

# Kalama-News

"the talk of the town" - Kalamazoo Club #1270



September 18, 2007

TOASTMASTERS INTERNATIONAL

Chartered 1953

## 2007 MEETING DATES

Join us on the  
2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Mondays of each month  
6:00 – 8:00 pm

Parchment Community Library  
Community Room (lower level)  
401 South Riverview Drive  
Parchment, Michigan  
in front of Kindleberger Park

### Club Speech Contests September 24<sup>th</sup>

October 8<sup>th</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup>  
November 12<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup>  
December 10<sup>th</sup>

There will be no meeting on  
December 24<sup>th</sup> – Christmas Eve

January 14th and 28th  
February 11th and 25<sup>th</sup>  
March 10<sup>th</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup>  
April 14th and 28th  
May 12<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup>

## THE MISSION OF THE CLUB

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

Remember - Our club only  
succeeds when you participate!  
Please make time to come to  
our meetings, work on your  
speeches, and involve yourself  
in one of the meeting roles.

## MEETING REMINDER !!!

### Special Meeting Event – September 24<sup>th</sup>

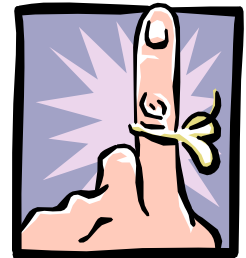
### Club #1270 Humorous and Table Topics Speech Contests

We will hold our club contests on Monday, September 24<sup>th</sup>. Winners  
from this contest will advance to the Area contest.

Contact **Alex** if you are interested in participating in this year's speech  
contests in either or both the humorous and table topic contests.  
See article on Fall Speech Contests for more information.

**Our next meeting is Monday, September 24th;**  
meeting starts promptly at 6:00 PM, come early to  
socialize, we are always out by 8:00 PM.

Contest Master – **Alex Garcia**  
Table Topics Master – **open**  
Sgt at Arms/Ballot Counter – **Alison Thor**  
Timer – **open**  
General Evaluator – **open**



**How does a club contest work? It's really like a regular meeting.**

**Table Topics** – All contestants will leave the room so not to hear the  
responses of the others. Contestants will be brought in one at a time  
to speak. The first contestant will draw a topic for all the contestants  
to speak on.

**Humorous Contest** – Contestants will present a humorous speech,  
5-7 minutes in length. It must be an original speech, but can be one  
that you have previously presented.

The order of speakers will be chosen randomly.

Everyone in the audience will use a judge's ballot and rate each of  
the contestants. The ballots will be collected and tallied to determine  
1<sup>st</sup> place and runner-up. First place speakers will advance to the  
Area contest to be held in October at the Portage Public Library. We  
can all give evaluations of the speakers to better prepare them for  
the area contest.

If you have any questions or would like to help in a role, please contact  
**Gregg Jones (269-388-7313 or [greggj@eckert-wordell.com](mailto:greggj@eckert-wordell.com))**

**A SPECIAL WELCOME TO OUR GUESTS !!!**

Welcome to our guests:

**Ellen Rhinestone  
Stacy Burdette  
Girish**

*We appreciate your participation, hope you visit us again.*

**MEMBERSHIP REPORT**

We currently have 19 registered members in our club. Just one short of charter strength!

**DCP REPORT**

1 point for 2 CC's  
1 point for officer training  
1 point for reports

Just 2 more needed to achieve "Distinguished Club" recognition and put another ribbon on our banner!

**SEPTEMBER MEMBER ANNIVERSARIES**

<b>Joe Buysee</b>	since 1999
<b>Jim Strickland</b>	since 2005
<b>Matt Carrington</b>	since 2006

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*If you have anything of interest or an article that you would like to include in our newsletter please submit it to me by email at [greggj@eckert-wordell.com](mailto:greggj@eckert-wordell.com)*

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If you are receiving this newsletter and are not a member or recent guest of Toastmasters Club #1270 and do not wish to receive any future newsletters, please let us know.

**CC AWARD PRESENTATIONS**



At our September 10<sup>th</sup> meeting, **Alex** recognized our three new Competent Communicator (CC) members with their official Toastmaster club badges.



Top left: **Tom Moore, CC**  
Right: **James Martin, CC**  
Bottom left: **Ron Johnson, CC**



**Congratulations Fellow "CC" Toastmasters!  
We look forward to your advanced speeches!**

**OCTOBER DUES RENEWAL TIME !!!**

Toastmasters' current dues period (April – September) ends on September 30<sup>th</sup>, so now it's time to pay for the next 6 month period (October – March).

**Please make your checks to "Toastmasters Club #1270" for the sum of \$39 (TMI fees - \$27 and Club fees - \$12). Bring them to the next meeting or send them to Matt Carrington at:**

Treasurer  
10605 Woodlawn Dr.  
Kalamazoo, MI 49002



Please also email Matt to confirm that you will be renewing your membership for the next 6 months.

The TMI fees cover the administrative costs of the organization, your "Toastmaster" magazine and advanced manuals. Our Club fees cover the costs of club supplies, awards, and refreshments.

**CLUB OFFICERS '07-08**

**Alex Garcia**  
*Club President '07-08*  
 alex\_buzz@yahoo.com

**Tom Moore**  
*VP of Education '07-08*  
 thomas.moore@nationalcity.com

**Open Position**  
*VP of Membership '07-08*

**Gregg Jones, CTM, CL**  
*VP of Public Relations '07-08*  
 greggj@eckert-wordell.com

**Stephanie Tackett**  
*Club Secretary '07-08*  
 TACKETTS@trinity-health.org

**Matt Carrington**  
*Club Treasurer '07-08*  
 Matthew.Carrington@kellogg.com

**Alison Thor**  
*Club Sergeant At Arms '07-08*  
 alison.thor@wmich.edu



**CLUB OFFICER MEETINGS**

*Officer meetings are held after the second club meeting of each month, location TBA.*

- September 24<sup>th</sup>
- October 22<sup>nd</sup>
- November 26<sup>th</sup>
- No meeting in December
- January 28<sup>th</sup>
- February 25<sup>th</sup>
- March 24<sup>th</sup>
- April 28<sup>th</sup>
- May 12<sup>th</sup>
- June 9<sup>th</sup>

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**FALL SPEECH CONTESTS**

For all of you Competitive Spirit Toastmasters! It is time for the

**Humorous and Table Topics Speech Contests**

The Club contests will take place during our September 24<sup>th</sup> meeting.

The **Humorous Speech Contest** is a lot of fun, one of the main purposes of this contest is to recognize the value of humor in speaking, which as you know is a very powerful way of getting a point across. The speech should be five-to-seven minutes; the subject is to be chosen by the contestant, as long as you are careful not to use potentially objectionable material, anecdotes and language. The speech must also be thematic in nature (opening, body and close), not a monologue (series of one-liners).

The **Table Topics Contest** is very similar to the way we do Table Topics at the Club meetings, except that there is a single question, and Contestants don't hear the question until it is their turn. This is to keep things fair. I have personally participated in this contest, and it is a lot of fun. You know the thrill of the contest, the excitement and nervousness of waiting your turn, and the anticipation building up before they announce the winners, very exciting. I actually won my Club contest and made it to the Division Contest (Club-Area-Division). This gave me the opportunity of knowing more about Toastmasters, other Toastmaster members and the different levels of the organization. The important thing to win this contest is to have your technique down, that way no matter what the questions is, you can find your way around.

I want to encourage everybody to participate, this will give you the chance to get a little outside of your comfort zone (or a lot if you win), and bring out the competitive beast in you.

Alex Garcia, Club #1270 President

**NEW TOASTMASTERS WEBSITE**

**Have you seen it yet? Check it out!**

The new Toastmasters' website is finally done! Same address with a new look. The site opens to general information page for the public, with a link to a special "members" section.

Look for the new District 62 website soon to be released too!



## DISTRICT 62 EVENTS / NEWS

### District 62 Fall Conference “Fall Up North (FUN)”

**November 9-11, 2007**

**Location:** Crystal Mountain  
Resort, Thompsonville,  
Michigan

**Events:** District level  
Humorous & Table Topics  
speech contests; educational  
sessions; keynote speaker  
Craig Valentine - 1999 World  
Champion of Public Speaking  
and Master Storyteller;  
networking; and business  
meeting

**Registration:**

\$90 for the conference and  
meals, plus hotel costs.  
Send \$5 now to District 62  
Toastmasters and you'll receive  
\$10 off the total cost of  
registration.

The remainder will be due by  
October 15, 2007 (room release  
date is October 10).

Make your check out to District  
62 Toastmasters and send it to  
Tricia L. Wilson, 106 W Ivy, Bay  
City Michigan 48706.

<http://conference.62toast.com/conference2006.asp>



## WHAT YOU MISSED AT OUR LAST MEETING on Sept 10th!

**Alex**, our President introduced our Toastmaster, **Jim**, at 6:05 pm, who ran a good meeting ending on time. **Renee** served ably as timer for the first time, after being started by **Alison**. We had 10 members and three guests: **Stacy** Burdette, **Ellen** Rhinestone, and **Girish** (explained his other name was too long).

**Tip-of-the-Day:** **James** gave our Tip-of-the-Day, explaining marketing principles – that we all want time, money, looks, health, youth, easy life, and peace of mind, and how we would be well to consider our speeches needed to address these desires (weaknesses).

**Table Topics:** **James** set up a very interesting Table Topics by announcing three events, a Murder, A Kidnapping, and a Plane Crash. Volunteers took the podium as the “Chief of Police” or other spokes persons, holding a “*news conference*” about the event. Members of the audience were given starter questions to ask, and others had no trouble coming up with yet more probing questions.

- **Tom** started by explaining a little girl had been missing for 5 hours and the audience soon tried to pin him down to a suspect, but the mother had 5 prior husbands and all were perhaps ‘persons of interest’. It went on from there.
- **Tracy** explained that her office was requesting no more calls about a UFO that might have caused the plane crash – when pressed about the crash site, she admitted that no plane had been found, only a hole in the ground.
- **Alex** explained the carnage at a shoot out, apparently. When asked if the murder weapon had been found, he explained with excitement, “Oh, we have *plenty* of weapons”, which brought the house down
- **Matt** and **Aaron** had equally creative press conferences. (**Tom** missed taking notes on them)

All agreed it was a fantastic idea for table topics, and **James** will probably return with it again.

**Speeches:** **Alex** gave an inspiring speech on our coming Speech Contest. **Tom** evaluated his talk. **Tracy** gave a polished speech for which she has become known. **Aaron** evaluated **Tracy**.

**Business Meeting:** **Alex** recognized our three new CC achievements with official Toastmaster badges to **Ron**, **James**, and **Tom**. In planning for our speech contest, **Tracy** agreed to consider entering the humorous speech contest, while **Alex** collected several volunteers for the Table Topics contest, and made a plea for judges and other roles. Our September 24<sup>th</sup> meeting will be a speech contest format. **Matt** explained that all are to get him Toastmaster dues by October, so the next meeting would be good.

**Reports:** **Ron**, as our Grammarian, was impressed that we did not have many ums and ahs. **James** was our General Evaluator and was very impressed with us, explaining both the fun and growth we had during the meeting.

## MEETING ROLE SCHEDULE

MEETING ROLES	Sept 24th	Oct 8th	Oct 22nd
TOASTMASTER	Alex		
TIP OF THE DAY	---		
TABLE TOPICS			
TIMER			
GRAMMARIAN	---		
GEN. EVALUATOR			
SPEAKER #1	contestants	Gregg	
SPEAKER #2	needed!	James	
SPEAKER #3	---		
EVALUATOR #1	everyone		
EVALUATOR #2	can be		
EVALUATOR #3	a judge!		

## ROLE DESCRIPTIONS

**TOASTMASTER:** Leads the weekly meeting, introducing the speakers and requesting reports.

**TIP OF THE DAY:** Got a great idea or tip for better speaking or leadership skills? Share it with the club.

**TABLE TOPICS:** Selects a topic and leads the Table Topics portion of the meeting.

**TIMER:** Times all speakers and gives reports at the end of the various portions of the meetings.

**GRAMMARIAN:** Listens for "uh's", "um's," "you know's," "so's", other distracting verbiage as well as bad grammar, good use of language and gives a report at the end of the meeting.

**GENERAL EVALUATOR:** Conducts the Evaluation portion of the meeting and gives a general evaluation of the meeting at the end of the meeting.

**SPEAKER:** Present to the club your next Competent Communicator or Advanced Communicator speech.

**EVALUATOR:** Evaluators give a selected speaker an oral evaluation of their speech and will also give the speaker a written evaluation using the guide in the manual.

**COMPETENT LEADERSHIP PROGRAM:** Be sure to use your role for credit in the Competent Leadership program. For further information on the role and responsibilities refer to the descriptions in the back of your communications manual or talk to one of our club officers.



If you are interested in filling any role, please signup at the next meeting or contact  
**Gregg Jones (269-388-7313 or greggj@eckert-wordell.com)**