

# Toastmaster's Club #2032

## *The Joy of Public Speaking*

Naval Postgraduate School, Monterey, CA

November 2009



## **The internet: a public speaking platform** Preparing for the next generation of job interviews

Most of us have had the opportunity to participate in a video-conference (VTC).

In today's society, with decreased budgets for travel and increased project member distribution, the VTC has become a necessity. But how many of you have ever thought about interviewing for your next job this way?

Enter the webcam. As companies look to streamline costs the webcam is increasingly becoming a tool to cull the applicant pool. Where at one time a company might fly in a dozen people for interviews, the webcam interview is used to reduce this to two or three candidates.

There are two primary ways this usually works. In both cases a third party vendor specializing in VTCs, will send you a webcam with detailed instructions on its use and a phone number if you have problems.

Once you have the webcam operational, you can interview directly with the company looking to hire you or in what is becoming more standard, you will log into a website and answer questions that appear on the screen. And just like in person, there is no editing of your answers.

The difference in a webcam interview is that many times there is a finite time limit of two to three

minutes to respond. Therefore, it is important to have basic talking points available to discuss.

While this approach may be better for the company, the same is not necessarily true for the interviewer. First off, if you are nervous, try a practice run. Below are some other basic rules.

- Dress professionally as you would in-person. Check colors (e.g., white show everything).
- Be knowledgeable about your potential employer. Prepare notes large enough to read quickly.
- Set the camera up in a quiet, neutral location. Remove inappropriate things from the background, including children and pets.
- Lighting is critical. Home and work lighting can vary greatly.
- Try to relax. Sit sideways at an angle to the camera instead of facing it directly. This will allow you to incorporate hand gestures into the interview.
- Finally, practice smiling and do not look at yourself on screen.

## Tips and Advice

### A Better Visual Presentation

Studies show when a speaker repeats a point once, retention is 10% but if repeated six times, retention jumps to 90%. Further, within 24 hours, 70% of the audience will forget almost 100% of your message. Below are some ways to balance the odds.

1. Build the relationship where the audio/visual components augment and support the speech but do not overtake it.
2. Speeches should engage the mind; the presentation should also.
3. If the slides, visuals or audio do not reinforce the meaning then discard them.
4. The audience is there to hear you not your presentation. Do not lose yourself in the technology or showy displays.
5. Simple is better – stay on point.
6. Reinforce points through repetition of concepts..
7. Every aspect, slide and action must address what you want the audience to take away with them.

### Our Websites

Schedules and info:

[www.npstoastmasters.org](http://www.npstoastmasters.org)

Miss a meeting, see the speeches :  
[www.npstoastmasters.blogspot.com](http://www.npstoastmasters.blogspot.com)

## Upcoming Events

District 4 Fall Conference

Time: Fri, Nov 20, 6-9:30 pm & Sat, Nov 21, 7:30 am-5:15 pm

Location: Biltmore Hotel, 2151 Laurelwood Rd, Santa Clara 95054

Cost: \$40 to \$80 (members and nonmembers; prior to Nov 13)

POC: Mike Barsul, Lt Governor Ed & Trng, [lget@d4tm.org](mailto:lget@d4tm.org)

[http://www.d4tm.org/D4\\_Events/contest\\_flyers/D4TMconf.pdf](http://www.d4tm.org/D4_Events/contest_flyers/D4TMconf.pdf)

Club semi-annual officer nomination due: November 13, 2009 (tentative)

Club semi-annual elections: November 20, 2009 (tentative)

Club Holiday Gift Exchange Meeting: December 11, 2009 (tentative)

# Our own Tonya Holloway wins again

Tonya Holloway wowed the audience and judges at the Division Humorous Speech Contest at the Aptos Academy this month and walked away the big winner presenting her speech entitled: The Agony and the Ecstasy..

According to Tonya, the selection of a subject is always easier when it is a personal experience or if it holds meaning to her. This method helps with memorization and allows her to add humorous layers by reflecting on these personal stories.

Using a life changing experience is a skill passed down from family members. Tonya's mother's kitchen was the laugh-factory because there was always someone there sharing a funny life story. Holidays were the best. Whenever I am introduced to an audience, I take a breath and say to myself, "speak like you're talking in the kitchen." It helps every time.



Tonya Holloway receives the award for Best Humorous Speech at the Division 4A contest on October 16 in Aptos, CA. Photo by Eva Morris.

For the contest, Tonya rewrote her No. 3 speech from the Competent Communicator manual. With guidance and help from fellow club members she revised it and now stands on the verge of winning the district title. – something only done twice before by Chance Litton (2007) and Mike Stansbury (1978).

## So you want to be a Functionary

The Grammarian is charged with keeping track of language usage, both good and bad. During the evaluation session, the grammarian reports to the club when called upon by the Toastmaster of the Day. An innovative grammarian will compliment individual toastmasters on use of unusual and unique words or phrases as well as suggest improvements.

Several days before the meeting, prepare a 30 second to 1 minute opening statement describing your role. Think about how you will present your report to the meet. One method is to choose one of the 8 parts of speech: verb, noun, pronoun, adverb, adjective, preposition, conjunction, or interjection and focus on its use (e.g., verb-noun agreement). Your concluding report should also not exceed one minute.

Note: Remember that English is not always the primary language of the speaker. Therefore, criticize carefully.

## Club Goals

1. 2 Competent Communicators
2. 2 more CCs
3. One ACB/ACS/ACG
4. One more ACB/ACS/ACG
5. One CL/ALB/ALS/DTM
6. One more CL/ALB/ALS/STM
7. 4 new members
8. 4 more new members
9. 4 officers trained (per period)
10. Reports submitted on time

Goal Achieved

Goal Partially Achieved

Needs Work

as of November 1, 2009

## Announcements

Tonya Holloway will represent Division A at the District Fall Conference - Humorous Speech Contest on Saturday, November 24, 2009. Come out and support Tonya as she attempts to win at the District competition.

Welcome aboard our newest member: Jason Lin from Taiwan

Peninsula Pros meets on the last Wednesday of the month at 6 PM. If you need to complete your advanced manual speeches, consider joining them also.

Monterey Institute Environmental Speaker Series continues every Monday through December 7 from 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. at the Irvine Auditorium in the McCone Building at 499 Pierce Street. The theme this fall is "Hot Topics in Environmental Policy." See [www.miis.edu](http://www.miis.edu) for information.

## Club Officers:

President: Art Testani  
Vice President for Education: Moyara Ruehsen  
Vice President for Membership: Tonya Holloway  
Vice President for Public Relations: Karen Woodson

Treasurer: Craig Gabrielline  
Secretary: Elizabeth Mitchell  
Sergeant at Arms: Aaron Sanchez  
Advisory Board: Arnie Buss, Carl Thormeyer