

BEST SIDE TOASTMASTERS January 2015

Message from the President



Happy New Year Best Side Toastmasters! We have gotten off to a good start in 2015 with our Open House on January 8th. We saw some old, familiar faces, and are glad to have them

back. On January 8th we also began our Participation Contest where the winner will be given a \$40 gift card as the grand prize. Not only will this contest be an opportunity to win the gift card, but it is also meant to help build membership and increase the benefits our members gain from active participation. Sounds like a win/win to me! The contest lasts for 10 weeks and will end on March 12th. Kevin Shelley has taken the initial lead with Rujuta and Jeff following close behind, but no need to despair, there is



plenty of time for you to take the lead – simply come to the meetings

ready to participate, and bring a guest along. We will have a chart displayed each week showing how the contest is progressing and I can't wait to find out who our winner will be. Rujuta Agashe is our contestant for the Evaluation Contest and Kevin M. Shelley (photos on page 2) will represent Best Side at the Area Speech Contest on February 7th, which also happens to be when our Officer Training occurs. It will be held at the University of Southern Indiana.

Vice President Membership Submitted by Nancy Deig

The Vice President of Membership (VPM) is an important officer role as it is the responsibility of this person to help lead the charge in building our

membership. Duties include scheduling Open House meetings, encouraging and helping with Membership Campaigns, making certain we have Visitor Packets to give to guests and making certain guests are properly welcomed and introduced to members when they come. The Vice President of Membership helps guests fill out Application forms when they decide to join, collects the form, submits the application to Toastmasters International, makes certain payment is given to the Treasurer and then conducts the New Member Induction Ceremony as soon as possible after the new member joins. The Vice President of Membership, along with all officers serve as a resource to members and guests when questions arise. Membership is a team effort, and our VPM helps guide our club efforts in new member attraction. As with all officers, the VPM attends Officer Training in order to best serve their Club.

Club V.P. of Education Matthew Youngs Profile

While I am a charter member of Best Side Toastmasters, my involvement with Toastmasters began in October



of 2011 with Crescent City Toastmasters. I joined Toastmasters with the hope

of improving and refining my existing speaking and presentation skills, as

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Upcoming Events

- International Speech Contest and
- Officer Training
- February 7, 2015
- At the University of
- Southern Indiana



Guests are always welcome! For more information, email: <u>njdeig1@gmail.com</u>

Website:

well as meeting new people and forming new relationships.

During my time at Crescent City, I had the opportunity to serve as the Sergeant-at-Arms. Fulfilling that role involved setting up the room (lighting, temperature, passing out ballots, etc.), keeping track of club property, and greeting people as they arrived. While not a difficult role, it does require

"Speech is human nature itself, with none of the artificiality of written language."

Alfred North Whitehead

planning and an awareness of any special setup needs, preferably before everyone arrives.

My most rewarding experience with Toastmasters has been the invitation to co-host the Golden Microphone Awards. While I would not have considered requesting such a role, it was a pleasure and an honor to be asked! Although I have led any number of campfires, serving as a presenter at a formal dinner of excellent speakers is an entirely different affair.

I know that Toastmasters has improved my comfort level when speaking before friends, customers, and audiences. Friends have shared with me that my current presentations are much smoother and more polished than before I had joined Toastmasters. I also find it easier to perform demonstrations and training sessions, even over the phone. Joining Toastmasters has also introduced me to a number of friends that I would never have met otherwise!

To anyone who might be considering joining Toastmasters, my advice would be to make the investment in yourself and join - the you of tomorrow will thank you! By joining, you will reap the rewards of friendship, leadership training, and improved communication abilities. These are each valuable in their own ways and each will enrich your life, so join today!

Stopping by Woods on a **Snowy Evening** by Robert Frost

Whose woods these are I think I know. His house is in the village, though; He will not see me stopping here To watch his woods fill up with snow.

My little horse must think it queer To stop without a farmhouse near Between the woods and frozen lake The darkest evening of the year.

He gives his harness bells a shake To ask if there is some mistake. The only other sound's the sweep Of easy wind and downy flake.

The woods are lovely, dark and deep, But I have promises to keep. And miles to go before I sleep, And miles to go before I sleep.



Kevin M. Shelley,

the contestant for the International Speech Contest, will be representing our club at the Area Contest



Cara Sweeney presents his certificate

Rujuta Agashe,

the contestant for the Evaluation Contest, will be representing our club at the Area Contest





Cara Sweeney presents her certificate

Best Side Toastmasters Club Meets every Thursday evening From 6:00-7:00 p.m. At the West Side Schnuck's On W. Lloyd Expressway in Evansville.