
1 October 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, October 2 5:30 Meeting

Tues, October 16 5:30 Meeting

Tues, October Noon Meeting

Theme : Mars

Theme: Harvest Time

Theme: A Stitch in Time

Officers

2001-2002

President:

Margaret Foster

VP Education:

Nancy Manning

VP Membership &

VP Public Relations:

Margaret Conover

Secretary:

Amy Halsted

Treasurer:

Ronnie Evans

Sergeant at Arms:

Kim Pellechi

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.

September 18 Meeting

The September 18 meeting was a demonstration of the power and versatility of our Toastmasters club. Held on the one week anniversary of the terrorist attacks, it was an occasion for those of us attending to express some of the shock, sadness and little glimmers of hope that we felt.

Leadership was the surprisingly appropriate theme of the meeting, selected weeks earlier. Amy was Toastmaster of the day. She said that in the past she has sometimes been dismissive of leadership but that the attacks had forced her to think deeply about how very, very important it is. Pat Astre did Table Topics and his questions focused squarely on our experiences and reactions to the attacks. Everyone spoke honestly and sincerely about what they had felt. Mari's reaction was to determine to improve her skills and be better at the things she does. Amy noted that in the midst of all the grief and grim news a near miraculous event had occurred: a rare Sumatran rhino calf had been born at the Cincinnati zoo.

The three speeches were all cheerful, each in its own way. Pat went first, and his topic was the absurdity of the new inheritance tax law, which has a rapidly approaching "expiration" date. The law is an empty political gesture, essentially. Die soon, or you won't be able to take advantage of it, he said. Amy's speech was about the joys of biking. She had suggestions about where to buy a bike, how to equip it, and good places to ride on eastern Long Island. Biking is great physical exercise and mood elevating too, but don't get so dreamy that you aren't alert and watchful of traffic and road hazards, she advised.

Beth spoke last and her poignant speech will stay in our minds for months to come. Beth described her experience on September 11th, similar to that of many of us, of coming home and seeing those profoundly disturbing images of the planes flying into the World Trade Center towers and their subsequent collapse. She sat with members of her family and tried to absorb the monumental event that had occurred. Suddenly a little voice piped up, it was Beth's granddaughter. "Grandma, I'm hungry!" said the little one. Beth found great hope and comfort in the normal, natural statement, and so did we. In her evaluation, Nancy said that it was the best speech she had ever heard Beth give.

Life does go on, life will go on, little girls will still get hungry, we still need to do our jobs, and now more than ever we need to care for our families and loved ones. We can look forward to the beauty of fall colors, flocks of migrating birds, fields of orange pumpkins, gorgeous sunsets and burning bright stars. We might think ahead to Thanksgiving, when we will contemplate the complex richness of our lives and resolve, for yet another year, not to take love and beauty for granted.

Best wishes, Kim, and thanks!

We were sorry to hear from Kim Pellechi that work and school are going to take up her spare time and that she will be dropping out of the Club. As Ronnie told her, we can only hope that she learned as much from us as we learned from her. We look forward to seeing an article by her in the national Toastmaster's magazine. We hope she'll visit whenever she finds the time, and we wish her luck in all her pursuits.

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

BNL Toastmasters Regular Meeting Schedule

Date	October 2	October 16	October 23 NOON
Theme	Mars	Harvest Time	A Stitch in Time
TMOD	Margaret C.	Margaret F.	
Joke	Nancy		
Word	Pat		
Timer	Susan		
Ah counter			
Grammarian			
Table Topics			
Speech #1	Amy	Mari	
#2	Pat	Bill D.	
#3	Nancy	Beth	
#4	Beth		
#5			
General Eval.			
Evaluator #1	Susan		
#2			
#3			
#4			
#5			
Quiz Master		Beth	
Absent	Nand		



Important Notice: Due to recent events, BNL's front gate now 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.

Member Survey: We are conducting a brief member survey in order to better schedule some future meetings. Please be sure to return your survey at or before our next meeting.

September 25 Noon Meeting

Six members were in attendance for our noon meeting. Everyone took an active role. Bill Dunn and Beth Lin both presented speeches that were evaluations of President Bush's inspiring Sept. 20th speech. We as Toastmasters do tend to view public speeches through our own unique perspective.

Members' Progress Report

Member	Speeches completed	Achievements
Pat A.	7	CTM
William B.		
Susan C.	5	
Margaret C.	6	
Bill D.	3	
Ronnie E.	2	DTM
John F.		
Margaret F.	1	DTM
Anthony G.		
Amy H.	2	CTM
Benny H.		
Beth L.	5	ATM-G
Patty L.	5	
Frank M.		ATM-B
Nancy M.	5	ATM-B
Nand N.	4	ATM-G
Kimberly P.	1	CTM
Leyla P.	1	
Mari R.	1	
Betsy S.	5	
Cathy S.	4	

