



WAGGA WAGGA TOASTMASTERS NEWSLETTER...

Something to Crow About

30 October 2006

MEETING NO 411 (24 October)

President's Address: President Colin Davis welcomed guests Setchen Brimson and Ken Clark. He also noted apologies from Yoka Sliker, Frits Sliker, Alec Shortus, Sue Lester, Geoff Phillips and Ros Prangnell.

In the absence of Geoff Phillips, Vice President Education, Colin finalized the agenda. Thanks to volunteers Cheryl Wallace, Christine Hill, Brendan Judd, Sean Byrnes, and Karla McCormack the agenda was soon filled.

Dallace Hunt was our **Toastmaster of the Evening.**

Word of the Day: Ian Campion's word came from 19th century French - RACONTEUR which literally means to recount or retell. A raconteur is someone who tells entertaining stories - very appropriate for Toastmasters. It was used by Dallace Hunt, Geoff Gardner and Peter Chenoweth.

Humour Spot: Geoff Gardner told a story about a boy who picks up a frog who can speak and who offers to fulfil the boy's wishes. When the boy declines the frog's offers, the frog asks why? The boy tells the frog that having a talking frog is "so cool", he just wants to keep it.

Thought of the Day: Sean Byrnes used this segment to remind us about the importance of friends.

Did You Know That: Cheryl Wallace alarmed us with a number of facts about whooping cough, which used to be called the 100 day cough. Did you know that adults are the biggest carriers of whooping cough; they and teenagers account for the most

cases. Despite being vaccinated as children, by the age of 10 everyone is susceptible to the disease although adults do not get the "whoop".

Table Topics: Peter Veerhuis hosted this session. His topics were:

Should students be allowed to take mobile phones to school? Rachel Viski.

Do you agree with the Victorian Government's decision to ban lollies in school canteens? Brendan Judd.

Do you support construction of a nuclear power station? Karla McCormack.

Is it a good idea for school leavers to spend a year in the military? Ian Campion.

What do you think about the price of petrol in Wagga Wagga? Dallace Hunt.

Table Topic Evaluations: Both evaluators, Christine Hill and Cheryl Wallace, focused their evaluations on the use of eye contact by speakers, with both independently observing that the animal magnetism of Peter Veerhuis drew the attention of all speakers except Rachel Viski.

Toastmaster's Toast: Karla McCormack offered a toast to endurance and integrity.

Speeches:

Joan Veerhuis gave her second speech from the advanced Special Occasion Speeches. The topic of the speech was to speak in praise and Joan used the opportunity to deliver a warm and loving eulogy to her brother, Gerald, who died last May.

Colin Davis used his speech in the Successful Club Series to discuss the benefits of mentoring in Toastmasters clubs and the qualities of good mentors.

Magazine Article: Rachel Viski enlisted the help of her 13 year old sister in finding an article. Her sister chose one from "Girlfriend", a magazine aimed at 13-18 year old girls. After reviewing the magazine, Rachel decided that not much had changed since she used to read it in 1996 - only the names of the 'celebrities' and the inclusion of SMS and web sites.

Soap Box:

Colin Davis brought his soap box along to the meeting and gave Christine Hill, Peter Chenoweth, Karla McCormack, Geoff Gardner, Colleen Moyes, Peter Veerhuis, and Rachel Viski one minute to expound on their pet hates (as supplied by Colin).

Peter Veerhuis Feather Duster Award: General Evaluator, Karla McCormack, presented to Dallace Hunt.

TOASTMASTERS' INTERNATIONAL TIPS/PROTOCOLS

Sex, Politics and Religion:

In its September/October 2006 "Tips Newsletter", Toastmasters International advises that contrary to popular belief it has no policy which prohibits any speech topic, language or content. You can read the full statement by following the useful link in our web site.

WEB SITE www.toastmasterswagga.org.au

Use the 'Useful Links' page to find

A quotations

A word of the day

Tips for planning, writing and delivering speeches.

DIARY DATES

- 14 November - next Toastmasters meeting, The Rules Club Wagga Wagga (6.50 pm)
- 28 November - Table Topics Contest
- 12 December - Christmas Party

Colleen Moyes