
13 December 2001



The Edge



BNL Toastmasters, Club 8069, District 46

**Meetings are held the 1st and 3rd Tuesday at 5:30 PM and the 4th Tuesday at 12:05
Biology Building 463, Brookhaven National Laboratory, Upton, NY 11973**

<http://www.bnl.gov/bera/activities/toastmstrs/default.htm>

Upcoming Events

Tues December 18 5:30 meeting
Tues January 1 NO MEETING--HAPPY NEW YEAR
Tues, January 15 5:30 Meeting
Tues, January 22 Noon Meeting
Tues January 29 5:30 SPECIAL BONUS MEETING

Theme: Holiday Time

Theme: All Things New

Theme: Baby It's Cold Outside

Officers 2001-02

President:
Margaret Foster

VP Education:
Nancy Manning

**VP Membership &
VP Public Relations:**
Margaret Conover

Secretary:
Amy Halsted

Treasurer:
Ronnie Evans

Sergeant at Arms:
Beth Lin

Newsletter Editors:
Amy Halsted
Nancy Manning

**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.**

December 4 Meeting

We had a terrific holiday reception meeting on December 4. Attendance was great, spirits were high, the food was a delicious cooperative effort, and the activities and speeches entertained. We had some guests and prospective new members in attendance. Marie Gocs may join our club. Pat brought his daughter Michelle Heil, as well as Joe Newman, a colleague. It was great to see member Benny Hooda again, and former members Kathy Schwartz and Kim Pellechi too. It's always a pleasure to see Ron Manning.

President Margaret Foster was Toastmaster of the Day, and the theme of the meeting was Turning Points. Margaret started off on a high note with her traditional "T'was the Night Before Christmas" poem incorporating the names of members. Barbara Klein got her Toastmastering feet wet with a seasonally appropriate joke. Pat Astre gave us a new approach to Table Topics. He had us compose a story about why Santa Claus got exhausted, with the improvisational tale jumping from person to person in mid-sentence.

After a longish break to sample the holiday goodies, the speech portion of the meeting got underway. Nancy Manning gave us timely and very wise advice about how to approach Christmas this year. An early start and a good list really helps, she said, as does eliminating all but those tasks that are truly important. She encouraged us to reduce stress by focusing more on the true meaning of Christmas this year, and less on the outside trimmings. She used visual materials and handouts skillfully to emphasize her points.

Ronnie followed with another holiday themed talk. She described a fool proof and speedy preparation technique for made-from-scratch banana chocolate chip bars. She had her ingredients organized before her and the recipe broken down into timed steps. She didn't actually cook, but it almost seemed like she had when she produced a plate of her confections for us to taste.

Amy was the next speaker, and she told the story of her great-great-grandfather's life. He attained great wealth but became involved with an unscrupulous business partner and ended up going to prison. Amy said that her research had lead her to a connection with a writer and historian who is the great grandson of her great-great grandfather's shady partner.

Finally, Pat Astre gave a reassuring and motivational talk about the inevitable upturn that follows a market downturn. This immutable law continues to hold in all cases, despite the panic and fear that new challenges (like those resulting from 9/11) may bring. He encouraged us to diversify our investments, think long term, and choose with care the market sectors into which we put our money.

Nand took over the meeting as General Evaluator. He noted that the meeting had a slower pace than usual, due to the special occasion. Margaret Conover was Nancy's evaluator, and Mari Rubin did her first ever evaluation (nicely done!) for Ronnie. Nand was Amy's evaluator and Bill Dunn evaluated for Pat. Doug Klein gave the ah counters report, and Benny the timer's report. Margaret Foster closed the merry meeting .

BNL Toastmasters Club Web site:
www.bnl.gov/bera/activities/toastmstrs/default.htm



BNL Toastmasters Regular Meeting Schedule

Date	Dec. 18	January 15	January 22 NOON
Theme	Holiday Time	All Things New	Baby, It's Cold Outside!
TMOD	Nancy	Amy	
Joke			
Word			
Timer			
Ah counter			
Grammarians			
Table Topics	Beth		
Speech #1	Bill	Frank	
#2	Frank	Nand	
#3	Beth	Ronnie	
#4	Ronnie		
#5			
General Eval.	Amy		
Evaluator #1	Beth		
#2			
#3			
#4			
#5			
Quiz Master			
Absent			

Due to the New Year Holiday, there will be no Club meeting on January 1, 2002. Instead, we may reschedule that meeting for the 5th Tuesday, January 29, at 5:30 PM.

In order to make sure that our records are up-to-date, please plan to have VPE Nancy initial your manuals for any speeches you have given this year that have not already been signed. Also, please alert her if the data in the box below is inaccurate.

Officers, note that the winter training session will be scheduled soon. Watch here for details.

Important Notice: BNL's front gate requires photo ID before allowing entrance to the site. The gate will be given the names of all off-site members and guests several days prior to each meeting. If you wish to bring a guest with you, please notify Nancy or Beth by 2 days prior to the meeting.

Members' Progress Report

Member	Speeches completed	Achievements
Pat A.	1	ATM-B
Susan C.	5	
Margaret C.	8	
Bill D.	3	
Ronnie E.	3	DTM
Margaret F.	2	DTM
Mario F.		
Anthony G.		
Amy H.	5	CTM
Benny H.	7	
Barbara K.		
Doug K.		
Beth L.	8	ATM-G
Nancy M.	6	ATM-B
Nand N.	4	ATM-G
Mari R.	3	