters' journey is to brush up her speech delivery skills progressively. She expects HKTM to be a happy and supportive Toastmasters' club with high standards of speech delivery.



Resham Premchand

Resham's birthday is on 18th March. She is single and working freelance at the moment. She is a teacher/trainer. She likes dancing, arts, swimming, reading and meeting new people. Like other members, the reason to join HKTM is to enhance her Public Speaking skills. Her objective in her Toastmasters' journey is to continue to challenge herself and refine her skills. She expects HKTM to provide professional guidance and support.



Past Events!

1. Our **Christine Lau** won the 1st runner-up of the Area Evaluation Contest. She will be representing our Club to compete in the Division Contest. Christine, you are marvelous!!



2. It's always our intention to praise the best Speakers in the Club. Starting from this issue, we are going to publish the names of the best Speakers in each meeting.

Let's give a round of applause to our best Speakers!!

Meeting Date	Best Prepared Speech Speaker	Best Evaluator	Best Table Topics Speaker
September 4, 2006	Belu Agarwal	Christine Lau	David Mooijaart
September 18, 2006	Greg Hagen	Christine Lau	Danny Moorjani
October 16, 2006	Raina Lodha	Christine Lau	N/A



Upcoming Events!

1. Halloween-on-the-Ferry – October 29, 2006 (Sunday)

How about cruising around Victoria Harbour with a buffet dinner and drinks, plus fun-filled activities?

Assembly: 6:00 pm at Queen's Pier, Central

Fee: HK\$120 for adults and HK\$60 for those under 18 (fee will include buffet dinner and drinks on board).

Payment: cash or bank transfer to our Club's bank account with HSBC 600-6352 13-002. Please fax the bank receipt to her at 2572-0035 (Attn: Tina Wong - Re: HOTF) stating your name plus the number of friends attending (if any), and your contact telephone number. If needed, Tina may also be contacted at wongtina@netvigator.com or Tel: 9498-9010.

Hurry up to reserve your seats with our Tina Wong as the capacity of the ferry is limited to 60 only (first come, first served).

2. Speak-a-thon & Critical Thinking Workshop on 4 November 2006 (Saturday afternoon)

How would you like to think critically to help you in preparing your speeches or help you to make an impromptu speech? We will have a Seminar on critical thinking on our 1/2 day Speak-a-thon, plus Team building activities. Venue: The Queen Elizabeth Stadium, 18 Oi Kwan Road, Wanchai (MTR Causeway Bay (Time Square Exit) or Cross-Harbour Tunnel bus (111 or 101) which will be stopped near the Charterpole hotel at Tin Lok Lane.)

Time: 2:00 pm to 6:00 pm. **Please contact our VPE Cherry So for registration via cherrysst524@yahoo.com.hk.**

Don't miss this multiple function opportunity to meet up with your fellow members!!

3. Macau- Semi Annual Convention – November 24-26, 2006

This is the first time that Macau will host this meaningful Event. It is strongly encouraged that every member should attend this Convention to gain exposure to the International stage. There is an Early-Bird discount of \$300 if you are registered before October 31st. Act Now! For details, please Shortcut to: <http://www.hongkong-toastmasters.org/event.php?pkey=29>



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