



# TOASTMASTERS INTERNATIONAL

Club 9327 District 31 Area A-3 Haverhill, MA

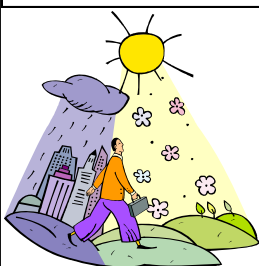
OUR NEXT MEETING:  
August 10, 2009

Join us at 7pm at:  
Haverhill  
Public Library  
99 Main Street

# FRIENDLY PERSUASION

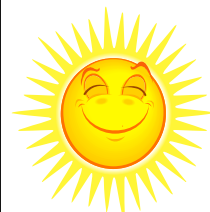
## STEPPING INTO A BRIGHT FUTURE

### JULY '09 Recap



Sometimes all it takes is one simple step....(okay, maybe one *complex* step)—but the opportunity to create your own bright future is always right there in front of you. Give yourself the proper gear to weather any storm and you *can* find a brighter future.

Membership in Toastmasters is the kind of gear that can help you with the storms. Perhaps you are in the storm of career transition or uncertainty, or maybe it's just a career *stand still*. Maybe you are dealing with the storm of low self confidence in personal or professional communication situations. Perhaps the storm is intermittent like our rainy New England weather has been lately. Or maybe the storm is your own never ending high pressure system. No matter what storms you face, continue to take some steps forward by using the tools you are offered as a member of Toastmasters. Ensure a brighter future by stepping into the meeting roles: prepare a speech, evaluate a fellow member, assume a meeting role every chance possible and



make and stick to your goals for membership. Enhance your communication and leadership skills with Toastmasters as your guide.....A brighter future? It's easy, when you take it one step at a time.

### AT OUR JULY MEETINGS

We are off and running in our new club year. That means we have plenty of news from Friendly Persuasion to report. We welcomed 2 guests at the

July 13th meeting: **Pasquale (Pat) Emiro** has already jumped onboard by officially joining Friendly Persuasion at that meeting's end! We look forward to learning more about Pat's very interesting life—which he has chronicled in a book offered through Amazon.com Stay tuned for more information about that! (And what an interesting Icebreaker we expect to hear very soon!) Our other guest of the evening is a former Toastmaster from a club in Sarasota, Florida, **Dick Mullen**. We certainly hope Dick will officially join Friendly Persuasion and we expect to learn a great deal from his experience as a Toastmaster.

### THE SPOKEN WORDS

At our July 13th meeting, we heard from one of our newest members, **Joe D'Amore** who offered his Icebreaker speech, "My Early Life Was Like a Martin Scorsese Film". Joe did a wonderful job sharing his early years as the son of Italian immigrants. He reminded us that "coping with adversity is more important than overcoming it" That's a very interesting and important life lesson that translates to much of life beyond a poor childhood. Thanks Joe, for the poignant and humorous storytelling. There's definitely a novel in you, just waiting to be written (and you'll have a bunch of great speeches—for sure.....Member **John Zujewski** completed his Project #7 *Research Your Topic*, from the Competent Communication manual. John titled his speech, "Find the Heaviest Big Mouth in the Country...Collect a Million Dollars". Once again John put personality into his speech and it was especially enjoyable in a speech about *researching* a topic. So who knew all

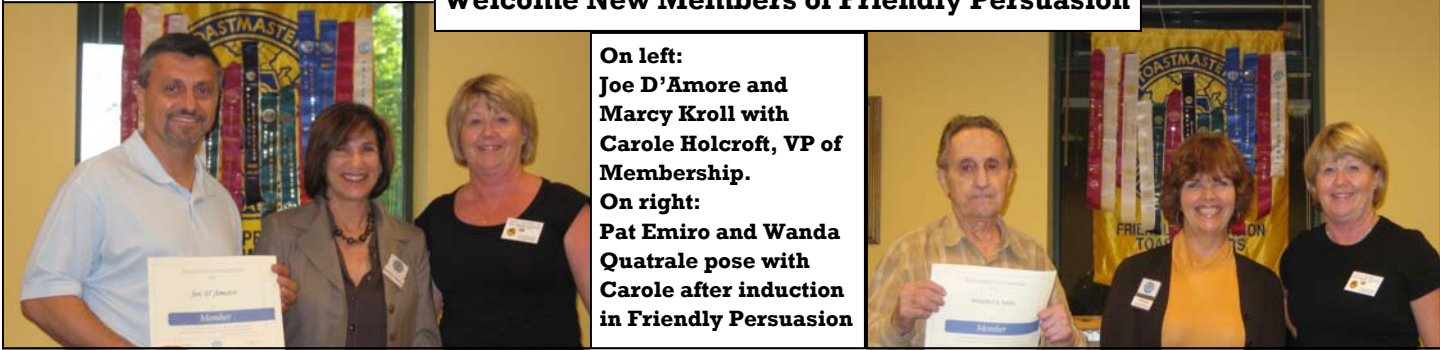
**"PROCEED WITH PASSION---SPEAK WITH COURAGE"**

those factoids about fishing could be so fun? John has a way of sharing his personal stories within the speech that help us identify with the message. (Yes John, several of us women in the audience are in that statistic you mentioned: 8% of females enjoy fishing) It doesn't matter—we *all enjoyed* the way you took a speech about research and turned it into a speech that truly entertained. What a great job, John!

.....Member **Shawn Mills** gave speech #3 *Get to the Point* in her quest for her second Competent Communicator award. Her speech was titled “C.L.I.C.K. Revisited” and it was centered around the important acronym **CLICK** and how to make your membership click for you! Have **C**ommitment to why you joined Toastmasters, **L**ose the things that hold you back from being active, **I**magine your successes, **U**nderstand and implement the **C**ore Toastmasters programs of communication and leadership and know that the **K**ey to success is being able to communicate well and lead others! Of course, in addition to the acronym, a smiley face Clicker was a nice take-away as well! A little reminder to try and make things *click*.....Member **Carole Holcroft** offered a program from the Toastmasters International Leadership Excellence series called *The Leader As A Coach*. Carole titled her speech, “Walk the Talk”. As a certified Coach, Carole uses the techniques she shared with the audience about how to be effective as a coach while guiding and encouraging team members to achieve excellent performance results. The 5 main steps to effective coaching are 1) Comparing the team member performance to the expectations set 2) Meet with the team member and discuss the problem and effects on others 3) Ask the team member for acknowledgment that the problem exists 4) Work toward a solution of actions you and the team member can take to resolve the problem 5) Follow up to ensure the problem is solved. Thanks for the educational lesson, Carole. These are great steps for us to remember as we seek to expand our leadership skills.

At our July 27th meeting, we were joined by guest **Michael Duguay**. We hope he will visit at our upcoming meeting as well. We had a full agenda to share and the theme for the evening to “learn something new”. That actually is pretty standard for our Toastmasters meetings. We always learn something additional about communication and leadership....we learn a lot from listening to the speakers during the meeting and we learn a great deal from participating in meeting roles and Table Topics, our impromptu speaking exercise. ....Member **Joe D'Amore** gave his Project #2, *Organize Your Speech* with his speech entitled “Inflection Points” Joe explained that an Inflection Point in the context of this speech “is an event, whether dramatic or subtle, that causes a profound change in how one acts or thinks”. He talked of membership in Friendly Persuasion and how he sees it going from acquaintance to familiarity to friendship. He also spoke about the inflection point when watching his children become adults. Joe seems to be able to easily share some profound thoughts with his audience. We can definitely “learn something new” when listening to Joe!.....And at this meeting we all learned what our fellow members think when they participated in the Table Topics portion of the program. By special request, our Table Topics Master of the evening, **Dick Mullen**, created some thought-provoking questions that would challenge members asked to speak *off the cuff*. Topics included questions about congressional lobbyists—cable news and whether it is news or entertainment? Where do Epidemics go?—Coverage of Michael Jackson’s death, was big business involved? Well....we also learned a lot of new *some things* in that portion of the meeting. It was definitely a great exercise and a wonderful way to practice impromptu speaking about some serious current subjects! Everyone stepped up and did an impressive job.....and the Best Table Topics award for the evening went to **Mike Bishop**.

**Welcome New Members of Friendly Persuasion**



**On left:**  
**Joe D'Amore and Marcy Kroll with Carole Holcroft, VP of Membership.**  
**On right:**  
**Pat Emiro and Wanda Quatrale pose with Carole after induction in Friendly Persuasion**

## **MEMBER-abilia (Member News)**

Congratulations to member **Bob Clark** who has just accepted a position at Massachusetts General Hospital in a Computer support capacity. Best of luck Bob on this new opportunity.

We have heard that Member **Mike Bishop** has been appointed to his Town Council Finance Committee. Congratulations Mike....we'll be interested in getting the details!

What do they want to hear? (What is my message?) Why are they listening to me? Am I informing, entertaining, persuading or training...or some of each? Where will I be speaking? Know the room or area and how to get there. When will I be speaking? Have the correct date and time. Being prepared by answering these questions will help you alleviate stress and control nervousness. **KNOW YOUR AUDIENCE!**

## **HOW TO SAY IT**

### **FRIENDLY PERSUASION TALKING TIPS:**

Know your audience. Before giving a presentation, ask yourself these questions about your audience: age-range, sex, educational background, occupation, socio-economic status, political affiliation, hobbies and interests. If you know these answers, you will relate better to the audience. Also, answer the what, where, when and why questions.

**Friendly Persuasion meets the 2nd and 4th Monday nights of every month, at the Haverhill Library, unless there is a library holiday. Please feel free to visit as a guest anytime. Our meetings in August are on the 10th and 24th.**

**For more information please visit our website:**

**[www.friendlypersuasion.org](http://www.friendlypersuasion.org)**

**“PROCEED WITH PASSION---SPEAK WITH COURAGE”**