



WORD FROM THE EDITOR

Dear Toastmasters,
Dear Friends of Toastmasters,

As always we had a very entertaining and funny evening at the last meeting. We learned from our Contest Master, that the lectern is not only a lectern but even more a part of this world and we had a wonderful contest with very good contestants, participating at Humorous Speech and Table Topics Contest.

So I am not aware who of the winners is also going to compete in Zagreb, but from my point of view (and I think I am also speaking for the other contestants) it would be really wonderful if we could see many of you coming and cheering for us at the [Area Conference](#). And additionally we could all have a very nice evening at Zagreb. You can find all the relevant information on page 2 and 3.

You can also still register for the District Conference on November 23rd - 25th, 2007 in Vienna by using

the [registration link](#). You can find the program for the District Conference at the conference homepage.

And talking about important links I would like to mention again our [Toastblog](#) (www.toastblog.wordpress.com), where you can read the most updated information concerning Vienna Toastmasters 551. If you would like to make a comment to anything concerning Toastmasters, we would invite you to leave it there, so all the other Toastmasters (and future Toastmasters) can read it too.

It is very easy. On every page there is a comment box on the bottom of the page (you need to scroll down). You do not even have to register, just leave your comment and if you like also your name and mail-address.

Best regards, Andrea Hierman

What does the word Toast actually mean?

In one of Maria's last speeches she told us about the origin of the word „toast“. I found this very interesting and googled it. And here is what I found:

Webster's says the word is derived „from the use of toasted spiced bread to flavor the wine [during a toast], and the notion that the person honored also added flavor.“ Other sources claim that the word is derived from the 18th century English custom of

covering a glass of hot spiced wine with a slice of toast as it was passed around the table. Each person lifted the toast, took a sip of wine, said a few words, and passed the glass on. When the glass reached the person being „toasted,“ the honoree got to eat the toast.

Honestly, I think, that we should however stick to our way of presenting toasts!!! ;-)))

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

If you have any questions, ideas or suggestions for improvement, we would love to hear from you. Please find below the names of our executive committee for the period 2007/2008. For e-mail-contact please click on the names of the requested person.

Niko Viramo	(President)
Megan Castek	(VP Education)
Martha Auer	(VP Membership)
Walter Grassl	(VP Public Relation)
Christian Halter-Koch	(Treasurer)
Andrea Lapitza	(Secretary)
Ivan Berlakovich	(Sergeant at Arms)
Andrea Hierman	(Newsletter Editor)

WE MEET

1st + 3rd Tuesday every month

Hotel Mercure Biedermeier,
room „Ziererstube“

1030 Landstr. Hauptstr. 28,
Tel: +43 1716710

from 7-10 pm (incl. 1 hour dinner break)

All guests are welcome to join us and experience, what's Toastmaster's all about!

Just show up at the next meeting, or send a mail to

[toastofvienna@yahoo.com!](mailto:toastofvienna@yahoo.com)





CLUB BUSINESS

Conferences

October 13th, 2007:

Area Contest (Zagreb) - see below

November 3rd, 2007:

Division Contest (Pardubice)

Nov.23rd – 25th, 2007:

District 59 Fall Conference in Vienna - Sign up:

www.conference.district59.org

If you would like to volunteer for tour guide or registration desk, please send a mail to guenther.aschenbrenner@alconlabs.com.

Toastblog

To get always the most actual club business news visit our blog at

<http://toastblog.wordpress.com>

You can find information about club business, the latest news about conferences and things to do in Vienna, as well as the latest Newsletter.

But this Blog can only be lively, when we all contribute to it. So feel free, to make comments and if you have any questions, send us a mail to toastofvienna@yahoo.com.

Videomaster

Dear Fellow Toastmasters !

I have the pleasure (and fun) to be the „Video Master“ for this season. I think we should benefit from our „asset“ to own a video recorder. It’s a very helpful device for improving public speaking skills and usually part of an educational seminar of high quality - and we have it!

There is just one thing: In order to make it possible for you to play the DVD on your laptop or DVD player, the DVD needs to be prepared before recording (as well as after recording).

To reduce stress

**please bring back your DVD
next meeting!**

I want to do the necessary steps at home in advance. If you want to keep „your“ DVD with your previous speeches put a post-it on it. The DVD lasts for approx 30 minutes. I work on a solution to upload the speeches on our website (which is of course subject to your acceptance). It turned out that the files have to be converted and compressed and I am still searching for the best software.

If you know a (free software) solution I would appreciate your piece of advice!

TM Monika

Area Conference in Zagreb

Fellow Toastmasters,

Please mark your calendars and [register](#) for our Area Conference. The highlights of this meeting will be:

- Humorous Speech Contest
- Table Topic Contest
- Workshops on communication and leadership
- Socializing and networking of Toastmasters from 4 different clubs of 3 different countries

When?

Saturday, October 13th, 2007, 14 – 18 hrs followed by dinner and award ceremony (a detailed agenda you will receive soon).





CLUB BUSINESS cont.

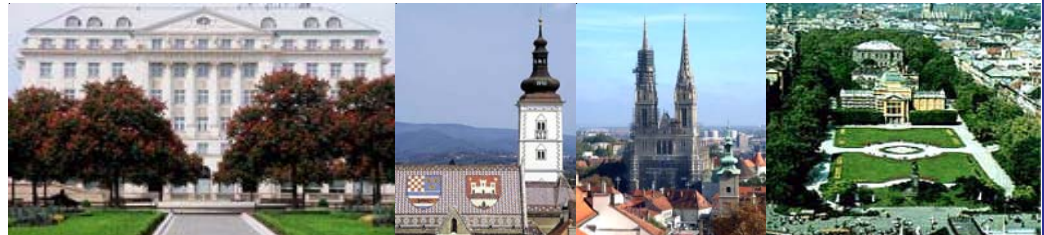
Where?

Zagreb, Croatia

Our fellow Toastmasters from Zagreb will host the meeting and they have prepared very enthusiastically this conference.

They offer to show us their

beautiful city by a city tour or by participating in a running event (<http://zagreb-marathon.com>) on Sunday morning. The venue ([Hotel Central](#)) of the conference is located directly next to the main railway station and the dinner place (owned by the parents of a Toastmaster)



Hotel Central is offering reasonable prices ([Link for price information](#)) , (1 EUR = 7,3 Kunar) and is the most practical place to stay.

The hotel will grant a special rebate of 10 % if you make your reservation until **October 1st, 2007**. Please indicate „Toastmaster” when you [make your reservation](#) . After October 1st, 2007 rooms might not be available any more and will have the normal rates.

If you prefer to stay in a more luxury place: [REGENT ESPLANADE](#): or [ARCOTEL ALLEGRA](#) or if you prefer the less expensive alternative: [Youth Hostel](#)

How to get to Zagreb?

Besides car and flight there is a very good direct train connection (without changing trains).

Wien Südbahnhof - Zagreb Glavni Kolod 05.57 – 12.28

Zagreb Glavni Kolod - Wien Südbahnhof 13.35 – 20.02

[ÖBB Homepage](#)

One way special SPARprice (at the moment) inkl. seat reservation	per person	EUR	29,00
One way group tarif per person (6 Pax)	per person	EUR	40,10
seat reservation	per person	EUR	1,50
One way normal price	pro person	EUR	60,40
seat reservation	pro person	EUR	3,00

As a bus to Zagreb and retour would cost much more, the train seems to be the best alternative.

Conference Fees: (registration until October 8th, 2007)

Full Conference Package (incl. all contests, workshops and coffee break + dinner & award ceremony)	per person	EUR	40,00
Conference only package (incl. contest, workshops and coffee break without dinner & award ceremony)	per person	EUR	20,00
Dinner only package (incl. dinner & award ceremony only)	per person	EUR	20,00

Take this opportunity to spend a nice Toastmaster weekend at very reasonable costs and discover a beautiful city with well known hospitality.

REGISTER NOW! See you all in Zagreb!

Guenther Aschenbrenner
Area Governor, Area D1



OUR VISION

Vienna Toastmasters exists to empower its members to achieve full potential, both professionally and personally.

We strive for continuous improvement in our communication and leadership skills, thereby empowering our members to embrace dynamic changes and giving them a courage to be successful leaders.

It is our vision to become the leading Toastmasters club in Europe!

Our **CORE VALUES** are integrity, dedication to excellence, service to the member, and respect for the individual.

OUR MISSION

The Mission of the Vienna Toastmasters Club is to provide a friendly, positive and creative atmosphere; where members actively participate to improve their thinking, listening, speaking and leadership skills.

Effective, well organized, productive meetings are conducted in a lively, fun-filled manner.

Members are challenged to achieve and surpass their personal goals through constructive evaluation and feedback promoting improved self-esteem, confidence and personal growth.

Guests and new members from the community are always welcome.

MISSION POSSIBLE

DISTINGUISHED CLUB PROGRAM

Goals to achieve

Following are the goals we should strive to achieve during the year.

goal #	status	who has achieved
2 CCs	0	
2 more CCs	0	
1 ACB, ACS or ACG	0	
one more ACB, ACS or ACG	0	
1 CL, ALB, ALS or DTM	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Renate Dorner (CL)
one more CL, ALB, ALS or DTM	0	
4 new members	2	Wolfgang Löber, Royce To
4 more new members	0	
4 officers trained twice a year	0	
Membership dues renewal report and club officer list submitted on time	0	
At least 20 members OR and net growth of at least 5 new members		



Distinguished Club Program and Club Success Plan

Recognition

5 goals achieved: **Distinguished Club**
 7 goals achieved: **Select Distinguished Club**
 9 goals achieved: **President's Distinguished Club**

CC *Competent Communicator*
 ACB, ACS, ACG *Advanced Communicator Bronze, Silver or Gold*
 CL *Competent Leader*
 ALB, ALS *Advanced Leader Bronze or Silver*
 DTM *Distinguished Toastmaster*



PARTICIPANTS OF THIS MEETING



Ivan
Berlakovich



Christian
Biever



Megan
Castek



Renate
Dörner



Christian
Halter-Koch



Anette
Hexelschneider



Andrea
Hierman



Alois
Kroiss



Elisabeth
Kummer



Andrea
Lapitza



Wolfgang
Löber

Please send your foto to the e-mail-address at the bottom of this page.

Thank you!

Hilda
Mwathi



Monika
Nagel



Mario
Pototschnik



Rolf
Rehe



Royce
To



Niko
Viramo

Please send your foto to the e-mail-address at the bottom of this page.

Thank you!

Maria
Zwanikken

If there is no photo above your name, please send it to me: andrea.hierman@alconlabs.com.

Guests:

Anita Himmelsberger (almost Toastmaster)

Bettina Kirnbauer

Zoltan Vandor





MEETING DETAILS - CLUB CONTEST

Functions

<i>Contest Master:</i>	Alois	<i>Timer:</i>	Ivan
<i>Chief Judge:</i>	Niko	<i>Assistant Timer:</i>	Royce To
<i>Judges:</i>	Monika	<i>Video Master:</i>	Monika
	Renate	<i>Ballot Counters:</i>	Wolfgang L.
	Rolf		Anita Himmelsberger

Table Topics Contest

Table Topics : Suppose you could go back in time and talk to yourself at an earlier point in your life. What advice would you give yourself!

Table Topics Master: Megan

Table Topics: Hilda
Annette
Mario
Christian H.
Andrea L.
Liz

Humorous Speech Contest



<i>Title</i>	<i>Name</i>
The position of Luxembourg	Christian B.
Do you want to see ...?	Andrea H.
Keep on dancing	Maria

AND THE AWARDS GO TO ...

Table Topics Contest

First place	Hilda
Second place	Christian H.
Third place	Annette

Humorous Speech Contest

First place	Andrea H.
Second place	Christian B.





THIS & THAT

History of the Toastmasters Program - A basement brainstorm



Home of the first Toastmasters club: The YMCA in Santa Ana, CA

When people hear the word “basement” they’re more likely to picture mold and spiders than the birth place of a global communication and leadership training organization. But a basement in a YMCA in Santa Ana, California, is exactly where, in 1924, Ralph C. Smedley held the first meeting of what would eventually become Toastmasters International.

Smedley began working as director of education for a Young Men’s Christian Association (YMCA) after he graduated from college. He observed that many of the young patrons needed “training in the art of public speaking and in presiding over meetings” and Smedley wanted to help them. He decided the training format would be similar to a social club. During the early 1900s the word “toastmaster” referred to a person who proposed the toasts and introduced the speakers at a banquet. Smedley named his group “The Toastmasters Club” because he thought it suggested a pleasant, social atmosphere appealing to young men.

When Smedley started the Toastmasters group at the YMCA in Santa Ana, California, members practiced speaking skills in a supportive, informal atmosphere. The seedling club blossomed. Word spread about Smedley’s YMCA experiment and soon people in other communities and even other states began asking for permission and help to start their own Toastmasters meetings. By 1930 the burgeoning clubs had established a federation to help coordinate

activities and provide a standard program. Toastmasters became **Toastmasters International** after a speaking club in New Westminster, British Columbia, Canada, expressed interest in joining the organization.

A series of rented office spaces in Southern California served as Toastmasters International’s “home office” until 1962. That year the staff moved into its first World Headquarters building in Santa Ana, not far from the YMCA where the first Toastmasters club met.

Over the next three decades the number of Toastmasters grew, and so did the need for a larger staff to service them. World Headquarters relocated in 1990 to its new building in Rancho Santa Margarita, California, about 20 miles south of Santa Ana.

The evolution of its educational programs and resources are a big part of Toastmasters International’s success and growth. Training has expanded from the 15-project manual *Basic Training for Toastmasters*, developed by Smedley, to include other materials to help members develop skills in listening, giving feedback, decision-making, delegating and mentoring.

With 11,300 clubs and more than 220,000 members in 90 countries, Ralph Smedley’s “basement brainstorm” continues to thrive in the 21st century.



NEW MEMBERS



**Wolfgang
Loeber**

born in: Vienna
birthday: December 28th

A few words about your profession?

Most important is to enjoy what you do, since you spend so much time with your job and life is too short to do otherwise. Of course the realization of this truth is not always possible. Real Estate Investment, Sector Analyst & Manager

Your middle name?

Alfred: my maternal Grandfather + Helmut: the brother of my godmother, who was a pilot in the German Wehrmacht and shot from the sky in the last days of WW2

A childhood memory?

Many, fi: Skiing with the whole family and having a blast. Being so overwhelmed by seeing the ocean for the first time as a 12-year old boy at Cape Cod.

The most beautiful thing you can buy for money?

All items that make happy

A bad habit?

At times my apartment is a mess. With that I mean a real mess.

A weakness you should be forgiven for?

Stories I tell that get out of hand in reference to length

My ideal Sunday breakfast starts with...

Bacon & eggs or blueberry pancake

Love is

universal

What do you want to learn in future?

With the toastmasters, I want to get to know the fellow toastmasters and guests, share, improve public speaking, especially being precise and giving interesting speeches to the listeners.

How did you come to Toastmasters?

My father, a toastmaster, has been telling me about the club on and off since I finished university. Now, after 8 years I wanted to peek in and was then convinced very quickly of the interesting people, positive environment and unique possibilities in the club 551.

Which three things would you take along to a deserted island?

Friends, internet-able laptop, sun power unit

What do you always carry in your handbag/wallet?

money

Your favourite holiday destination?

Kärnten; sometime soon a visit to Jerusalem

My last sentence should be (when I die)?

I am ready

My career aspiration when I was a child?

Soccer champ

Your hobbies?

Sports (for example soccer: <http://www.celtic.at>, 2 marathons, skiing, snowboarding, mountaineering, tennis, a triathlon in 2008) – cultural activities, especially opera – travel - motion

A clever sentence which is not from you?

If you want to change the word, then start with yourself and end that right there © Erich Kästner

When children are little, give them roots, when they are older, give them wings @ Khalil Gibran



NEW MEMBERS



Royce To

born in: Hong Kong, China
birthday: April 14th

A few words about your profession?

I was educated as a forester but worked more like a zoologist. Currently I'm reading for my master thesis.

Your middle name?

Kin Chung, that's my Chinese name btw! It means to find something you love the utmost and to develop into its fullest. It was one of the possible name that my father had chosen suggested by my grandfather. Gee...It's the first time I have to think about my name seriously.

A childhood memory?

They were photos kept in the albums awaiting for me to go home and to rediscover.

The most beautiful thing you can buy for money?

Computer! While I still don't have the money and the necessity to invest a Alfa Romeo Spider, computer is the most rewarding product that is worth to invest. Currently the buying and using experience of my MacBook from Apple Inc. is the coolest product that I ever had in my life.

A bad habit?

I'm a very absent minded person.

A weakness you should be forgiven for?

I guess that would be the lack of self confident. Sometimes I really find myself so fascinated by other peoples' ideas and forgotten my own thoughts. That's why I'm here to rediscover the joy of expressing my own thoughts and get toasting ready.

My ideal Sunday breakfast starts with...

Having lunch directly is the most ideal Sunday "breakfast". That means I should have more than 8 hours of sleep and I'm fresh!

Love is...

A discovery that someone who is worth spending a lifetime with if not books and research.

What do you want to learn in future?

I guess stop learning for a while would be a better alternative. All books but no play, makes Royce a dull boy.

How did you come to Toastmasters?

Ms. Hilda Mwathi, the former governor of Area D1 had suggested me to join vienna toastmaster when I wrote an email expressing my interest to join a club.

Which three things would you take along to a deserted island?

I guess I will bring a pen, a stack of paper and a bottle of very fine red wine. With an assumption that I'm not coming back, my very last days in that island would be a great opportunity to have a look back into my life. Writing down what I've done while sipping wine from the bottle is the most enjoyable picture that I could think of in such a situation. By day 3, I will roll up all my papers and put it into the empty bottle, cork it and throw it into the sea. Hopefully someday somehow people will find the bottle which contain words about a young man who had lived a life time like this.

What do you always carry in your wallet?

Money, Student card, Vorteils card (as though I'm always ready for a great escape).

Your favorite holiday destination?

Iceland! I really want to try dipping myself into the hot spring when it's -35c or even lower.

My last sentence should be (when I die)?

What about singing *My way*? I guess it's much more different and much more emotional too. Hopefully that would be many decades more before it really happens in my life.

My career aspiration when I was a child?

Sir David Attenborough. I guess being born and lived in Hong Kong, it's difficult to appreciate the beauty of our mother nature. I find his documentaries extremely fascinating and always dreamed for myself one day could be a knowledgeable person just like him.

Your hobbies?

Collecting postcards. I love postcards, possibly is the single most passionate and original way to express your words to other people in the era of instant messaging and email. There are some things that you'd really want to do it in a more traditional way and sending postcards are one of those. Btw, my address is...

A clever sentence which is not from you?

"Stay hungry, stay foolish!" from Steve Jobs, CEO of Apple Inc.,. That's what I always wish for myself.