

## Ignite, Advance, Achieve



"Whether you think you can or you can't, you're right."

-Henry Ford

## President's Welcome

It is hard to believe, but rumour has it that the summer is coming to an end. For many of us, myself included, it means that it is time to dust off the cobwebs, stretch, and get ready to put our minds back to work again. It's not that we don't work hard during the summer, but there can be a sense of relaxing, and putting things off. So now we need to find a way to get ourselves moving again.

### IGNITE, ADVANCE AND ACHIEVE

After periods of relative calm and ease, it can be a challenge to get ourselves motivated again to face new challenges. Yet, we can't grow and improve ourselves unless we force ourselves outside of our comfort zone, and press into unfamiliar territory. That is why we have chosen as the Mansion theme this year Ignite, Advance and Achieve. It is time for us to **ignite** our imaginations, and visualize what it is we are capable

of. Once we have done that, we need to **advance** forward, and make an effort. The great thing is that no matter how far we move forward, we have found a way to **achieve**. Whether it is completing an advanced manual, or doing a few table topics, we can do more that we expected. So take the plunge; let this be the year that you see yourself trying something new, and let's achieve that vision together.

## Coming Soon: Cool Contests

### Individual Highlights

Who's Who?	2
Quick Hits	2
Inside Story	2
Upcoming Education Sessions	3
Road to Discovery	3
Scheduling	4
Role in Focus	4
In Hot Pursuit	4

If you missed last year's contests, heck, even if you attended them, you ain't seen nothin' yet! 2007/08 contests promise to be the coolest, captivatingest contests EVER! Why is that? Because our membership – that's right, you in particular – fit this description and can't wait to get involved!

I know your burning question is **HOW, OH HOW DO I GET INVOLVED IN SUCH A COOL CAUSE?**

The answer is simple, all you have to do is sign up OR show up.

That's right. Some members will be scheduled as usual for various roles for the evening such as Judge, Counter, etc. Not to worry if it's your first time; there will be instruction! Some members will have volunteered ahead of time by speaking with the VP Education about upcoming contests. Entering a contest is a great way to:

- 1) Challenge yourself
- 2) Practice new skills
- 3) Support your Club
- 4) Have fun

### 2007/08 Contest Schedule

#### Tall Tales & Humorous Speech

Club – September 26  
Area - October 10 (at Mansion!)  
Division - October 20

#### International Speech & Evaluation – February 2007

Tall Tales (Mary Heary Invitational – May 2007

Contact VP Education Heather Colquhoun at [Heather@kscopic.ca](mailto:Heather@kscopic.ca) to sign up!

## Contact Us

Mansion Toastmasters  
Club 3322, Area 7, Division L (Lakeshore), District 60  
Web : [www.mansiontoastmasters.com](http://www.mansiontoastmasters.com)  
E-mail : [vp.membership@mansiontoastmasters.com](mailto:vp.membership@mansiontoastmasters.com)

## Meeting Details

Every Wednesday (Sept-June)  
Starting Wed. Sept 12, 2007  
7:30 – 9:30 p.m.  
Paletta Mansion, downstairs



### Did You Know?

*Legend has it the Paletta Mansion is home to a ghost. We honour (and appease) the spirit with our weekly Spirit of the Mansion award, as determined by the Chair.*

## Who's Who? 2007/08 Executive

### President – Adam McInnis

Energy and enthusiasm to spare, Adam keeps the Club laughing.

### Past President - Mike Wain

Known for his commitment to Toastmasters, Mike's leadership is a tremendous value to Mansion.

### VP Membership – Rose

**Marie McCarron** A newer member, Rose Marie's smile and laughter light up a room.

### VP Public Relations – Coral

**Lafleur** Joining shortly after her husband, Jack, Coral has also just joined him professionally.

### VP Education – Heather

**Colquhoun** Heather's been a member just slightly longer than she's been married – two happy matches.

### Secretary – Dale Skeverckas

Dedicated and professional, Dale is also a pro evaluator!

### Treasurer – Jack Lafleur

Jovial despite the numbers,

Jack takes on roles with gusto.

### Sergeant-at-Arms - Diane

**Castillo** A calming influence at any meeting, Diane is enthusiastic about Toastmasters.

### Co-Secretary - Judy Woods

Friendly and reliable, Judy's involvement at Mansion is steadfast.

### Co- Sergeant-at-Arms - Blanca

**Mejia** A bright smile and generous spirit, Blanca has jumped in with two feet!

## Quick Hits

The following roles are a great way to start off your participation at Mansion meetings, and to keep involved even during the busy times in your life. Being shorter roles, you will find they take far less preparation time than a speech. Best of all, they may also count towards your Competent Leader designation!

Note: More information on each role can be found in your Mansion Handbook

**Timekeeper** – Speaks only to report times when asked

**ALSO/HMU/J** – Share a success related to Toastmasters, or something that puzzles or amuses you (30 sec – 1 min)

**Grammarian** – Two brief presentations – 1) to provide the word of the evening and use it in a sentence and 2) to summarize how many times it was used, any other expressions of note

**Quizmaster** - test the audience listening skills with 5 – 7 questions about the evening

**Thought for the Evening** – intended to provoke thought as members leave the meeting. May/may not be based on the theme (30 sec – 1 min)

**Toast** – Typically related to the theme, kicks off the meeting (30 sec – 1 min)

## Upcoming Education Sessions

You asked and we are answering! The August 2007 Member Survey indicated a desire for Education Sessions on a variety of topics. Here's the fall line-up so you can be sure to attend!

### Judging and Being Judged

- September 19  
Just in time for the first contests, Friend of the Mansion Joan Graham will be speaking about judging criteria. Cricial information for anyone speaking, judging or interested in contests!

### An In-Depth Look at being the

**CHAIR** - October 24  
Our very own Val Clements will present this topic on how to be an effective Chair. Gain new insights about this important role from an experienced Toastmaster.

Coming soon - Parliamentary Procedure made easy

## Scheduling

If you know in advance you are unable to attend an upcoming meeting, notify the VP Education prior to the schedule being sent out. Once the schedule is out, if you have been scheduled for a role and are unable to attend, it is YOUR responsibility to fill the role.

To fill a role, **try the following:**

- Look at the schedule to see who does not have a role that week and call or email the member directly
- Contact a member with the same role on a different date & suggest a switch
- Ask a member with a minor role to take on a second minor role (assuming yours is a minor role)
- Contact your mentor for additional suggestions

Note: Target your email requests to a few people rather than blanketing the group. Remember to let the Chair for that week know who will be replacing you!

## Focus Role: Introducing a Guest

Each edition of *Mansion News* will examine in depth one of the many roles a Toastmaster takes on in his/her career. Whether you're an experienced Toastmaster, or very new to Mansion, this column will give you insight into a role you may be assigned.

### Introducing a Guest

This is a critical role because a positive experience as a guest encourages someone to join as a member.

Key Points: Smile. Be curious about the person and their interest in Toastmasters. Gather enough details to introduce them warmly. Keep it short (1 minute). Keep it focussed on the guest.

Sample Ending: *"Please join me in welcoming (guest's name)."* And begin clapping!

## In Hot Pursuit: Working on your CC and CL Simultaneously!

No need to wait for your **Competent Communicator (CC)** designation before beginning your **Competent Leader (CL)** designation – you can work on them both at the same time. This means that members looking to develop leadership skills have the opportunity to do so while fulfilling weekly roles.

### What's the catch?

All you need is the new CL manual and a silent

evaluator as you complete each project. Speak with the VP Education, Heather Colquhoun, about your progression in the CL manual and which roles you'd like to take on next!

Don't have a CL manual yet? Want to know more about it? Take a look at one of the spare copies on hand at each meeting (in the Diefenbunker) or talk to VP Education, Heather Colquhoun.

## Route 60: Road to Discovery

A fantastic way to make new friends and an immeasurable jump start to your Toastmaster path is coming your way in November. The 2007 District 60 Fall Conference 'Road to Discovery' is scheduled for **November 9-11, 2007** at the fabulous Deerhurst Resort in Huntsville. Plan now to attend...you'll sure be glad you did.

### Conference Features

- District Humorous Speech Contest
- District Table Topics Contest
- Friday Night Fun Night
- Keynote Speakers
- 12+ Workshops
- Saturday Night District Governor's Ball
- Bookstore
- District Council Meeting
- Hall of Fame Presentation
- Sunday Brunch & Keynote
- Meet Toastmasters from across the District

Call or e-mail Coral Lafleur, our Vice-President, Public Relations for more information on this exciting event.

*"Hey it's only words...then why is it 'he' instead of 'her'?"  
-Spirit of the West lyrics*

Mansion is a gender neutral club and proud of it – way to go Mansion Members for your inclusive attitude!

